

Fact Sheet

Interim Remedial Measures

Duracell Inc. Site, Site ID No. 360011

Sleepy Hollow, Westchester County, New York

The Gillette Company
Bethel, Connecticut

June 2012

Background

The Duracell Inc. Site (Site) is located at 60 Elm Street in the Village of Sleepy Hollow, Westchester County. For periods between 1944 and 1984, a battery manufacturing facility operated at the Site, which is currently owned by the Village of Sleepy Hollow. The facility was originally operated by P.R. Mallory; Duracell began operations at the Site in 1979, and the facility was closed in 1984. As a result of operations at the former battery plant, certain environmental impacts have been identified and are being addressed.

Phase I Remedial Investigation

Between September and December 2010, The Gillette Company (Gillette), which acquired Duracell, collected and analyzed over 1,600 soil samples from 146 properties in the vicinity of the Site at the direction of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) in accordance with the approved Phase I Remedial Investigation Work Plan (August 2010). A summary of the sample results was approved by the NYSDEC and indicates inorganic mercury concentrations range from not detected to 180 parts per million (ppm), with the highest mercury concentrations found closer to the Site. Lead was detected in soils, however, concentrations of lead increased with distance from the Site. A review of historical records and the sampling results from the remedial investigation indicate that historic fill, which was used to level or create land for development, was placed in the area prior to operations at the former battery plant. This material contained background levels of mercury and lead.

A Site-Specific Soil Cleanup Objective (SSSCO) for mercury was approved by the NYSDEC in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), and serves as the remedial goal for the Site. For the residential areas adjacent to the Duracell Inc. Site, the remedial goal of 4.8 ppm has been developed for inorganic mercury in soil. This goal has been evaluated and deemed health protective by the NYSDEC and the NYSDOH based on consideration of potential exposures through ingestion of soil, dust and homegrown fruits and vegetables. The NYSDEC has determined that lead in the area's soil is not attributable to operations at the former battery plant, and Gillette is not responsible for cleaning up this material. For additional information about lead, please contact the NYSDEC and/or NYSDOH (see below for contact information).

Interim Remedial Measures Planned

Gillette has developed an Interim Remedial Measures (IRM) Work Plan that proposes to remove soil from select properties in the vicinity of the Site that contain mercury concentrations greater than the remedial goal established for the Site. Implementation of the approved IRM Work Plan is expected to result in the removal of soil from properties that contain mercury levels exceeding the remedial goal. The cleanup will protect human health by minimizing the potential for exposure to affected soil.

❖ Who is responsible for conducting the IRM?

The Gillette Company is conducting the cleanup. AECOM, an environmental engineering firm working for Gillette, prepared the remedial investigation report and the Interim Remedial Measures Work Plan for the cleanup, and will oversee the work performed by Viasant, an environmental services contractor. Details of the how each cleanup will be conducted will be determined on a property-specific basis in cooperation with individual property owners.

What will the schedule be for cleaning up the properties?

Gillette and AECOM worked over the winter months (2011-2012) to develop the necessary plans and seek NYSDEC and Village approvals for the work. We expect to begin meeting with property owners this month to obtain their agreement to conduct the cleanup work. The actual remediation work will occur in "groupings" of



When possible, excavators like the one shown above will be used in the cleanup.



Motorized wheelbarrows will be used to move materials

properties to minimize disruption to the community. We will work diligently to complete work at each property as quickly as possible -- the time spent working at each property will vary depending on the size

cleared of materials and debris. This could include plants and trees, and small structures. Soil will be excavated, followed by confirmation sampling to verify that the remedial goal has been met. If so, clean soil will be brought on-site to replace the excavated soil. Properties will then be restored to their original condition to the greatest extent possible. Property owners will have a say on the restoration – including vegetation and other items.



Air Monitoring Equipment

❖ **What precautions will you take during the cleanup?**

Cleanup activities will be conducted in a manner that protects public health and safety and in accordance with the approved site-specific health and safety plan. For example, we will surround the work area with temporary construction fencing, and one field staff member will be dedicated to site safety -- including preventing unauthorized individuals from entering the work areas.

A community air monitoring program will be implemented during the cleanup. Dust levels will be monitored continuously during operations, and measures will be taken to reduce the amount of dust if necessary (e.g., washing or hosing down the area and equipment with water). When trucks need to enter the site, someone will be assigned to direct traffic. Silt fence and/or straw bales will be placed around the excavation area to prevent migration of contaminated soils from leaving or entering the site during rain events.

❖ **When will the work take place?**

The work will adhere to local ordinances, which allow construction work between 8am and 5pm on weekdays. Weekend work is not expected.

of the excavation and items needing to be removed and replaced. Working from spring through late fall, we believe it will take more than one year to complete remediation of the approximately 80 properties requiring cleanup.

❖ **What will happen at each specific property?**

After an agreement is in place, each property will be inspected, underground utilities will be marked, and the necessary permits and approvals will be obtained.



Properties will be restored, including the replacement of grass.

The “work area” (the zone where the excavation will be occurring) will be cordoned off. The work area will be

For Additional Information

If you have further questions, you may call our toll free telephone number or send a comment via e-mail:

(toll free) 877.410.8412 OR info@formermallorybatteryfactory.com

You may also contact the NYSDEC and NYSDOH, project managers for the Site. Please refer to the Duracell Inc. Site when submitting questions.

Project-Related Questions
Dan Lanners, NYSDEC Project Mgr.
(866) 520-2334
drlanner@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions
Fay Navratil, NYSDOH Project Mgr.
(518) 402-7880
bee@health.state.ny.us

In addition, three document repositories have been established by the NYSDEC to provide the public with convenient access to important project documents and other information. These repositories can be found at the **Warner Public Library, Village of Sleepy Hollow Office**, and the **NYSDEC Region 3 Office** (New Paltz, NY).