

Fact Sheet

Status of Interim Remedial Measures Duracell Inc. Site, Site ID No. 360011 Sleepy Hollow, Westchester County, New York

The Gillette Company
Bethel, Connecticut

January 2015

Introduction

Interim Remedial Measures (IRMs) at the Duracell Inc. Site (the Site) located in Sleepy Hollow, New York were initiated in September 2012 and are expected to conclude during the 2015 construction season. The Gillette Company (Gillette), which acquired Duracell and is implementing the IRMs, continues to appreciate the close collaboration of the community on this important project.

The IRMs are being conducted 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 by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). By the close of 2014, remediation and restoration activities have been completed on approximately 80 percent of the affected properties.

Site work has been suspended for the winter months (December 2014 through March 2015), and is expected to resume in the spring. During these winter months we will be meeting with owners of the final group of properties planned for cleanup to review remediation and restoration plans and obtain their agreement to perform the work. This fact sheet provides some background information and an update on the progress of the cleanup.

Background

Between 1944 and 1984, a battery manufacturing facility operated at the Duracell Inc. Site (the Site) located at 60 Elm Street. 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.

Between September and December 2010, Gillette collected and analyzed over 1,600 soil samples from 146 properties in the vicinity of the Site as part of a Phase I investigation. The soil sampling results identified approximately 80 properties containing

mercury levels, in soil, above the remedial goal of 4.8 parts per million that required cleanup.

In October 2013, soil samples were collected from 11 additional properties as part of the second phase of the remedial investigation for the Site. The sample results identified three additional properties requiring cleanup.

IRM Implementation

The IRMs are implemented in accordance with the NYSDEC-approved IRM Work Plan (April 2012). Additional plans, including a Health and Safety Plan, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, Community Air Monitoring Plan, and Transportation Plan have also been approved by the NYSDEC.

The IRMs are generally performed in property groupings to minimize disruption to the local community. Property-specific drawings for each group are prepared showing excavation, backfill and restoration plans for each property. These plans are first approved by the NYSDEC, and then are discussed and agreed upon with the property owners. Ultimately, each owner signs an access and remediation/restoration agreement for their property before work begins. Once agreements from the property owners are in place, the final plans are provided to the Village of Sleepy Hollow for review and approval. The Village's approval is necessary prior to issuing a building permit for the work.

Once the approved property-specific plans are in place, the IRM work can be scheduled. AECOM, an environmental engineering firm working for Gillette, provides oversight for the work performed by Viasant, an environmental services contractor.

During the IRM, the first task completed at each property is to mark underground utilities as well as the construction area. Next, the "work area" (the zone where the excavation occurs) is cordoned off, and cleared of materials and debris. This includes plants and trees, and small structures.

Soil is then excavated, containerized, and transported off-site to an approved disposal facility. Confirmation samples are collected and analyzed to verify that the remedial goal is met for each property. If sample results indicate the remedial goal for mercury in soil is not achieved, additional soil is removed.

Once the confirmation sample results indicate that the remedial goal has been met, the excavated areas are backfilled with clean soil and the properties are restored as near as possible to their pre-existing conditions.

Safety Measures During Remediation Work

Cleanup activities are being conducted under the direction of the NYSDEC in a manner that protects public health, safety and the environment, and in accordance with the approved site-specific health and safety plan. For example, the work areas are surrounded with temporary construction fencing in order to prevent entry by unauthorized individuals. In addition, silt fencing and/or straw bales are placed around the excavation areas to prevent migration of contaminated soils during remedial activities or rain events.

A community air monitoring program is implemented during the entire cleanup process. Dust levels are

monitored continuously during cleanup operations and measures are taken, as necessary, to minimize the amount of fugitive dust. These measures include washing or wetting down the work area and equipment with water, and applying spray-mulch to exposed soil.

Remediation Work Suspended for Winter Months (January-March 2015)

Site work has been suspended for the winter and we expect it to resume in the spring. However, during these winter months, we will be busy meeting with property owners whose properties will be remediated during the 2015 construction season. Gillette and AECOM will meet with property owners to review the remediation plans for their properties, and obtain their agreement to conduct the cleanup work.

Local Project Office

The Project Office, located at 160 Cortlandt Street, is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM and by appointment during these winter months. Once again, we thank the residents for their cooperation. We look forward to continued progress in 2015.

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
daniel.lanners@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions

Fay Navratil, NYSDOH Project Mgr.
(518) 402-7860
beei@health.ny.gov

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