

From: Allan Geisendorfer
To: O'Neill, Christopher
Date: 3/17/2008 1:16:56 PM
Subject: Fwd: RE: Fact Sheet for Nearshore Sediment Removal Former Fire Training School St. Site #401044

>>> "Brussel, John" <John.Brussel@arcadis-us.com> 11/16/2007 10:49:30 AM >>>
Maureen:

A copy of the final fact sheet is in the first attached file. The fact sheet was mailed on October 24, 2007 in accordance with the distribution list in the second attached file.

-John

-----Original Message-----

From: Maureen E. Schuck [<mailto:mer10@health.state.ny.us>]
Sent: Friday, November 16, 2007 8:57 AM
To: angeisen@gw.dec.state.ny.us
Cc: James.F.Morgan@us.ngrid.com; Brussel, John
Subject: Fact Sheet for Nearshore Sediment Removal Former Fire Training School St. Site #401044

Allan- Could you please send me a copy of the final fact sheet? When was it/or when is the fact sheet being mailed out?

Thanks!

Maureen

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Community FACT SHEET

National Grid – Cohoes, NY

October 2007

Final Cleanup Set for Former (Closed) Fire Training Area near the School Street Hydroelectric Station - Work to Begin in November -

For more information about the final cleanup for the former fire training area near the School Street Hydroelectric Station, please visit one of the document repositories listed on the back of this fact sheet or contact one of the project representatives listed below.

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National Grid, working cooperatively with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the New York State Department of Health (DOH), will complete the final cleanup at the former fire training area near the School Street Hydroelectric Station, located in the Town of Colonie, just north of the City of Cohoes. The cleanup project, which is designed to address certain sediments in the Mohawk River close to the shore, is expected to take four to six weeks to complete. Work is currently scheduled to begin in early November.

Why is the final cleanup being performed?

Between 1968 and 1980, a small parcel on the southern bank of the Mohawk River in the Town of Colonie, just north of Cohoes, was used as a fire training area for Niagara Mohawk employees. As a result of these activities, soils within the fire training area and in a small area of sediment within the Mohawk River adjacent to the fire training area were impacted by PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) and petroleum compounds.

Niagara Mohawk conducted a variety of investigations to assess the extent of the impacts, and in 2002 completed an interim remedial measure (IRM) to clean up the soils in the area. After the IRM was complete, a small deposit of sediment that contained PCBs at levels above state guidelines remained. It is this sediment deposit that will be addressed in the final remedial action set to start in November.

How was the final cleanup selected?

The DEC and DOH proposed a cleanup plan for the targeted sediments in March 2007 based on the results of extensive site investigations and a detailed evaluation of potential options.

Members of the public were invited to review and comment on the state's plan during a month-long comment period in April and May, and the DEC and DOH held a public meeting on May 2, 2007 to explain the proposed approach and answer questions. Only minor comments were received during this process, and those were addressed in the Record of Decision, or ROD, issued by the DEC in August 2007. The ROD includes a description of both the final remedy and the selection process, and the *Remedial Design* (finalized in October 2007) provides the details of how the remedy will be carried out.

What is the final cleanup?

The key elements of the sediment cleanup project were summarized in the April 2007 Community Fact Sheet, and all the details are fully explained in the ROD and the October 2007 *Remedial Design*. The primary components are:

- Mechanically dredging approximately 100 cubic yards of targeted sediment.
- Draining the excavated sediments on a dewatering pad built in the former fire training area.
- Characterizing and then transporting the drained

sediments to a permitted commercial landfill in central or western New York for final disposal.

- Filling the excavated area with clean sand and gravel to encourage recovery of native aquatic species.
- Monitoring surface water and collecting daily water samples during dredging to confirm measures to control downstream impacts are successful.
- Establishing a deed restriction for the former fire training area to require current and future owners/managers of the site to comply with a Site Management Plan.

When will the work be done?

Field crews are expected to start preparing the site in early November. While the actual sediment dredging work will take just two to three days, the cleanup project will run for four to six weeks from start to finish. The project includes preparing the site, removing the sediments, surveying the area to confirm the targeted materials were removed, filling in the excavated area, and restoring the site when work is done. If everything moves along according to plans, the work will be done by the middle of December.



The School Street Hydroelectric Station former fire training area is located on the southern bank of the Mohawk River in the Town of Colonie, just north of Cohoes, New York. Starting in early November, work crews will remove targeted PCB-containing sediments from the Mohawk River near the former fire training area.

Inside...

...this fact sheet you will find information about the final remedy planned for the former fire training area near the School Street Hydroelectric Station. National Grid is working with the New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health to conduct the last stage of the site clean up.

**National Grid
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Focus on Safety

The project team and its contractors are all committed to being good neighbors in the communities where we work, and safety is our primary focus.

All work at the former fire training area will be conducted in a safe and orderly manner and will follow guidelines established in a Health and Safety Plan prepared specifically for this project. All activities will be monitored to verify we are maintaining safe conditions for our workers, employees, and neighbors.

Work carried out as part of the final cleanup for the former fire training area will be conducted during daylight hours, and trucks hauling dredged sediments will use established truck routes to minimize impacts to local traffic.

Document Repositories

If you are interested in reading the reports describing historical investigations at the former fire training area in the Town of Colonie or the documents prepared during the development of the final cleanup plan, please visit either of the document repositories established for the site.

Cohoes Public Library

169 Mohawk Street
Cohoes, NY 12047
Phone: 518.235.2570

Library Hours:

Mon, Wed: 10 am - 8 pm
Tues, Thurs, Fri: 10 am - 5 pm
Sat: 10 am - 4 pm

NYSDEC

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Hours by Appointment

Contact Allan Geisendorfer

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