# New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Environmental Remediation

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# Dewey Loeffel Landfill (NYSDEC I.D. # 4-42-006) Project Update - March, 2010

### Operable Unit 1 (landfill cap and slurry wall)

Status of the maintenance of the landfill - Pumping from the on-site leachate collection tank continues. Tanker trucks continue to transport the leachate for off-site treatment at a permitted disposal facility. Routine site maintenance continues by DEC personnel and DEC contractors.

#### Operable Unit 2 (landfill waste, leachate and groundwater)

- Status of the operating off-site bedrock groundwater extraction system The three off-site bedrock groundwater plume extraction wells will commence operation shortly in early spring, after the winter shut down period. These wells are currently maintained by a DEC contractor. Approximately 5 6,000 gallons of contaminated groundwater are being extracted per day for off-site disposal. The extraction wells were installed to capture the off-site bedrock groundwater contaminant plume and based on results to date, appear to be working effectively.
- Off-site groundwater monitoring program status Monitoring by GE's consultant of a network of the off-site groundwater monitoring wells on a semi-annual basis continues in accordance with the approved work plan. The October/December 2009 Groundwater Sampling Event Monitoring Report was submitted on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and is available at the Nassau Free library. Volatile organic compounds (vocs) continue to be detected in the monitoring wells south the landfill, although a significant portion of them are being captured by the bedrock groundwater extraction wells.
- Residential potable well treatment and sampling program status The maintenance of the 5 residential treatment systems continues by a GE consultant and bottled water continues to be provided. The fall residential well sampling program has been completed also. This sampling included the semi-annual list (6 residential wells), the annual list (6 residential wells) and the biennial list (7 residential wells) for a total of 19 residential wells. No new residential wells have been impacted by the groundwater plume.

□ Status of the upgraded on-site leachate collection system and treatment plant design - As previously explained, the design and construction of the on-site treatment plant is on hold. It is anticipated that the design will be re-evaluated by the USEPA once the site is finalized on the National Priorities List (see below for additional information).

### Operable Unit 3 (drainageways and Nassau Lake)

- □ Valatie Kill & Nassau Lake fish collection and sampling The 2009 fish collection events were completed in June and July by a GE consultant with DEC oversight. As in previous years, fish were collected at 12 different locations in the T-11A tributary, the Valatie Kill and Nassau Lake. Multiple species are collected at most locations. Samples were processed in accordance with the accepted statement of work dated March 2009. A biota monitoring report was submitted by GE's consultant in December and has been accepted by the DEC. Mike Kane, from the DEC's Division of Fish, Wildlife & Marine Resources will present the finding at the EPA March 4th public meeting. The fish sampling will continue in 2010.
- Fish advisories for the Valatie Kill & Nassau Lake The NYSDOH will be issuing the 2010 fish advisories in early spring for the entire State of New York. The 2009 fish sampling data is currently be evaluated to determine the appropriate fish consumption health advisories for Nassau Lake and the Valatie Kill. The advisory currently in-place is "eat none" for all species.
- □ Status of the Nassau Lake replacement dam construction The replacement dam was completed and a final completion certification was issued by the design engineer on May 4, 2009. Signage has been installed and site demobilization has been completed. The dam is operating as designed.
- Sediment/soil Re-evaluation in the Tributary T-11A Based on soil and sediment sampling completed in the summer, 2009 by the DEC, GE has agreed to conduct a supplemental investigation in the tributary T-11A of the Valatie Kill. The concern is that there may be residual PCBs remaining in the tributary T-11A soils and sediment that are continuing to impact fish. A statement of work has been submitted by GE and accepted by the DEC in letter dated February 10, 2010. Field sampling will began once the snow pack has receded.

<u>Additional News</u> - The NYSDEC formally nominated the site to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) on October 13, 2009 for listing on the federal National Priorities List (NPL), commonly called the Superfund. The USEPA has

evaluated the site, completed a Hazard Ranking Score to qualify the site and has proposed the site for listing in the federal registry on March 4, 2010. With the proposal of the site to the Superfund list, a 60 day public comment period will begin. See http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl/pubcom.htm. After the comment period ends, the USEPA will evaluate the comments and determine whether to finalize the site for listing on the NPL. If finalized on the NPL, the USEPA will be the lead government agency for the site. The DEC and the NYSDOH will work closely with the USEPA in the reevaluation of the site. For information on the USEPA NPL listing contact: Kristen Pelhan Skopeck, EPA Public Affairs Specialist, Hudson River Field Office, 421 Lower Main Street, Suite 100, Hudson Falls, New York 12839 or (518) 747-4389 or via email at skopeck.kristen@epa.gov

## For further information on the Dewey Loeffel Landfill Site, contact:

#### For questions on the overall project status:

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#### For questions on the fish collection and analysis program:

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#### For health related issues:

Bridget Callaghan
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation
NYSDOH
Flanigan Square
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(518) 402-7860 or via e-mail at bkc01@health.state.ny.us

Where can I find information on the site? Site related documents can be viewed at the Nassau Free Library, 18 Church Street, Nassau, N.Y. (open 2pm - 8pm Monday - Friday and 10am - 1pm on Saturday. Closed Sunday) or by contacting one of the above listed individuals. Also, on the DEC website at:

http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37564.html

