

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation is proposing a modification to the Process Building Basement IRM that is ongoing at the BASF Manufacturing Plant Site. BASF is requesting the determination that approximately 3,000 cubic yards of sludge and underlying contaminated soils do not require on-site treatment prior to off-site disposal. The Interim Remedial Measure will still address this source of contamination.

FACT SHEET

July 2003

BASF MANUF. PLANT, #442027

36 Riverside Ave., Rensselaer, NY

NYSDEC, Region 4, Rensselaer Co.

Interim Remedial Measure Modification for BASF

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Sludge determined to be CAMU eligible for off-site disposal

The completion of a Remedial Investigation at the BASF Manufacturing Plant has found process sludge and underlying contaminated soils that act as a source of groundwater contamination. As a result, an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) was approved to address this source of the contamination (as described on page two of this fact sheet).

The Proposed Determination: The NYSDEC reviewed the sampling data that have been produced relative to the Process Building Basements IRM at the BASF manufacturing plant in the City of Rensselaer. This review related to whether the sludge and underlying contaminated soils that will be excavated from the basements in Buildings 84, 87 and 93 (as shown on page three) may be disposed of in accordance with the Corrective Action Management Unit (CAMU) regulations (40CFR264.555). The NYSDEC has determined that this material is CAMU eligible and may be disposed of in an offsite hazardous waste landfill without any prior treatment. The NYSDEC has evaluated the site contaminants to determine if there are any Principal Hazardous Constituents (PHCs) which require treatment prior to disposal. Based sampling data, the results are consistent with the requirements for CAMU approval under 40CFR264.552. Therefore, none of this material will require treatment prior to landfilling.

The NYSDEC has been informed that the material will be sent to the Chemical Waste Management Facility in Arlington, Oregon. The public may submit comments on this determination to Daniel Lightsey (at the address below) within the next 15 days.

What Happens Next: Approval of the determination will expedite the off-site disposal of the sludge and underlying contaminated soils to Arlington, Oregon.

Document Repositories: To access the work plans, Remedial Investigation, and other site information; a repository has been established at the Rensselaer Public Library, 810 Broadway, Rensselaer, NY 12144. The telephone number for the library is (518) 462-1193.

For More Information: Call or write the following staff for more information:

Remedial Invest./IRMs/ROD:

Mr. Daniel Lightsey
NYSDEC, Div. Env. Remediation
1150 N. Westcott Road
Schenectady, NY 12306
(518)357-2374

Health-Related Concerns:

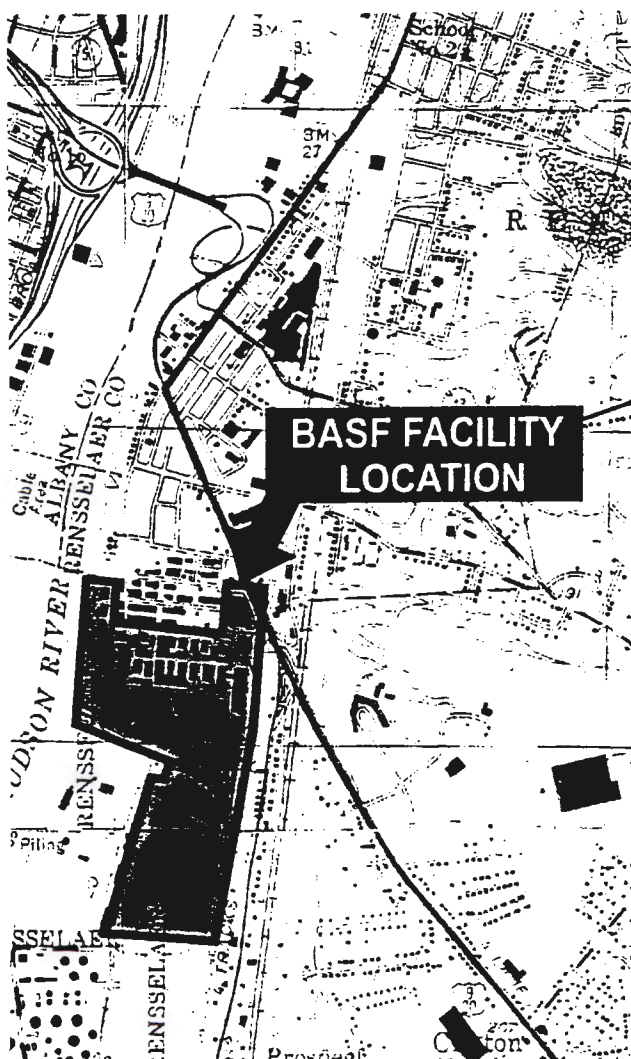
Mr. Joseph Crua
NYSDOH, BEEI
547 River Street, Room 300
Troy, NY 12180-2216
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Ext: 27890

INTERIM REMEDIAL MEASURE

Site History

1881 is the first year of use of the facility that is currently the BASF manufacturing plant in Rensselaer. The facility began to supplement its dyestuffs with pharmaceuticals and aspirin in 1905. The facility was seized by the United States government during both world wars, and functioned as part of the war economy. In 1968, the company became the GAF Corporation; and in 1978 BASF purchased the manufacturing plant from GAF Corporation. BASF ceased operations at the facility in December of 2000.

The manufacturing plant site was listed in the NYS Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites as site #442027 in 1992.



Summary of the Interim Remedial Measure

The IRM involves the removal of a sludge material and the underlying contaminated soil in three process building basements. These three basements are located in buildings 84, 87, and 93.

Highlights of the IRM includes:

- All excavated soils and sludge (from the basements described above) will be properly managed on-site until their ultimate disposal at an off-site facility.
- The soils and sludge have been determined as CAMU eligible and any soil or sludge with concentrations less than the Principle Hazardous Constituent levels will not require on-site treatment before being properly disposed of at an off-site hazardous waste disposal facility.
- A Community Air Monitoring Program will be implemented, as required by the NYSDOH.
- All soils remaining on-site following implementation of the IRM, at concentrations above the NYSDEC Recommended Soil Clean-up Objectives (RSCOs), will be addressed in a deed restriction.

Future Activities

The NYSDEC anticipates releasing a Record Of Decision (ROD) for the Manufacturing Plant site in July 2003. The ROD will announce the final remedy for the site and be available for review at the repositories.

