NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF

ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION

FACT SHEET

BASF Corporation
36 Riverside Avenue
Rensselaer, NY12144

January 2008

Cleanup Status for the BASF Sites

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Dear Interested Citizen:
This Fact Sheet provides you with information about the current status and upcoming activities at BASF in the city of Rensselaer. If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact:

Mr. Daniel Lightsey
Project Manager
NYSDEC
1130 North Westcott Road
Schenectady, NY 12306
(518) 357-2374
or

Mr. Rick Georgeson
Citizen Participation
NYSDEC
1130 North Westcott Road
Schenectady, NY 12306
(5180 357-2075

For site related health questions, please contact the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH):

Mr. Bruce Donovan
NYSDOH
Environmental Health Program
One Fulton Street
Troy, NY 12180
(518) 408-5423

The Remedial Investigation completed at the former BASF manufacturing site in Rensselaer has found contaminated soil that acts as the source of groundwater contamination. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is working diligently with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), the city of Rensselaer, and BASF Corporation to make sure the cleanup of the BASF site protects human health and the environment.

BASF is under two enforcement orders to address contaminated soil, contaminated groundwater, and contaminated soil vapors - both on the former plant site and off-site. BASF is in compliance with the two orders and the laws and regulations on which the orders are based. BASF plans to maintain ownership of the entire 80 acres they presently own. Cleanup of the entire BASF site has been broken up into three separate projects which include: the Manufacturing Plant Site; the Closed Landfill Site; and the South 40 Site.

The Manufacturing Plant Site: A public meeting detailing the cleanup of the BASF Manufacturing Plant Site was held on March 4, 2003. A Record of Decision (ROD) was approved in September 2003 that addresses the contamination. Removal of the contaminated soils impacting the groundwater is complete, while collection and treatment of the contaminated groundwater is ongoing.

As part of an ongoing evaluation of the sulfide injection program that is being used to address arsenic contaminated groundwater, samples of the groundwater (to monitor the arsenic levels) were taken in January, March, May, and July 2007. A third round of sulfide injections will be conducted by the end of this summer.

The design of the final remedial cap over the former plant site will be significantly affected by the proposed newsprint recycling facility on the Manufacturing Plant Site. NYSDEC, NYSDOH, and the city of Rensselaer have been working diligently with Besicorp-Empire Development Co. over the past five years to make the newsprint

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recycling facility a reality. In the event the newsprint recycling facility is not built, an alternate design of the final remedial cap (without the newsprint recycling facility) is being developed. Once the final remedial cap is scheduled to be installed, a fact sheet will be sent to the BASF contact list, which includes individuals who have expressed an interest in the site as well as local media outlets.

The Closed Landfill Site: The remedial cap over the Closed Landfill Site has been installed and is protective of human health and the environment. To provide the community with something more than just a remedial cap with a grassy field over it (which is a typical landfill closure strategy), BASF is creating wildlife habitat with foot paths and a visitor center over the closed landfill. The city of Rensselaer has provided BASF with the necessary permits to construct the foot paths and visitor center. Construction of the foot paths began in November 2007. Construction of the visitor center will begin this spring and the shrubs and trees will be planted this fall.

The South 40 Site: The remedial cap over the excavated area was completed in 2007 and maintenance is ongoing. The cap is protective of human health and the environment. The ground breaking ceremony for the electric co-generation plant (which will be built on the South 40 Site) was held on November 7, 2007. A soil management plan will be used for continued protection of human health and the environment during construction of the electric co-generation plant. Construction is scheduled to begin this spring and will take about two-and-a-half years to complete.

What Happens Next: The Hudson River water and sediments were sampled in May 2006 and November 2007, as part of the off-site investigation and cleanup. Once the November 2007 results are available, all the sample results will be used to confirm whether or not enough information is known to develop a cleanup strategy for the sediments that have been impacted. An additional public meeting will be held to provide sampling results and discuss the proposed final cleanup for the site. The timing of the next public meeting will depend on whether or not additional Hudson River sediment samples will be necessary. If a third round of samples is needed, the public meeting will probably occur sometime in 2009.

Document Repository: To access the Remedial Investigation, ROD, 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.