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May 20, 2016

John Swartwout, P.E. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation 625 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor Albany, NY 12233-7015

Subject:

Periodic Review Report Willsboro Black Ash Pond – Site #516009 Order of Consent No: A5-0771-07-11

Dear Mr. Swartwout:

Please find enclosed the first annual Periodic Review Report (PRR) for the Willsboro Black Ash Pond Site (the Site) located in Willsboro, New York. This PRR is prepared in accordance with the Site Management developed for the Site and submitted to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation in December 2014 as an appendix to the Final Engineering Report.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have questions or comments regarding the enclosure.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Montpey, P.E. Director, Field Operations Georgia-Pacific LLC

**Enclosure** 

ecc: Yvonne Ward, Esq., NYSDEC

Wendy Kuehner, NYSDOH Krista Anders, NYSDOH

J. Michael Davis, Esq., Georgia-Pacific Jean McCreary, Esq., Nixon Peabody LLP Shaun Gillilland, Town of Willsboro Supervisor

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# Georgia-Pacific LLC

# PERIODIC REVIEW REPORT

Willsboro Black Ash Pond Site Willsboro, Essex County, New York

NYSDEC Site # 516009

May 2016

# **PERIODIC REVIEW** REPORT

Willsboro Black Ash Pond Site Willsboro, Essex County, New York

Prepared for:

Georgia-Pacific LLC

"For each institutional or engineering control identified for the Site, I certify that all of the following statements are true:

- a) the institutional control and/or engineering control employed at this site is unchanged from the date the control was put in place, or last approved by DER;
- b) nothing has occurred that would impair the ability of such control to protect public health and the environment;
- c) nothing has occurred that would constitute a violation or failure to comply with any Site Management Plan for this control; and
- d) access to the site will continue to be provided to DER to evaluate the remedy, including access to evaluate the continued maintenance of this control."

Marie & Anually

(DER-10, 1.5(b) 5 Certification Statement)

Prepared by:

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Date:

May 2016

Mark O. Gravelding, P.E. Vice President

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# **FIGURE**

Figure 1 Site Plan

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# **APPENDICES**

- A NYSDEC Institutional and Engineering Controls Certification Form
- B Completed Site-Wide Inspection Forms

### 1 INTRODUCTION

Arcadis of New York, Inc. (Arcadis) has prepared this Periodic Review Report (PRR) in accordance with the requirements of the remedial program for the Willsboro Black Ash Pond Site (Site) administered by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Division of Environmental Remediation. The Site, located in the Town of Willsboro (Town or Owner), Essex County, New York, was remediated by Georgia-Pacific LLC (Georgia-Pacific) in accordance with the Final Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP; Arcadis 2012a). The RAWP was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the March 2007 Record of Decision (ROD; NYSDEC 2007), the August 23, 2011 Order on Consent and Administrative Settlement (AOC) Index No. A5-0771-07-11 (NYSDEC 2011a), and the August 2011 Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD; NYSDEC 2011b) issued by the NYSDEC for Site #516009.The RAWP was approved by NYSDEC on September 6, 2012 (NYSDEC 2012a).

The Site was remediated in accordance with the NYSDEC-approved RAWP and Environmental Conservation Law Permit DEC No. 5-1552-00188/00001 dated September 17, 2012 (NYSDEC 2012b). A Final Engineering Report (FER) was prepared for the Site to describe the activities completed pursuant to the RAWP, and submitted to NYSDEC in December 2014 (Arcadis 2014a). On April 15, 2015, the NYSDEC issued a Certificate of Completion (NYSDEC 2015) pursuant to 6 New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations (NYCRR) Part 375 (NYSDEC 2006) to Georgia-Pacific for the Site.

Included as an appendix to the FER was a Site Management Plan (SMP) developed to identify and implement the institutional controls (ICs) and engineering controls (ECs) required for the Site, as well as monitoring and/or maintenance of the remedy (Arcadis 2014a, Arcadis 2014b). As described in the SMP, a PRR is to be developed and submitted to NYSDEC by a Georgia-Pacific representative for the first 4 years following the anniversary of the start of the SMP and, thereafter, by the Town, every year, until the IC/ECs are terminated. In the event that the Site is subdivided into separate parcels with different ownership, a single PRR will be prepared that addresses the Site as a whole, as is done currently. This PRR has been prepared in accordance with Section 6.3(b) of DER-10 Technical Guidance for Site Investigation and Remediation (DER-10; NYSDEC 2010). This PRR includes:

- A brief summary of the Site and remedial history.
- Results of the required annual site inspection and severe condition inspection, if applicable.
- Completed inspection forms and other records generated for the Site during the reporting period.
- The overall conclusions regarding the effectiveness of the remedial program. Specifically, progress
  made during the reporting period toward meeting the remedial objectives for the Site and the ultimate
  ability of the remedial program to achieve the remedial objectives for the Site.
- Identification of areas of non-compliance regarding the major elements of the SMP (Arcadis 2014b) and proposed steps to be taken and a schedule to correct areas of non-compliance (if applicable).
- Recommendations regarding whether any changes to the SMP are needed, including changes to the frequency for submittals of PRRs (increase or decrease) and/or whether the requirements for discontinuing the site management have been met.

The reporting period summarized in this first annual PRR is from April 6, 2015 to April 22, 2016. This is the first year of the required 4-year monitoring period.

### 2 SITE OVERVIEW

This section provides a brief description of the site location, boundaries, significant features, surrounding area, and the site history leading up to remediation. Additionally, this section describes the components of the selected remedy, site closure criteria, and any significant changes to the selected remedy that have been made since remedy selection.

### 2.1 Site Location and Description

The Site is located at the end of School Street in the Town of Willsboro, Essex County, New York and is identified as Section 31.9, Block 1, and Parcel 20.100 on the Essex County Tax Map. The Site is bounded by the Bouquet River on the north and west sides, to the east by lands owned by the Adirondack Nature Conservancy (ANC), and to the south by additional lands owned by the ANC and the Town. The surface at the Site is relatively flat with the topography slightly rising to the south and west. The Town waste water treatment plant occupies a contiguous 2.7-acre parcel along the southern border of the property south of the Site.

The Site is located within the floodplain of the Bouquet River, approximately 2 miles west of Lake Champlain. A fishing access parking area is located to the west of the Site and along the river, and a boat launch is located on the Bouquet River to the east of the Site. The approximate coordinates of the Site location are N 44° 22' 8.4" latitude, and E -73° 23' 27.6" longitude. The boundaries of the Site are more fully described in the Land Title Survey provided in Appendix A of the FER for this Site (Arcadis 2014a).

### 2.2 Site History

From 1884 to 1964, the Champlain Fiber Company, later known as Willsboro Pulp Mill, operated a pulp mill on the north side of the Bouquet River, opposite from the Site, which is located on the south side of the River. In 1964, the mill property was purchased by Georgia-Pacific. In 1966, the Town acquired the property from Georgia-Pacific (Town 1966).

A settling basin/lagoon was created at the Site on the south side of Bouquet River by constructing a crescent shaped dike/berm, 12 to 15 feet high along the river bank. Black ash materials were first trucked, then piped to the south side of the river and deposited within the lagoon, approximately 900 feet long and 400 feet wide. The black ash is the residue of spent black liquor combustion. Black liquor was used in the making of paper pulp, and was a combination of soda ash, chemical lime, wood fiber, and soft coal. The black ash accumulated within the basin during the years of the paper mill operation and over time the berm that was constructed to retain the black ash material has eroded away in some locations and has exposed the black ash to the river.

To determine the nature and extent of black ash material at the Site, Earth Science Engineering (ESE) performed a site investigation in November 2006 and reported results in a Site Investigation (SI) Report (ESE 2006). The investigation found that the black ash material varied in thickness from 4 to 20 feet below existing surface. Subsequently, additional investigations were performed by Arcadis to characterize the nature and extent of black ash materials at the Site. The results of the investigations were described in the Pre-Design Investigation Summary Report, submitted to NYSDEC in January 2012 (Arcadis 2012b).

### 2.3 Summary of Remedial Program

The Site was remediated in 2012 through 2013 in accordance with the NYSDEC-approved RAWP (Arcadis 2012a), ROD (NYSDEC 2007), the AOC (NYSDEC 2011a), and the ESD (NYSDEC 2011b) issued by the NYSDEC.

The selected remedy implemented in 2012 through 2013 consisted of the following components:

- Excavation of black ash material along the riverbank to reshape and stabilize the riverbank, and the consolidation of such material in the upland soil cover area.
- Construction of stabilization features along a portion of the riverbank, and reinforcement of the riverbank with riprap underlain with a geotextile fabric.
- Grading of the Site to mitigate the infiltration of water by diverting stormwater flow around the black ash material and reducing the potential for ponding.
- Construction of an inlet/outfall structure to reconnect the floodplain to the Bouquet River.
- Construction and maintenance of a 1-foot thick soil cover system consisting of on-site fill material and topsoil to prevent erosion to expose and/or erosion of black ash fill remaining at the Site.
- Execution and recording of an Environmental Easement to restrict land use and prevent future erosion that could expose and/or erode black ash remaining at the Site (Town 2014).
- Development and implementation of a SMP for long-term management of the Site as required by the Environmental Easement (Town 2014), which includes plans for: (1) IC/ECs, (2) monitoring of the IC/ECs, and (3) reporting.
- Installation of ICs as outlined in the SMP (Arcadis 2014b).
- Periodic certification of the ICs/ECs listed above.

In-water work was completed at the Site on November 3, 2012. Riverbank reshaping, consolidation of the black ash materials, and placement of the soil cover system were completed at the Site in November 2012. Final restoration of the Site was completed in May 13, 2013. The SMP was submitted to NYSDEC on December 15, 2014 (Arcadis 2014b) as Appendix C to the FER (Arcadis 2014a).

The remedial action was implemented in accordance with the design presented in the RAWP (Arcadis 2012a) with some minor deviations based on field conditions. Each deviation from the approved RAWP (Arcadis 2012a) is summarized in the FER (Arcadis 2014a), including the original requirement, the action taken and reason for the change, and the effects, if any, of the change.

As a result of the earthwork required to reshape the riverbank area at the Site, extra material that was not required for the reshaping was removed from the riverbank area and consolidated on the upland black ash pond area. A soil cover system consisting of topsoil from an off-site source was installed over the graded on-site material. As no black ash material was removed from the Site during remedial activities, the black ash material represented by the samples presented in the SI Report remains at the Site after completion of Remedial Action.

The SMP provides a detailed description of procedures required to manage remaining black ash material at the Site after completion of the Remedial Actions, including: (1) implementation and management of all ECs and ICs; (2) monitoring; (3) maintenance of containment systems; and (4) performance of periodic

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inspections, certification of results, and submittal of PRRs (Arcadis 2014b). To address these needs, the SMP includes three plans: (1) an EC/IC Plan for implementation and management of EC/ICs; (2) a Site Monitoring Plan for implementation of site monitoring; and (3) a Maintenance Plan. Sections 4, 5, and 6 of this PRR document compliance with each of the three plans included in the SMP (Arcadis 2014b).

# 3 REMEDY PERFORMANCE, EFFECTIVENESS, AND PROTECTIVENESS

The main goal of the selected remedy was to eliminate or reduce the migration of or exposure to the black ash fill remaining at the Site. The construction and maintenance of a 1-foot thick soil cover system over the top of the black ash fill remaining at the Site, and execution and recording of an Environmental Easement to restrict land use and prevent future erosion to expose and/or erosion of black ash remaining at the Site have both effectively achieved the main remedial goal for the Site.

Additional details on the evaluation of the effectiveness of the remedy in achieving the remedial goals for the Site are found in Sections 4 through 6 of this PRR.

### 4 IC/EC PLAN COMPLIANCE REPORT

Because remaining black ash material exists at the Site, ECs and ICs are required to provide an additional level of safety in the protection of the environment. This section describes the procedures for the implementation, management, and evaluation of the EC/ICs at the Site.

The ICs and ECs, as well as the objective of each and how each control is evaluated, is provided in the following sub-sections. The sections also summarize the status of each respective control, and as appropriate, steps to address any deficiencies of ICs and ECs are proposed.

### 4.1 Institutional Controls

A series of ICs are required by the AOC to: (1) implement, maintain and monitor EC systems; (2) prevent future exposure to remaining black ash material by controlling disturbance of the cover material; and (3) limit the use and development of the Site to Restricted Residential uses only (as defined by 6 NYCRR Part 375-1.8(g)(2)(ii) [NYSDEC 2006]; Restricted Residential use will include recreational activities). Adherence to these ICs on the Site is required by the Environmental Easement (Town 2014) and are implemented under the SMP (Arcadis 2014b). The ICs are:

- Compliance with the Environmental Easement and the SMP by the Grantor (i.e., the Town) and the Grantor's successors and assigns;
- Maintain all ECs as specified in the SMP;
- Inspect ECs at the Site at a frequency and in a manner defined in the SMP (Arcadis 2014b); and
- Data and information pertinent to management of the Site must be reported at the frequency and in a manner defined in the SMP.

The Site has a series of ICs in the form of site restrictions. Adherence to these ICs is required by the Environmental Easement (Town 2014). ICs identified in the Environmental Easement may not be discontinued without an amendment to or extinguishment of the Environmental Easement with consent of NYSDEC. Site restrictions that apply are:

- The property may only be used for Restricted Residential use provided that the long-term ICs included in the SMP are employed;
- The property may not be used for a higher level of use, such as Unrestricted Residential use without additional remediation by the Owner and amendment of the Environmental Easement, as approved by the NYSDEC;
- All future activities on the property that have the potential to disturb remaining black ash material must be conducted in accordance with the SMP:
- The use of the groundwater underlying the property is prohibited without treatment rendering it safe for intended use;
- Vegetable gardens and farming on the property are prohibited; and
- For 4 years, Georgia-Pacific will submit to NYSDEC a written statement that certifies, under penalty of perjury, that: (1) controls employed at the Site are unchanged from the previous certification or that

any changes to the controls were approved by the NYSDEC; and (2) nothing has occurred that impairs the ability of the controls to protect the environment or that constitute a violation or failure to comply with the SMP. NYSDEC retains the right to access the Site at any time in order to evaluate the continued maintenance of any and all controls. This certification shall be submitted annually. In subsequent years, the Owner will submit the certifications on a schedule specified by the NYSDEC.

### 4.2 Engineering Controls

Exposure to remaining black ash materials at the Site is controlled by a 12-inch soil cover system placed over a portion of the Site, then mulched and seeded. The extent of the upland mulch and seed area is shown on Figure 1. The soil cover is a permanent EC and per the SMP the quality and integrity of this system is inspected annually for a minimum of 4 years post construction (Arcadis 2014b). Inspection activities include monitoring of the remedy for impacts related to the natural acts and performance of vegetation replacement for dead loss.

### 4.3 Evaluation and Status

In accordance with the SMP (Arcadis 2014b), an annual site-wide inspection was performed to determine and document the following:

- Whether ECs continue to perform as designed;
- If these controls continue to be protective of the environment;
- Compliance with requirements of this SMP and the Environmental Easement;
- Achievement of remedial goals (included in the AOC and ESD [NYSDEC 2011a and 2011b, respectively]);
- Observations made during monitoring events specifically with regard to whether there are visual indications of subsurface work/excavation, significant soil erosion, as well as survival of vegetation installed as part of restoration activities;
- If site records are complete and up-to-date; and
- Changes, or needed changes, to the remedial or monitoring system.

During the first year of implementation of the SMP, site-wide inspections were performed on April 15, June 6, and July 2, 2015, and March 17, 2016. As discussed in Section 5.2, Site-wide Inspection Forms were completed for the June 6, 2015 and March 17, 2016 inspections. Additionally, a review of the Environmental Easement and site records was performed. The site-wide inspections and review of the Environmental Easement determined that the ICs and ECs are functioning as intended.

Certification of the ICs and ECs is prided in the NYSDEC Institutional and Engineering Controls Certification Form (Appendix A).

### 4.4 Corrective Measures

No deficiencies of ICs or ECs were observed during implementation of the SMP in the first year post-construction. As such, no corrective measures are proposed at this time.

### 4.5 Conclusions and Recommendations for Changes

As required by the SMP (Arcadis 2014b), the ECs were inspected once annually the first year of implementation of the SMP, in the manner defined by the SMP, and the ECs were found to be maintained. Additionally, compliance with the Environmental Easement and adherence to the ICs was found to be satisfactory during the first year of implementation of the SMP.

To date IC/EC monitoring indicates that the remedial action objectives are being achieved. Note that the inspections described herein are representative of the first year of the 4 years up to which Georgia-Pacific will implement this SMP. After 4 years the Town will be responsible for implementing this SMP and any required notifications as discussed in the SMP (Arcadis 2014b).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As discussed, with NYSDEC approval, the Town may request to administer the SMP prior to 4 years post-construction.

### 5 SITE MONITORING PLAN COMPLIANCE REPORT

### 5.1 Components of the Site Monitoring Plan

The Site Monitoring Plan contained in the SMP (Arcadis 2014b) describes the measures for evaluating the performance and effectiveness of the NYSDEC-approved remedy, including the installed soil cover system, stabilized riverbank (including the inlet/outlet structure), and seeded or planted vegetation. The components of the Site Monitoring Plan as outlined in the SMP are as follows:

- Stabilized riverbank monitoring at a minimum, the area will be inspected for the following performance criteria:
  - Slope failure or evidence of erosion (e.g., ruts, gullies, washouts, or sloughing);
  - Movement or disturbance of riprap (that would cause exposure/disturbance of the remaining black ash material); and
  - o Areas with undercut banks.
- Soil cover system monitoring at a minimum, the area will be inspected for the following performance criteria:
  - Erosion (e.g., ruts, gullies, washouts, or sloughing);
  - o Effectiveness of erosion controls in areas where vegetation has yet to establish;
  - Depressions and/or surface water ponding;
  - Areas where excessive settlement has occurred relative to the surrounding areas;
  - Drainage or growth problems;
  - Stressed or sparse cover;
  - Exposed remaining black ash material; and
  - o Other conditions that could affect the performance of the completed remedial actions.
- Vegetation monitoring at a minimum, the vegetation will be inspected for the following performance criteria:
  - Stressed or sparse cover; and
  - Survival and condition of plantings.
- Undisturbed Area monitoring at a minimum the vegetation in the Undisturbed Area will be inspected for the following performance criteria:
  - Stressed or sparse cover.

A site-wide inspection for the features noted above will be performed a minimum of once a year for the first 4 years since completion of the remedial construction activities and implementation of the SMP. Site-wide inspections will also be performed after severe weather conditions (e.g., 25-year flood event) that may affect ECs. A Site-wide Inspection Form will be completed during each inspection.

### 5.2 Summary of Monitoring Completed During Reporting Period

The stabilized riverbank was visually inspected for signs of erosion, removal, and/or modification since completion of the remedial construction activities and implementation of the SMP (Arcadis 2014b). As documented in the Site-wide Inspection Forms included in Appendix B, with respect to the stabilized riverbank monitoring program, no slope failure or evidence of erosion, movement or disturbance of riprap (that would cause exposure/disturbance of the remaining black ash material), or areas with undercut banks were observed.

Visual inspection of the soil cover system and vegetation was conducted on four times during the reporting period: April 15, June 6, and July 2, 2015, and March 17, 2016.<sup>2</sup> Site-wide Inspection Forms were completed for the June 6, 2015 and March 17, 2016 inspections; however, similar observations were made during the other inspections performed during the reporting period. As documented in the completed Site-wide Inspection Forms (Appendix B), the following was observed:

- Soil cover system The soil cover system was visually inspected for signs of erosion, removal, and/or modification since completion of the remedial construction activities and implementation of the SMP. No evidence of erosion, depressions, ponding, excessive settlement, drainage or growth problems, stressed or sparse cover, or exposed remaining black ash material were observed. Additionally, some vehicular access to the Site was observed (see June 6, 2015 inspection form, Appendix B). Although the vehicles were not observed to affect the performance of the completed remedial actions, to mitigate the potential for motorized vehicles to access the western, center, or eastern roads at the Site, Georgia-Pacific installed some large stones at key points around the Site (see Section 6.2).
- Restored vegetation The seeded or planted during restoration at the Site was visually inspected for general survival since completion of the remedial construction activities and implementation of the SMP. No evidence stressed or sparse cover or significant quantities of stressed or dead plantings were observed.
- Undisturbed Area vegetation The Undisturbed Area vegetation was visually inspected for general survival and growth since completion of the remedial construction activities and implementation of the SMP. No evidence stressed or sparse cover was observed.

### 5.3 Comparison with Remedial Objectives

The site-wide inspection of the above-listed components indicated the following:

- Compliance with all ICs;
- Good condition and continued effectiveness of the ECs, including no signs of subsurface work/excavation, no significant soil erosion, and general survival of vegetation installed as part of the restoration activities;
- Good site conditions at the time of the inspection(s); and
- Site records are to date.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The April 15 and July 2, 2015 visits were to fulfill requirements of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, which did not require completion of the Site-wide Inspection Forms associated with the SMP.

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Additionally, the site management activities are being conducted as specified in the SMP (Arcadis 2014b), and the remedial objectives have been met.

### 5.4 Corrective Measures

No monitoring deficiencies were observed during implementation of the SMP in the first year post-construction. As such, no corrective measures are proposed at this time.

### 5.5 Conclusions and Recommendations for Changes

As required by the SMP, the Site was inspected during the first year of implementation according to requirements defined by the SMP, and the applicable features were found to be maintained. The site monitoring indicates that the remedial action objectives are being achieved. Note that the inspections described herein are representative of the first year of the 4 years up to which Georgia-Pacific will implement this SMP. After 4 years the Town will be responsible for implementing this SMP and any required notifications as discussed in the SMP (Arcadis 2014b).<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As discussed, with NYSDEC approval, the Town may request to administer the SMP prior to 4 years post-construction.

### **6 MAINTENANCE PLAN COMPLIANCE REPORT**

### **6.1 Components of the Maintenance Plan**

As noted in the SMP, the site remedy does not rely on mechanical systems to protect the environment; therefore, the operation and maintenance of such components is not included as part of the site management. However, a maintenance plan was prepared in accordance with Section 6.2.3 of DER-10 and included as part of the SMP (Arcadis 2014b), and contains the components summarized in this section.

Georgia-Pacific will act as the site manager (Site Manager) and implement the SMP for 4 years following completion of remedial construction activities. If issues are noted with respect to the performance criteria noted in Section 4 for the soil cover area, stabilized riverbank (including the inlet/outlet structure), and/or vegetation, the Site Manager will evaluate the observations and propose to NYSDEC appropriate corrective measures to ensure that the remedy continues to be effective based on the remedial goals for the Site, and will implement such measures upon approval by NYSDEC.

Specifically, should the monitoring reveal significant movement of riprap, areas with undercut banks, slope failure, and/or evidence of erosion (e.g., slope failure, ruts, gullies, washouts, or sloughing) of the stabilized riverbank, or if such significant issues are otherwise identified by the Site Manager in coordination with NYSDEC, the Site Manager will, upon NYSDEC approval, repair the areas. The obligation of maintenance of the area below the edge of water line is subject to provision of reasonable access to this area by the NYSDEC.

Similarly, if the performance criteria for the soil cover area related to erosion and/or issues with the performance of the soil cover itself are identified during the inspection or otherwise by the Site Manager in coordination with NYSDEC, the Site Manager will, upon NYSDEC approval, repair the areas. Such repairs may include, but are not limited to, placing additional soil cover material and/or erosion controls, as appropriate.

The maintenance activities for the vegetation on the soil cover area and other seeded or planted vegetation at the Site may include, but are not limited to, removal of vegetative species that appear to be adversely affecting the survival of the vegetation planted (for example, removal of vines growing on and affecting the survival of planted shrubs). Additionally, common reed (Phragmites australis), purple loosestrife (Lythrum salicaria), reed canary grass (Phalaris arundinacea), Japanese knotweed (Polygonum cuspidatum), Tartarian honeysuckle (Lonicera tatarica), Eurasian water-milfoil (Myriophyllum spicata), and/or other invasive species will be removed so that the areal coverage of such species is no more than a total of 5%, of the area restored. If there are signs of stress or sparse cover over more than 15% of the area restored, the Site Manager, in consultation with NYSDEC, will evaluate the cause and the need to reseed and/or fertilize those areas, as appropriate. If more than 15% loss of shrubs is observed in the monitored areas, the Site Manager will replant the lost shrubs. Further, shrubs that are identified as stressed will be equipped with a tag identifying the date of the inspection and condition of the planting and will be subject to corrective measures (i.e., watering, fertilization), if appropriate.

In addition, for the Undisturbed Area monitored during the routine inspections, if significant bare spots are identified during the inspection or otherwise by the Site Manager in coordination with NYSDEC, the Site Manager will, upon NYSDEC approval, improve the area. Such improvements may include, but are not

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limited to, placing additional soil cover material and/or erosion controls and/or seeding the area, as appropriate.

### 6.2 Summary of Maintenance Completed During Reporting Period

As noted in June inspection checklist, vehicular access to the Site was observed (Appendix B). In response, although not required by the SMP, to mitigate the potential for motorized vehicles to access the western, center, or eastern roads at the Site, Georgia-Pacific installed some large stones at key points around the Site (Figure 1). This maintenance was completed in the fall of 2015. By mitigating the potential for motorized vehicles to access the restored portions of the Site, the potential for damage to the soil cover system (i.e., the EC at the Site) is reduced.

### 6.3 Conclusions and Recommendations for Improvements

The fact that no maintenance was required indicates that the remedial action objectives are being achieved. After the 4-year period during which Georgia-Pacific will act as the Site Manager and implement this SMP, the Town will become responsible for implementation. Maintenance activities to be considered after the initial 4-year period will be selected by the Town in consultation with the NYSDEC.

### 7 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The results of the inspection and site-wide monitoring event were evaluated as part of the IC/EC certification to confirm that the:

- ECs/ICs are in place, are performing properly, and remain effective;
- SMP is being implemented; and, based on the above items; and
- Site remedies continue to be protective of the environment and is performing as designed.

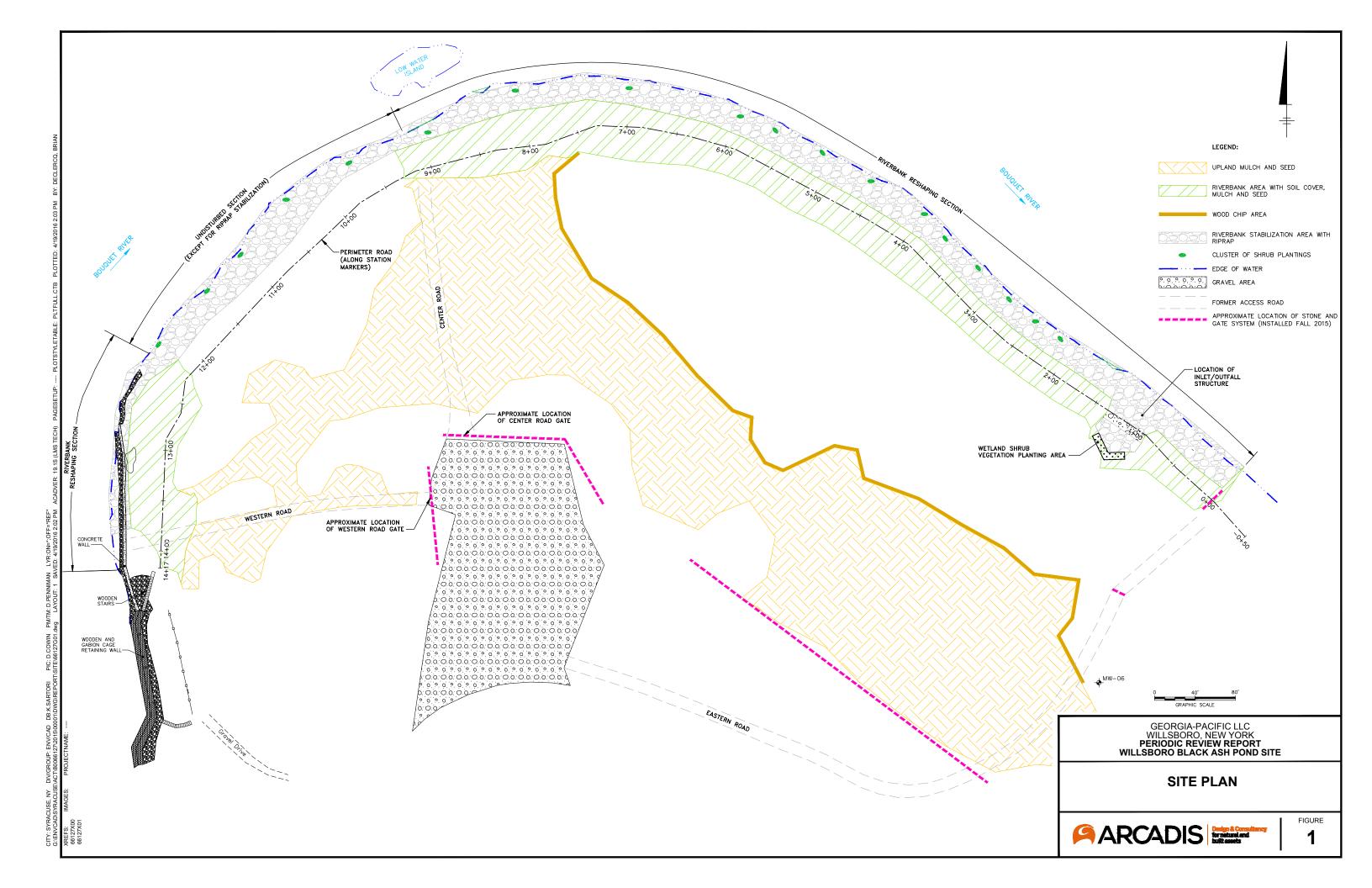
The requirements of the IC/EC Plan, Site Monitoring Plan, and Maintenance Plan were met during the reporting period. The performance of each component of the site remedy and the ability of the remedy to achieve the remedial objectives for the Site was confirmed.

At this time, no recommendations regarding any necessary changes to the remedy and/or the SMP are proposed. The Site will be inspected a minimum of one time during the second annual reporting period, and the second PRR will be submitted by May 22, 2017.

### **8 REFERENCES**

- Arcadis. 2012a. Remedial Action Work Plan. Prepared for Georgia-Pacific LLC. August.
- Arcadis. 2012b. Pre-Design Investigation Summary Report. Prepared for Georgia-Pacific LLC. January.
- Arcadis. 2014a. Final Engineering Report. Prepared for Georgia-Pacific LLC. December.
- Arcadis. 2014b. Site Management Plan. Prepared for Georgia-Pacific LLC. December.
- ESE. 2006. Site Investigation Report. Prepared for NYSDEC. November.
- NYSDEC. 2006. 6 NYCRR Part 375: Environmental Remediation Programs. Effective December 14, 2006. Available online at: <a href="http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/remediation\_hudson\_pdf/part375.pdf">http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/remediation\_hudson\_pdf/part375.pdf</a>.
- NYSDEC. 2007. Record of Decision for the Willsboro Black Ash Pond Site. Willsboro, New York. March.
- NYSDEC. 2010. DER-10: Technical Guidance for Site Investigation and Remediation. Issuance Date: May 3. Available online at: <a href="http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/67386.html">http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/67386.html</a>.
- NYSDEC. 2011a. Order on Consent and Administrative Settlement for the Willsboro Black Ash Pond Site (Index #A5-0771-07-11, Site # 516009). August 23.
- NYSDEC. 2011b. Explanation of Significant Difference to the Final Record of Decision for Willsboro Black Ash Pond Site. Willsboro, New York. August.
- NYSDEC, 2012a. Letter from C.B. Ng to Georgia-Pacific re: approval of the RAWP. September 6.
- NYSDEC. 2012b. NYSDEC approval for Stream Disturbance under Article 15 Title 5, Water Quality Certification under Section 401 Clean Water Act, and Excavation and Fill in Navigable Waters under Article 15 Title 5. September 17.
- NYSDEC. 2015. Certificate of Completion. April 6.
- Town. 1966. Quit Claim Deed. Essex County Clerk's Office Liber (Book) 453, Page 570. December 20.
- Town. 2014. Environmental Easement. Essex County Clerk's Office Book 1779, Page 228. Recorded by the Town on December 2.

# **FIGURE**



# **APPENDIX A NYSDEC Institutional and Engineering Controls Certification Form**



# Enclosure 2 NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION Site Management Periodic Review Report Notice Institutional and Engineering Controls Certification Form



Sit	Site Details e No. 516009	Box 1		
Sit	e Name Willsboro Black Ash Pond			
Cit Co	e Address: School Street Zip Code: 12996 y/Town: Willsboro unty: Essex e Acreage: 24.8			
Re	porting Period: April 06, 2015 to April 22, 2016			
		YES	NO	
1.	Is the information above correct?			
	If NO, include handwritten above or on a separate sheet.			
2.	Has some or all of the site property been sold, subdivided, merged, or undergone a tax map amendment during this Reporting Period?		$\checkmark$	
3.	Has there been any change of use at the site during this Reporting Period (see 6NYCRR 375-1.11(d))?			
4.	Have any federal, state, and/or local permits (e.g., building, discharge) been issued for or at the property during this Reporting Period?		$\forall$	
	If you answered YES to questions 2 thru 4, include documentation or evidence that documentation has been previously submitted with this certification form.			
5.	Is the site currently undergoing development?		<b>Y</b>	
	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	Box 2		
		YES	NO	
6.	Is the current site use consistent with the use(s) listed below? Restricted-Residential, Commercial, and Industrial	Ø		
7.	Are all ICs/ECs in place and functioning as designed?	4		×
	IF THE ANSWER TO EITHER QUESTION 6 OR 7 IS NO, sign and date below and DO NOT COMPLETE THE REST OF THIS FORM. Otherwise continue.			
Α	Corrective Measures Work Plan must be submitted along with this form to address thes	se issues.		
Sig	gnature of Owner, Remedial Party or Designated Representative Date			

SITE NO. 516009

Box 3

### **Description of Institutional Controls**

Parcel

Owner

31.9-1-20.100

Town of Willsboro

Institutional Control

**Ground Water Use Restriction** 

Landuse Restriction

Site Management Plan

IC/EC Plan Monitoring Plan

O&M Plan

- Implement, maintain and monitor engineering control systems

- Prevent future exposure of black ash by controlling disturbance of cover material

- Limit the use and development of the Site to Restricted Residential uses only

- Any future activities with potential to disturb remaining black ash material must be conducted in accordance with the Site Management Plan

- Vegetable gardens and farming are prohibited

Box 4

### **Description of Engineering Controls**

<u>Parcel</u>

**Engineering Control** 

31.9-1-20.100

Cover System

- soil cover comprising a minimum of 12 inches of clean topsoil

- soil cover to be seeded with approved seed mix from the Town

- inspection of soil cover annually for a minimum of four years post construction

- Responsible Party can petition to end their involvement after four years, and hand control over to the Town

Box	5
-----	---

	6 25-5 5-600 M 200 M		
I cer	tify by checking "YES" below that:		
	a) the Periodic Review report and all attachments were prepared under the directive reviewed by, the party making the certification;	ction of,	and
	b) to the best of my knowledge and belief, the work and conclusions described i are in accordance with the requirements of the site remedial program, and generous engineering practices; and the information presented is accurate and compete.	n this co	ertification cepted
	engineering practices, and the information processes to decarate and competer	YES	NO
÷		Image: Control of the	
or E	s site has an IC/EC Plan (or equivalent as required in the Decision Document), for ngineering control listed in Boxes 3 and/or 4, I certify by checking "YES" below that wing statements are true:	each Ir t all of t	nstitutional he
	(a) the Institutional Control and/or Engineering Control(s) employed at this site in the date that the Control was put in-place, or was last approved by the Department		nged since
	(b) nothing has occurred that would impair the ability of such Control, to protect the environment;	public h	nealth and
ðu.	(c) access to the site will continue to be provided to the Department, to evaluate including access to evaluate the continued maintenance of this Control;	the rer	nedy,
	(d) nothing has occurred that would constitute a violation or failure to comply with Management Plan for this Control; and	th the S	ite
	(e) if a financial assurance mechanism is required by the oversight document for mechanism remains valid and sufficient for its intended purpose established in the	r the sit ne docu	e, the ment.
		YES	NO
	IF THE ANSWER TO QUESTION 2 IS NO, sign and date below and DO NOT COMPLETE THE REST OF THIS FORM. Otherwise continue.		
A Cor	ective Measures Work Plan must be submitted along with this form to address t	nese iss	sues.
	ure of Owner, Remedial Party or Designated Representative Date		a-
Signat			

### IC CERTIFICATIONS SITE NO. 516009

Box 6

### SITE OWNER OR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

I certify that all information and statements in Boxes 1,2, and 3 are true. I understand that a false statement made herein is punishable as a Class "A" misdemeanor, pursuant to Section 210.45 of the Penal Law.

1 Bryant TChampion a print name	at 133 Peachtree ST NE Atlanta 6A 3036 print business address	<u>93</u> ,
am certifying as <u>Romedial</u>		Party)
for the Site named in the Site Details Secti	tion of this form.	
Signature of Owner, Remedial Party, or De	esignated Representative Date	_

### IC/EC CERTIFICATIONS

Box 7

### **Qualified Environmental Professional Signature**

I certify that all information in Boxes 4 and 5 are true. I understand that a false statement made herein is punishable as a Class "A" misdemeanor, pursuant to Section 210.45 of the Penal Law.

| Mark Gravelding | at P.O. Box 66, Syracuse, NY | print name | print business address | Remedial Party | (Owner or Remedial Party)

Mark & hundly

Signature of Qualified Environmental Professional, for the Owner or Remedial Party, Rendering Certification



5/20/16

Stamp (Required for PE)

Date

# **APPENDIX B Completed Site-Wide Inspection Forms**

# ANNUAL SITE-WIDE INSPECTION CHECKLIST WILLSBORO BLACK ASH POND SITE

	Conducted By: Susan-Marie Hagar Representing Arcadis	Inspection Start Date: June 6, 2015
١.	Weather Partly sunny, upper 60's	
	List other individuals and their company/agency that were prese Shawn Gillilland, Town of Willsboro Supervisor	ent during the visual on-site inspection.
	Is there any visual evidence of activities and uses of the propert the restrictions of the EE?  X No Yes - If yes, describe below.  Although not specifically contrary to the restrictions of the EE, was observed, which could potentially disturb the underlying ren	ehicular access to the center and eastern access roads
	Is there any visual evidence of utility work or building constructions since the last inspection?  X No Yes - If yes, describe below and show the location(s) of such	
	Is there any visual evidence of soil excavation at the property the inspection?  X No Yes - If yes, describe below and show the location(s) of such	
	Is there any visual evidence of significant soil erosion at the progrea and/or the stabilized riverbank area?  X No Yes - If yes, describe below and show the location(s) of such	
	Is there any visual evidence of significant pavement construction inspection?  X No Yes - If yes, describe below and show the location(s) of such	

# 

of such grade change on a plan and compare the new surface grade in such area(s) to the surface grade shown on the above listed drawing and/or plan. (If the Owner proposes use of an alternative plan for this comparison, include a copy of

that plan and describe the rationale for its proposed use.)

13. Inspection Completed: June 6, 2015

# ANNUAL SITE-WIDE INSPECTION CHECKLIST WILLSBORO BLACK ASH POND SITE

OCUMENT REVIEW	
Conducted By: Dawn Penniman	D : 01-1 D-1 - M 00 0046
Representing: Arcadis	Review Start Date: March 29, 2016
1. X Check here to confirm that the Environmental Easement (	(EE) has been reviewed.
2. X Check here to confirm that the Plan of Restricted Area (as	s revised if appropriate) has been reviewed.
3. X Check here to confirm that the description of this property drawings covering this property included in the Final Engi comparison described in Item 8 on next page) have been	neering Report (and any alternative plan proposed for the
4. Are there any recorded amendments to or releases from the and of which the reviewing party has a copy, and/or any othe the use of the property? X No	EE, and/or any known conditional exceptions under the EE er documents in the Owner's possession relevant to the EE or
Yes – If yes, review those items for background information page reference in the Registry of Deeds where applicable	on purposes and list them below (along with the book and e). (Note that the document reviewer has no obligation to verify , either as of the time they were prepared or as compared to
5. Review Completed Dat March 30, 2016  ISUAL ON-SITE INSPECTION	
Conducted By: Susan-Marie Hagar	
Representing Arcadis	Inspection Start Date: March 17, 2016
Weather    50's and sunny	
List other individuals and their company/agency that were proposed in the	esent during the visual on-site inspection.
3. Is there any visual evidence of activities and uses of the properties restrictions of the EE?  X No	perty since the last inspection that are potentially contrary to
Yes - If yes, describe below.	
4. Is there any visual evidence of utility work or building constru	uction, modification, addition, or demolition at the property
since the last inspection?  X No	
since the last inspection?	uch activity on a plan.

# ANNUAL SITE-WIDE INSPECTION CHECKLIST WILLSBORO BLACK ASH POND SITE

5.	Is there any visual evidence of soil excavation at the property that generated more than 10 cubic yards of soil since the last inspection?  X No Yes - If yes, describe below and show the location(s) of such activity on a plan.
6.	Is there any visual evidence of significant soil erosion at the property since the last inspection, specifically in the soil cover area and/or the stabilized riverbank area?  X No Yes - If yes, describe below and show the location(s) of such erosion on a plan.
7.	Is there any visual evidence of significant pavement construction, disturbance, or excavations at the property since the last inspection?
	Yes - If yes, describe below and show the location(s) of such activity on a plan.
8.	Is there any visual evidence of significant disturbance to the vegetation installed during restoration in the upland Soil Cover Area or the Riverbank Area? Has more than 15% of the installed vegetation not survived (i.e., at least 85% has survived)?
	Yes - If yes, describe below and show the location(s) of such activity on a plan.
9.	Do invasive species account for more than a total of 5% of the restored area?
	No Yes - If yes, describe below and show the location(s) of such activity on a plan.
	Not able to assess quantity of invasive species during March 17 inspection due to lack of seasonal growth.
10.	Is there any visual evidence of significant disturbance to or movement of the riprap installed to stabilize the Riverbank
	X No Yes - If yes, describe below and show the location(s) of such activity on a plan.
11.	Is there any visual evidence of significant bare spot(s) in the Undisturbed Area?
	Yes - If yes, describe below and show the location(s) of such activity on a plan.
10	Manual Ma
12.	If any of the conditions listed in the response to Questions 4 through 11 appears likely to have significantly altered the surface grade of the property compared to the surface grade shown on the as-built drawings included in the Final Engineering Report (or an alternative, more recent plan proposed by the Owner), identify the approximate area/location(s) of such grade change on a plan and compare the new surface grade in such area(s) to the surface grade shown on the above listed drawing and/or plan. (If the Owner proposes use of an alternative plan for this comparison, include a copy of that plan and describe the rationale for its proposed use.)
12	Inspection Completed: March 17, 2016
٠٠.	mopositor Completed. Maron 17, 2010



### Arcadis of New York, Inc.

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