

NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION

Erin M. Crotty, Commissioner

General Electric
Fort Edward Outfall 004
Operable Unit 4
Inactive Hazardous Waste
Disposal Site

Main Document Repository

Washington County Office
Building
Upper Broadway
Fort Edward, NY

For More Information:

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Site No. 5-58-004

October 16, 2003

Public Availability Meetings

October 23 and

November 5

8:00 p.m.

at the

Washington County Office Building -Rm B036

Upper Broadway, NYS Route 4

Village of Fort Edward

Remedial Construction

General Electric - Fort Edward

Site No. 5-58-004 - Operable Unit 4

Outfall 004

River Bank Excavation and Removal

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is holding biweekly **Public Availability Sessions at 8:00 p.m. on October 23 and November 5 in Room B036 at the Washington County Office Building** to provide information on the progress of Remedial Construction activities for the General Electric Fort Edward Outfall 004 Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Site (Site Number 5-58-004), located along the banks of the Hudson River below Hudson Street, Fort Edward, Washington County, New York

Site History And Description

GE's Fort Edward plant is located on a 32-acre tract along Route 4 in the Town of Fort Edward extending from the Hudson River to Upper Broadway, just south of the Washington County Office building complex. General Electric has manufactured capacitors at this location since the late 1940s. PCBs were used in capacitor manufacture until 1976. Other chemicals used on the site include solvents such as trichloroethane and kerosene.

GE has been conducting extensive on-site and off-site remedial investigation and monitoring activities. For management purposes the site has been divided into four parts called **operable units**. This availability session deals only with Operable Unit 04.

- Operable Unit 4 (**OU4**) consists of contaminated soil along the riverbank adjacent to the former 004 outfall on the east shore of the Hudson River. The ROD calls for the removal and off-site disposal of all PCB contaminated material from along the shoreline of the Hudson River in the vicinity of the former 004 outfall area.

OU-4 soil samples were collected from borings at selected locations and found to predominantly contain PCBs with some additional volatile and semivolatile organic compounds. The PCB contaminated soils were found on and along the banks of the

River. Almost two hundred soil and sediment samples were collected from locations along and below the shoreline and below the surface of the Hudson River North and South of the former 004 discharge pipe. Soils immediately downstream from the former outfall contain very high concentrations of PCB; concentrations diminish with distance from the outfall. A considerable volume of contaminated soil exists in the river along the eastern shoreline. Surface water sampling results from upstream and downstream of the 004 outfall area indicate that the site is an ongoing source of PCB to the Hudson River.

Remedial Construction Activity Summary

The Remedial Action at this site is consistent with what was outlined in the ROD. The DEC through its Contractor is proceeding to excavate and dispose an estimated 15,500 tons of contaminated soils from the river bank starting near the outfall and proceeding south approximately 1,200 feet. The Contractor has installed a temporary barrier dam in the river to divert flow away from the river bank. The Contractor installed an access road down to the river beginning at the end of Hudson Street. The Contractor is also operating a water treatment system to handle construction related water. The Contractor has been and continues to conduct air monitoring for the protection of the downwind community from potential airborne contaminant releases associated with the remedial work activities.

The Construction activities began June 9, 2003. The target completion date for excavation along the river is October 23rd. The bladder dam system is expected to be removed from the river during the week of October 27th. Work will continue into November.

To date, the Contractor has removed 7,140 tons of soils with PCB concentrations greater than 50 parts per million (ppm). The Contractor has also removed over 4,250 tons of soils with PCB contamination less than fifty (50) ppm and greater than one ppm. Approximately 3,564 tons of material from a debris pile has been removed from the site.

The Availability Session will give a status report of the project and will allow the public to voice any questions or concerns.

Citizen Participation Summary

As part of its responsibility to inform and involve the public, the DEC has, and continues to carry out, citizen participation measures at this site. These activities include: public meetings to describe work performed to date for the construction. These availability meetings is the latest step for keeping the public informed.

Repositories: Below are listed the places where the public can review relevant public documents regarding information about this site:

Washington Co. Office Bldg
Upper Broadway Avenue
Fort Edward, NY 12828

NYSDEC Central Office
625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7013
Attn: Gerard Burke, P.E.

For More Information: Please contact the individuals identified on the cover sheet of this Notice.