Oswego Casting Site Sampling

DER Site Management, 09/24/2012

Photos with Notes

Photo | **Description**

We arrived at the site at noon and set up for taking low-flow groundwater samples. Jeremy Wycoff from Malcolm Pirnie had rented the equipment for us and conducted a training session on how to set up the apparatus.

Report by Will Welling.

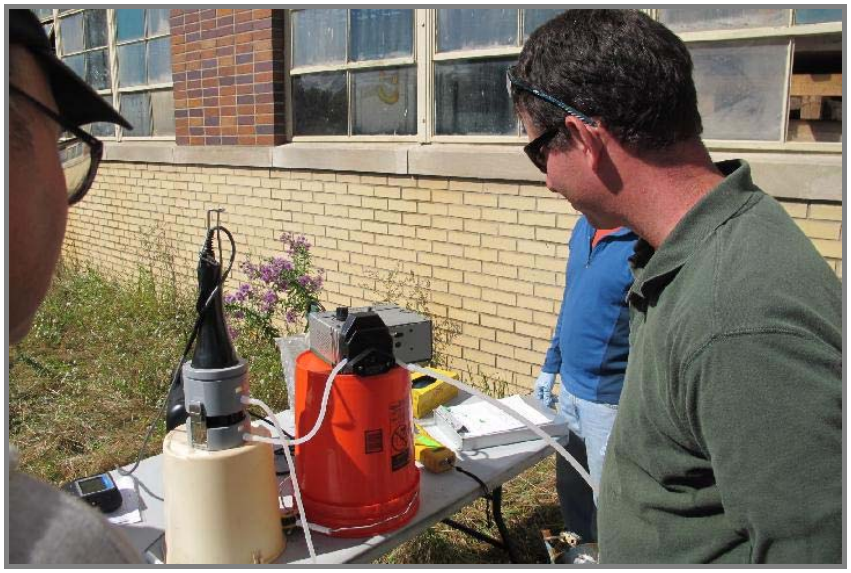
Panorama photo panning right, to the east and south.

Panorama photo

We set up at MW-2R monitoring well along the beige brick building, half-way down on the right.

Payson Long, left; Larry Thomas, right.

Our crew included Jeremy Wycoff on left, Val Woodward and Carl Hoffman.



Jeremy checks our setup.

Carl adjusts the equipment.

Location shifted next to MW-6.

Oswego police officers stopped by. One officer walked around the buildings with us to see if anything was locked. Nothing was. It was all wide open and a real headache for the police.

The last time I was here, the site hosted "Great Lakes Veneer, Inc.," a lumber mill with brand-new kilns, a log yard and everything necessary to operate successfully. Now The site is derelict.

Our DEC sampling van is here parked near MW-3. View looking across the former kiln area.

Setup on MW-4. Larry on left, Carl and Jeremy on right.

MW-4

MW-4

MW-4. Jeremy Wycoff looks at the parameter values of pH, temperature, contuctivity, turbididt, etc.

When values do not fluctuate more than 10%, we conclude that native water is flowing from the aquifer through our equipment and it is time to take our samples.

MW-4, Carl, Jeremy and Larry review the parameter data taken from the "cell" instrument which monitors parameters.

Val Woodward packing up a sample.

Preparation activity between sampling locations. Jeremy Wycoff

Our DER sampling van. Blue coolers for the samples, waste tubing in the waste basket.

Payson calibrates the Horiba U-50 "cell.

From the equipment manual:

The U-50 Series Multi Water Quality Checker features an integrated control unit and sensors. It is capable of making a maximum of eleven simultaneous measurements for various parameters, and is perfect for use in the field. The U-50 Series is designed with on-site ease-of-use in mind, provides a wide variety of functions, and can be used for water quality measurements and inspections of river water, groundwater, and waste water.

MW-7

Payson with his hand on the peristaltic sampling pump's on-off switch. Larry reviewing the tally sheets.

View of MW-7. Coming out of the well are the measuring tape to monitor depth to water and our sampling tubing.

Payson with the MW-7 setup.

Payson cleaning the tape used at the MW-5 setup.

At each location I wielded a scythe and cut grass and brush to give us a place to work. It was good excercise after a long car ride.

This location was a "jungle" until I hit it with the scythe!

The last well to sample was MW-1 near the apple tree along side of the beige brick building. This well is sampled last because it is heavily contaminated with PCB oil.

Organic vapors were 1257 ppb measured with the photoionization detector (PID).

The Great Lakes Veneer Company Inc. left behind waste oil in drums here and here around the derelict facility. Whoever owns this property will be liable for penalties and cleanup costs if it gets spilled.

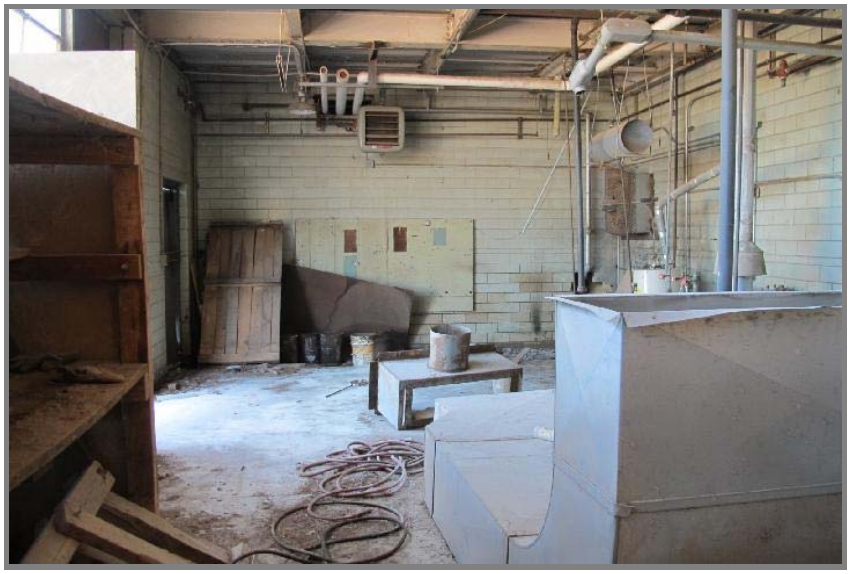
Peering into the drum.

Waste in cans

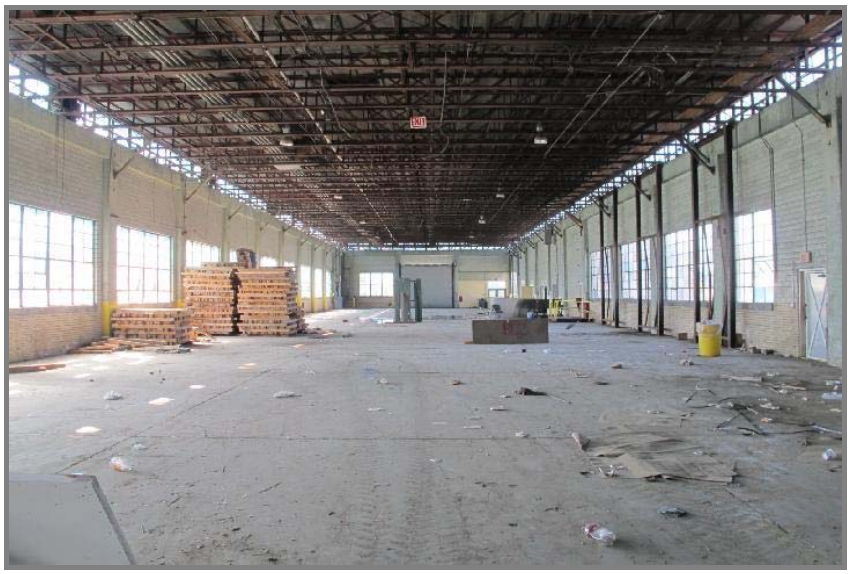
Somebody painted "Area 51" on this door.

Payson and I continue our rounds documenting waste which poses concern.

Interior showing waste liquid in containers.



Interior



Interior shot. Stacked oak.

Interior, 180 degrees from the previous shot

Larry and Val at MW-1. Larry is filling one of two sampling bottles.

Disposing of the sampling tubing. This well has an oil sheen. The oil is heavier than water and rests at the bottom of the well.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