

NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION

**Public Meeting
Invitation**

**March 3, 2008
7:30 p.m.**

**Town of Clermont
Town Hall
U.S. Route 9
Clermont, NY**

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) will discuss the proposed remedy for the Former Hettling Farm site. At the meeting representatives from the NYSDEC and NYSDOH will:

- Describe the results of the site remedial investigations;
- Describe and explain the proposed remedy;
- Answer your questions about the investigation and remedy
- Receive your verbal or written comments about the PRAP

**PUBLIC COMMENT
PERIOD**

From: February 1, 2008

To: March 17, 2008

FACT SHEET

Environmental Restoration Program

Remedy Proposed for the Former Hettling Farm Site

Site # E411015

Town of Clermont

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) in cooperation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has proposed a remedy to address contamination identified at the Former Hettling Farm Site, Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) Project in Clermont, New York (see location map on page 4).

The Proposed Action - Highlights of the proposed remedy include:

- A soil cover for public health protection
- Monitoring of the site groundwater
- Institutional controls

An institutional control is a non-physical restriction on use of the site, such as an environmental easement, when the remedy leaves residual contamination that makes the site suitable for some, but not all uses.

This remedy is described in the site's Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP). The PRAP was developed following a remedial investigation of the site. The PRAP evaluates the different options to clean up the site and presents the alternative preferred by the NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

Opportunities to Comment on the Proposed Remedy: Release of the PRAP begins a process to finalize selection of the remedy for the site. Your comments and input concerning the proposed remedy are important and encouraged.

Oral and written comments about the PRAP are welcome at the **public meeting** and during the **public comment period**. Written comments may be mailed up until the end of the comment period to:

Randy Hough - Project Manager
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
12th Floor, 625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233-7013
E-mail: rshough@gw.dec.state.ny.us

What Happens Next: All comments received during the public comment period will be considered as the remedy is finalized for the Former Hettling Farm Site. Public input will be factored into the development of the Record of Decision (ROD) which will describe the remedy selected and why it was chosen. NYSDEC will respond to comments provided in a Responsiveness Summary included in the ROD.

Site History

Most of the 20.5 acres of the site were historically utilized for agricultural purposes. Generally, the lands to the west of the artificial ditch and intermittent stream were primarily utilized as apple orchards and the lands on the eastern portion were utilized for the cultivation of row crops, vegetables and/or vineyards and orchards. The use of persistent inorganic and organic pesticides as well as the application of fertilizers resulted in the deposition of these hazardous substances in the site media. In addition, there was evidence that waste material may have been disposed on the surface and in the subsurface at and adjacent to the site. A large stockpile of railroad ties and poles, which may have been treated with coal tar creosote and/or chromated copper arsenate (CCA) for preservation, were disposed on the surface, in the north central section of the site.

Remedial Investigation (RI)

The purpose of the RI was to define the nature and extent of any contamination resulting from previous activities at the site. The RI was conducted between October 2006 and April 2007. The field activities and findings of the investigation are described in the RI report.

The initial phase of the RI involved an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) to remove and dispose of treated railroad ties and poles that were stockpiled on-site. Subsequent phases of the RI included an electromagnetic (EM) survey, exploratory test pitting, test borings and monitoring well installations, the collection and analysis of; subsurface and surface soils, groundwater, surface water and sediment samples. In addition a private well survey, Fish and Wildlife Impact Analysis and a site survey were conducted.

Summary of Proposed Remedial Action

The PRAP identifies the remedy preferred by the NYSDEC and NYSDOH to remediate the residual contamination associated with the historical use of the site. The proposed alternative was chosen following a detailed investigation of the site and an evaluation of alternatives for remediating the contamination.

The elements of the proposed remedy are as follows:

1. A remedial design program would be implemented to provide the details necessary for the construction, operation, maintenance, and monitoring of the remedial program.
2. A soil cover would be constructed over a 7.5 acre area on the eastern half of the site, to prevent exposure to contaminated soils. The one-foot thick cover would consist of clean soil underlain by an indicator such as orange plastic snow fence to demarcate the cover soil from the subsurface soil. The top six inches of soil would be of sufficient quality to support vegetation. Clean soil would constitute soil that meets the Division of Environmental Remediation's criteria for backfill or local site background. If any portion of the property is developed for active recreational use, a two-foot thick soil cover would be required in order to meet the Part 375 Protection of Public Health, Restricted -Residential SCOs, which would allow this use. Non-vegetated areas (buildings, roadways, parking lots, etc.) would be covered by a paving system or concrete at least 6 inches thick.
3. Imposition of an institutional control in the form of an environmental easement that would require:
 - limiting the use and development of the property to commercial use;
 - compliance with the approved site management plan;
 - the property owner to complete and submit to the Department a periodic certification of institutional and engineering controls.
4. Development of a site management plan which would include the following institutional and engineering controls:
 - management of the final cover system;
 - monitoring of groundwater and requiring water quality testing in accordance with local and County requirements for any use of groundwater as a potable water source;
 - identification of any use restrictions on the site;
 - provisions for the continued proper operation and maintenance of the components of the remedy.
5. Periodic certification of institutional and engineering controls.

Costs and Funding for the Site Remedy

The total cost to construct and implement the proposed remedy is approximately \$650,000. **The 1996 Clean Water / Clean Air Bond Act** established a \$200 million Environmental Restoration Projects fund. The purpose of the **Environmental Restoration Program** is to provide grants to municipalities to reimburse up to 90 percent of eligible costs for the investigation and/or remediation of municipally owned properties known or suspected to be contaminated with hazardous substances or petroleum. The investigation grant to the Town of Clermont for this site was \$121,050. The proposed future use of the site is commercial, including passive recreational.

Document Repositories

Town of Clermont
Town Clerk's Office
1795 Route 9
Clermont, NY 12526
(518) 537-6668
Hours: Thurs. 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Sat. 10:00 am-12:00 pm

NYSDEC Region 4 Office
1150 N. Westcott Road
Schenectady, NY 12306
(518) 357-2234
Hours: M-F, 8:30 - 4:45

NYSDEC Central Office
625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7013
(518) 402-9767
Hours: M-F, 8:30 - 4:00

Contact: Randy Hough, Project Manager

Health Issues

There are no confirmed complete exposure pathways that are known to exist on-site at this time. Exposure to the residual on-site contamination from direct contact or inhalation of dust is a potential pathway for trespassers, and if excavation in the contaminated area is undertaken, for site construction workers and/or the public.

For More Information

Meeting/Comment Period/Technical Information

Randy Hough, Project Manager
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Site-Related Health Information

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Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation
NYSDOH
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Citizen Participation

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E411015**

