FACT SHEET Current Status Of The Remediation Projects And Proposed Remedy For The Closed Landfill Site BASF Corporation, City of Rensselaer May 2006

BASF Corporation's Rensselaer, NY property is undergoing remediation and redevelopment under the oversight of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). Three distinct sites on this property are being cleaned up under three different NYSDEC administrative programs. BASF is conducting the remediation under a NYSDEC Brownfield Clean-up Agreement (BCA) for the South 40 site (dated June 2004), a NYSDEC Record of Decision (ROD) for the Main Plant site (dated September 2003), and a Voluntary Clean-up Agreement (VCA) for the Closed Landfill site (dated April 2002). Upon completion of the cleanup, Besicorp-Empire Development, LLP plans to redevelop the Main Plant and South 40 sites by constructing a newsprint recycling plant and a co-generation power plant respectively.

BASF is also investigating off-site areas near the Rensselaer property to determine whether or not any contamination has migrated off-site. This investigation includes examining sewer line bedding beneath Rensselaer Avenue for soil vapor and contaminated ground water migration, sampling Hudson River sediments, and assessing any possible impacts of airborne deposition on the Fort Crailo neighborhood. This off-site investigation is being done pursuant to a work plan approved by NYSDEC in April 2004.

The cleanup objectives (contained in separate work plans for each site) are to return the three BASF sites to a condition that is protective of human health and the environment.

Industrial use of the site began in approximately 1881. At that time, the property included what is now the BASF site and the land located immediately to the north. Dyestuffs, pharmaceuticals and aspirin were all manufactured there. After several ownership changes, the site was purchased by Sterling Drug in 1919. Sterling retained the pharmaceutical manufacturing portion of the plant (the property located northofBASF and known as the "Sterling site") and sold those portions that are now known as the BASF site to a company that eventually became the General Aniline and Film (GAF) Corporation. BASF acquired the site in 1978 and operations continued until December 31, 2001 when the site was closed.

Three different parcels are included in the site investigation and remediation. These are: 1) the Main Plant, which includes all of the former manufacturing locations and the north and south lagoons; 2) the South 40, which lies south of the Closed Landfill; and 3) the Closed Landfill, located at the southeast corner of the Main Plant. BASF has developed comprehensive remedial action plans for the South 40, the Main Plant, and the Closed Landfill, and is currently engaged in remediation work according to those plans. The South 40 site is being addressed in coordination with Besicorp (as described in the July 2004 Fact Sheet), while the Main Plant and the Closed Landfill sites are being addressed exclusively by BASF.

SOUTH 40:

The remedial components of the completed Remedial Action Plan for the South 40 site were:

Soil removal. Approximately 4,500 tons were removed from the South 40 site. A barrier was placed to distinguish the undisturbed soil from the back fill material and clean fill material was placed in the excavations to return the site to a graded terrain that promotes surface waters to run off rather than infiltrate the remediated area.

Capping. The remedial action work plan anticipates the construction of a co-generation electric plant, which will act as a cap over the closed landfill. If construction of the co-generation plant is not started by June 2007, the remedial action work plan requires that a vegetative cap be installed over the closed landfill.

Besicorp expects to successfully close on the South 40 property in the summer of 2006. Construction of the co-generation plant will take up to two and a half years to complete.

MAIN PLANT:

BASF began the investigation of the Main Plant in 1998 pursuant to an Administrative Order on Consent (Index No. A4-0345-96-07). BASF completed the investigation of the Main Plant in 2000, and in 2001 submitted to NYSDEC a Feasibility Study (FS) evaluating potential cleanup alternatives for the Main Plant.

A ROD specifying the cleanup actions that BASF would perform at the Main Plant was issued by NYSDEC in September 2003. The ROD stated that BASF would, among other actions: remove highly contaminated soil from former process areas; remove highly contaminated soil and sediment from the lagoon area; install a ground water control and treatment system that fully contains all ground water beneath the Main Plant; install an impermeable cap across the entire Main Plant; and implement a long term monitoring plan to ensure that the selected remedy was protective of public health and the environment.

Under the ROD, the following remedial components included in the approved Remedial Design for Operable Unit #1 (OU1) have been implemented except for installation of the cap. The cap should be completed within two years.

Soil removal. Approximately 25,000 tons of soil have been removed from the former manufacturing locations and process areas. Another 11,000 tons of soil and sediment have been removed from the north and south lagoons.

Ground water control and treatment. A ground water collection and treatment system (GCS) has been installed to remove ground water from the perimeter of the Main Plant and Closed Landfill sites and treat the water to remove any contamination. Currently, all the treated ground water is being re-injected at selected locations of the Main Plant site to assist in the site cleanup. Once the typical plumbing and electrical problems are corrected, about 60 percent of the treated ground water will be re-injected and the remainder will be discharged (pursuant to NYSDEC approval) to the Hudson River. The GCS will prevent any ground water from the Main Plant or

Closed Landfill sites from leaving the property. The GCS has been designed to clean the extracted ground water so that the water can be safely re-injected or discharged. The GCS began operation in August 2005.

In-place treatment of soil and ground water. BASF is chemically treating the soil and ground water at the north and south lagoons. To remediate the arsenic contamination, Metals Remediation Compound (brand name of a non-toxic compound) was injected into the soil and ground water west of the lagoons. This compound will chemically combine with the contaminants and form a solid chunk that drops out of the ground water. The first round of injections has resulted in a significant reduction in arsenic levels in the ground water. A second round of injections will be conducted in 2006 to further reduce these levels.

Long-term monitoring. As part of the overall site cleanup, BASF will conduct long-term monitoring of its treatment system, site ground water, and soil vapors to ensure that the cleanup is progressing as planned and that there are no impacts to human health or the environment.

Site-wide capping. The remedial cover for the Main Plant will incorporate the Besicorp redevelopment (if the facility is built) and be comprised of the newsprint recycling facility (or the existing buildings), the parking area, the truck loading area, and the unloading areas. The cleaned lagoons will be filled, covered, and converted to a wastewater treatment plant serving both the Besicorp co-generation and newsprint recycling facilities. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in the fall of 2006 and is expected to take two years.

CLOSED LANDFILL - REMEDIAL ACTION SELECTION REPORT:

After purchasing the site in 1978, BASF initiated several investigations and installed a soil cap over the closed landfill in 1982. Ground water samples collected in 1985 and 1986 led to concerns about elevated levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs). In May 1987, NYSDEC approved the installation of a two gallon-per-minute pump and treat system.

The remediation of the Main Plant discovered contaminated ground water migrating from the landfill and onto the Main Plant. Excavation of contaminated soil on the Main Plant indicated that the source of the soil contamination continued into the landfill. A site investigation in 2002 identified two areas of concern with elevated VOCs and co-mingled metals. The area being called the northern zone is the contaminated soil discovered during the remediation of the Main Plant. The area being called the southern zone is located in the center of the landfill, but south of the center line.

Under the Voluntary Cleanup Program, the proposed remedy is subject to a thirty day period for public review and comment. BASF has submitted a Remedial Action Selection Report (RASR) for the Closed Landfill that would: excavate the areas with elevated levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and the co-mingled metals, install an alternative landfill cap that would transform the site into a wildlife habitat through the use of plantings (designed to shelter and support wildlife) into the cap for the landfill, install a horizontal barrier between the cap and the landfill material, install vegetated drainage swales to direct the surface water run-off to catch basins, and conduct long-term monitoring of the site ground water to protect

human health and the environment from exposure to the residual contamination in the landfill. As part of the GCS for the Main Plant remediation, ground water collection trenches were installed along the north, west, and south boundaries of the Closed Landfill site. All ground water migrating from the landfill will be collected and directed to the treatment plant that was designed to treat the ground water from both the Main Plant and the Closed Landfill sites.

The remedial components proposed in the RASR for the Closed Landfill site are:

Soil removal. BASF has proposed to remove and remediate 4,400 tons of soil containing elevated levels of VOCs and co-mingled metals.

Capping. The cap for the Closed Landfill site would include measures to protect against any remaining contamination and would include plantings and other features designed to attract (and support) wildlife. BASF would dedicate the land to "greenspace," preventing any future development.

Long-term monitoring. As part of the overall site cleanup, BASF would conduct long-term monitoring of the site ground water to ensure that the cleanup is progressing as planned and that there are no impacts to human health or the environment.

Ground water control and treatment. A ground water collection and treatment system (GCS) has been installed to remove ground water from the perimeter of the Main Plant and the Closed Landfill and treat the water to remove any contamination. Currently, all the treated water is being re-injected at selected locations of the Main Plant to assist in the site cleanup. Once the typical plumbing and electrical problems can be corrected, about 60 percent of the treated ground water will be re-injected and the remainder will be discharged (pursuant to NYSDEC approval) to the Hudson River. The GCS will prevent any ground water from the Main Plant and Closed Landfill sites from leaving the property. The GCS has been designed to clean the extracted ground water so that the water can be safely re-injected or discharged. The GCS began operation in August 2005.

Public understanding and involvement are important to the success of NYSDEC remedial programs. You are encouraged to comment on the RASR for The Closed Landfill site. The comment period runs through June 5, 2006.

As the project progresses, NYSDEC will distribute fact sheets (like this one) to keep you informed. In addition, NYSDEC has placed site related documents in a repository. The Remedial Action Selection Report for the Closed Landfill site can be viewed at the document repository for the BASF site at:

Rensselaer Public Library 810 Broadway (old National Bank) Rensselaer, NY (518) 462-1193 M-F: 10:00am to 5:00pm, **M-W only**: 6:00pm to 9:00pm Saturday: 9:00am to 12 noon

Further Information:

The following individuals can provide further information and details regarding the site:

Mr. Daniel Lightsey, NYSDEC	(518) 357-2374
Mr. Mark VanValkenburg, NYSDOH	(518) 402-7860
Mr. Douglas Reid-Green, BASF	(973) 426-3208