STATEMENT OF BASIS/FINAL DECISION AND RESPONSE TO COMMENTS SUMMARY

REGION II
ID# 6241

CECOS Scrapyard Remediation

Niagara Falls, NY
(Signed September 1991)

Facility/Unit Type: **Industrial salvage and recycling facility**
Contaminants: **Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), Hexachlorobenzene, Lead, and Arsenic**
Media: **Soils**
Remedy: **Excavation, off-site disposal, capping**

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

EPA issued a Corrective Action Permit to CECOS pursuant to Section 3004(u) of RCRA. The permit required CECOS to complete an on-site and off-site investigation to determine the nature and extent of contamination from a SWMU, the CECOS Scrapyard, located at the Niagara Falls Facility and to conduct a CMS and prepare a CMI Report to evaluate cleanup alternatives.

The Scrapyard covers a 10-acre parcel of land along the northwest boundary of the Niagara Falls Facility. The area of the SWMU was used to purify cobalt and vanadium in the early 1900s, to produce ammonium paratungstate in the 1950s and 1960s, and for scrap metal shearing operations in the 1970s to 1985. The site was never used for the storage or management of hazardous wastes. No industrial operations have taken place at the site since 1985.

The Scrapyard is underlain by a 2 to 11 foot thick layer of fill consisting of slag, sand, gravel, lime, wood, silty clay, and brick fragments. Under the fill lies a 0 to 7 foot thick layer of natural sediments and then a 135 foot thick layer of bedrock. The ground water below the SWMU has three flow zones designated as top-of-clay, top-of-rock, and bedrock. There is no evidence of ground-water contamination due to past activities at the Scrapyard.

Sampling investigations conducted from 1985 to 1991 revealed the presence of PCBs, hexachlorobenzene, phenolics, polynuclear aromatics, iron, cobalt, lead and arsenic in the soil around the site. Other than one sample registering slightly above water quality standards for PCB content, no contaminants above detection levels were found in surface water or sediments taken from two drainage ditches which receive runoff from the Scrapyard.

EXPOSURE PATHWAYS

Actual or threatened releases of hazardous constituents from the facility, if not addressed, may present a current or potential threat to human health and the environment. The exposure pathway of primary concern is contact with contaminated soils located at the site.

CONTAMINATION DETECTED AND CLEANUP GOALS

Media	Estimated Volume	Contaminant	Maximum Concentration (ppm)	Action Level	Cleanup Goal	Point of Compliance
soil		PCB Aroclor 1260	59			
		PCBs (total)	690		2.5ppm	
		Phenolics (total)	23			
		Phenol	1.6			
		Acenaphthene	6.7			
		Anthracene	16			
		Benzo(a)anthracene	47			
		Benzo(a)pyrene	44			
		Benzo(a)fluoranthene	68			
		Benzo(g,h,f)perylene	24			
		Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	300			
		Chrysene	40			
		Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	9.4			
		Di-n-butylphthalate	0.62			
		Di-n-octylphthalate	0.34			
		Fluoranthene	110			
		Fluorene	15			
		Hexachlorobenzene	96		10ppm	
		Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene	19			
		Naphthalene	7.3			
		Phenanthrene	56			
		Pyrene	85			
		Antimony	27			
		Arsenic	99		50ppm	
		Barium	890			
		Cadmium	42			
		Chromium	2,900			
		Cobalt	60,500			
		Copper	9,800			
		Iron	440,000			
		Lead	4,205			
		Mercury	61			
		Nickel	270			

SELECTED REMEDY

The selected remedy includes excavation of fill/soil with PCB concentrations greater than 25 ppm, hexachlorobenzene concentrations greater than 10 ppm, lead concentrations greater than 50 ppm, or arsenic concentrations greater than 50 ppm. Contaminated fill/soil will be disposed of at an off-site permitted hazardous waste landfill. After removal of all of the contaminated fill/soil has been verified, a cover consisting of two 24 inch soil layers and a 6 inch layer of topsoil will be placed over the site.

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES CONSIDERED

None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The public comment period began on May 29, 1991 and closed on July 15, 1991. No written comments were received. A public meeting was held on April 30, 1991. Persons attending the meeting questioned whether dioxins were present at the Scrapyard and the route of trucks carrying the contaminated soil. Past uses of the site indicate no dioxins are likely to be at the site and the trucks will use Niagara Falls Boulevard.

NEXT STEPS

CECOS will conduct routine inspection and maintenance of the final cover, and conduct sampling and evaluation of the ground water in the vicinity of the Scrapyard. It should also be noted that this corrective action is related only to the remediation of the Scrapyard. Investigation and evaluation of releases at other SWMUs, including a site-wide evaluation, are ongoing and will be the subject of future public review and permit actions.

KEY WORDS
capping, dermal contact; inorganics, heavy metals; excavation, off-site disposal, filling, soil, surface water, sediments; VOCs, PCBs, organics

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