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Centredale Manor Restoration Project Update

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and Rhode Island Department of Health are working with the Woonasquatucket River Management Action Committee to address contamination at the Centredale Manor Restoration Project located in North Providence, RI. Below is an update on activities.

Remedial Investigation

The purpose of the Remedial Investigation (RI) is to: gather the data necessary to determine the sources, nature and extent of all contamination at the Project; identify how contamination is migrating; and evaluate potential public health and environmental risks. Results of the RI are used to perform risk assessments and engineering studies for the permanent solutions to the contamination.

EPA is beginning the next phase of the RI, called a "Source Area Investigation" which will focus on the condition of underground water and deep soil at the Centredale Manor and Brook Village properties.

To evaluate the groundwater, a series of test wells will be installed in the cap areas and in the parking areas at the Centredale Manor and Brook Village properties. In addition, wells will be installed on both sides of the Woonasquatucket River. Water from these wells will be tested for elevated levels of hazardous substances to see if those chemicals are moving into the River with the groundwater.

The RI has been underway since August 1999. Soil and sediment sampling between the Route 44 bridge crossing and the Lymanville Dam has been completed and the results are available for public review at the information repositories. This Fall, EPA also collected 15 sediment samples from the River in the Manton and Dyerville areas. These results are expected to be available in January 2001.

Once the "Source Area Investigation" is complete, the groundwater data, combined with the soil sampling data, as well as information from the ecological risk assessment study (see June 2000 newsletter for more on this) will be used to consider the final cleanup approach for the project. This report is anticipated to be available for public comment in Spring 2002.

EPA will continue to provide project updates to the public as the Remedial Investigation proceeds.

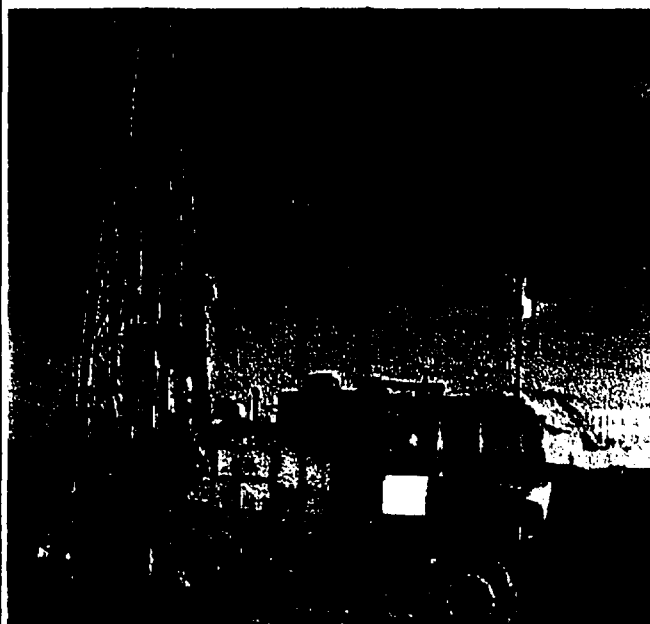
What to Expect During the Next Phase of the Remedial Investigation

- ☐ You may see contractors on the site between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday from mid-December through January, excluding the holidays. The contractors will return again in the spring and early summer.
- ☐ Air monitoring will be conducted during the well drilling to ensure that there are no impacts on air quality. Elevated noise levels should be expected from operation of drilling equipment.
- ☐ On-site workers will be wearing personal protective gear, including impermeable white suits, hard hats, gloves, boots, eye protection and occasionally face masks while performing their jobs. This is mandated by federal law and does not mean that you are in any danger.



Workers in personal protective gear

- ❑ Two separate work crews of three or four persons each will be operating well drilling machinery on the site. EPA staff and their contractors will be on-site to oversee the well drilling activities.
- ❑ A work zone will be flagged off around each location where a well is to be drilled. Please do not enter the work zones while they are active. There is no danger to you as long as you stay out of the active work zone.
- ❑ Any soil or water extracted during the drilling will be temporarily stored in drums within the fenced area. New black drums with white lids will be used for this purpose and will be removed and properly disposed of at an off-site facility.



Drilling equipment at work

Non-Time Critical Removal Action

The non-time critical removal action involves the restoration of Allendale Dam and the removal of contaminated soil and sediment from residential properties around Allendale and Lymanville Ponds. These cleanup activities were discussed at public meetings held in October and November 2000. EPA is evaluating the public comments received on the proposed cleanup and will be preparing an Action Memorandum which documents the selected removal action.

Enforcement Update

EPA has been working to locate potentially responsible parties (PRPs) since response activities started at the Site. EPA believes that the contamination at the Site was primarily caused by former chemical company operations (including the manufacture of hexachlorophene, which has dioxin as a by-product) and former drum recycling operations (including incineration of drum residuals, which can cause the release of dioxin) at the source area of the Site prior to the early 1970's. In order to identify PRPs, EPA has undertaken many enforcement activities including issuing formal information requests, subpoenaing testimony and obtaining written statements. As of this month, EPA has issued General Notice of Potential Liability letters to five PRPs. These five PRPs completed the construction of the second Interim cap at the Site with EPA oversight last summer, pursuant to an EPA Unilateral Administrative Order. They may also conduct other future work at the Site, as well as reimburse EPA for its past and future costs associated with the Site. EPA is continuing to search for additional PRPs.

