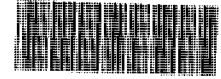


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION I
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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023



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August 6, 2009

Hello All,

In addition to wishing you a happy summer, we wanted to take the opportunity to update you on current efforts and what activities are projected this year for the Centredale Manor Restoration Project.

Removal Action

This month, Emhart Industries, Inc., a potentially responsible party, will conduct a removal action to excavate contaminated soil alongside and under portions of the Brook Village parking lot. This effort will address the elevated dioxin levels in surface and subsurface soil that are migrating in groundwater to the adjacent Woonasquatucket River. EPA and RIDEM will be supervising the work being done by Loureiro Engineering Associates and its subcontractors on behalf of Emhart. The short-term cleanup will take about three months and may require further site restoration in spring 2010. Key elements of the short-term cleanup plan include:

- Excavating contaminated soil and disposing off-site;
- Stockpiling clean surface soil and topsoil for reuse as backfill;
- Installing temporary diversions of the river water away from the excavation area;
- Backfilling and re-grading excavated area;
- Installing an engineered impermeable cap;
- Installing and conducting limited sampling of groundwater monitoring wells;
- Installing erosion control along the riverbank;
- Monitoring air for particulates and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs); and
- Landscaping and repairing pavement and walkways disturbed by the cleanup.

EPA has spoken with the property managers of both apartment complexes and will be holding meetings to discuss the removal action with the residents of Brook Village and Centredale Manor. This removal action will expedite cleanup of one of the groundwater action areas evaluated at the dialogue meetings as part of the Remedial Investigation /Feasibility Study discussions.

Feasibility Study: Potential Cleanup Approaches

A tremendous amount of work should culminate in the availability this fall of the Draft Feasibility Study. The cleanup alternatives analyzed in the Feasibility Study are intended to address contaminated sediment, flood-plain soil, and source area soil, as well as long-term monitoring for the pending groundwater removal action. The cleanup approaches for each action area can be generalized as follows.

For **sediment and flood-plain soil** the general options (with or without dams) are:

1. Take no action (an alternative that we are legally required to evaluate);
2. Cap in place with an isolation cap or a thin cover to enhance natural recovery;
3. Excavate and dispose with the following disposal approaches:
 - a. Consolidate and cap contamination within river along shore;
 - b. Consolidate and cap contamination in upland area next to river;
 - c. Ship contamination off site to permitted facility; and
 - d. Incinerate contaminated sediment using temporary facility on-site.
4. A combination of options 2 and 3 above.

For **source-area soil** the general options are:

1. Take no action (an alternative that we are legally required to evaluate);
2. Maintain existing caps; and
3. Upgrade the existing caps to various levels.

National Remedy Review Board

Before the EPA New England office issues its Proposed Plan outlining its preferred cleanup approach, we are required to present site information and cleanup strategies to the EPA National Remedy Review Board because cleanup costs are likely to exceed \$25 million. This Board was created in 1995 as a means of promoting consistent and cost-effective Superfund cleanup decisions, and making sure proposed cleanup approaches are consistent with current law, regulations, and Agency policy and guidance. The Board generally meets quarterly and is comprised of EPA senior managers and technical experts from each region and headquarters. It can take several months to develop an appropriate site package and the Board requires receipt of it at least a month in advance. Currently the Centredale Manor site is targeting presenting at the Board's Fall 2009 meeting. Although the EPA New England office retains decision making authority, it is expected that the Board's recommendations will be given substantial weight. The Contaminated Sediment Technical Advisory Group (CSTAG) and the Board will issue a set of coordinated recommendations to EPA New England. The Board's review is considered an internal, deliberative, and enforcement sensitive process, however its recommendations as well as Regional response will be in the administrative record at the time the Proposed Plan is published. The Board does provide the opportunity for input by the community groups, the State, Natural Resource Trustees, and the potentially responsible parties. These groups each have the opportunity to summarize in writing, 10 pages or less, any issues they believe are pertinent to the cleanup decision, including their recommended approach and rationale for their recommendation for site cleanup. These summaries are expected to be included in EPA New England's site package submitted to the Board four weeks in advance of its meeting.

Projected Schedule and Proposed Meetings

Based on EPA's current schedule, the following are anticipated key milestones:

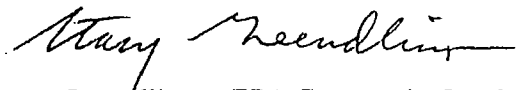
- Draft Feasibility Study will be available to the Dialogue Group in Fall 2009;
- National Remedy Review Board undertakes site review at Fall 2009 meeting;
- Proposed Dialogue Group winter 2010 meeting to preview EPA's Proposed Plan;
- Proposed Plan published winter 2010 kicking off broader public outreach efforts and formal public comment process.

As always, EPA welcomes any thoughts you may have. We recognize that this process has been a long one and appreciate your continued interest. We look forward to receiving your input into the Remedy Review Board process and then on the proposed plan once we get to that milestone. In the interim, we encourage you to stay in touch. Thank you for your continued participation.

Sincerely,



Anna Krasko, EPA Remedial Project Manager



Stacy Greendlinger, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator



Eve Vaudo, EPA Senior Enforcement Counsel