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EPA Proposes Amendments to Cleanup Plan for Woonasquatucket River in N. Providence, R.I.

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(Boston, Mass. – July 16, 2012) – EPA has issued a Proposed Cleanup Plan Amendment for the cleanup of dioxin at the Centredale Manor Restoration Project Superfund Site in North Providence, R.I. Dioxins are toxic chemicals that naturally exist in the environment and can be released into the environment through forest fires, backyard burning of trash, certain industrial activities, and residue from past commercial burning of waste. The proposed amendments use EPA's recently finalized non-cancer science assessment for dioxins, which was last reviewed in the 1980s.

EPA will be accepting public comments on this proposed cleanup plan amendment, which only deals with the revised cleanup level, from July 19, 2012 through August 17, 2012. EPA will also hold a series of public meetings followed by formal hearings, where the agency will take public comment. These meetings and hearings will occur on:

- Monday, 7/30/12 at 7 pm at the Pocasset Bay Retirement Living located at 12 Old Pocasset Lane, Johnston;
- Tuesday, 7/31/12 at 3 pm in the Centredale Manor located at 2074 Smith Street, North Providence; and,
- Tuesday, 7/31/12 at 7 pm in the North Providence Town Hall, in the second floor Council Chamber.

The Centredale Manor Restoration Project was listed on EPA's National Priorities List in February 2000. EPA has been coordinating with Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and the Department of Health on a comprehensive environmental cleanup for the Site since the 1990's. The Centredale Manor Site includes portions of Johnston and North Providence, R.I.

More information: The Proposed Cleanup Plan Amendment can be reviewed at the Johnston and North Providence libraries, and at www.epa.gov/region1/superfund/sites/centredale

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