

## RCRA CORRECTIVE ACTION GM POWERTRAIN-BEDFORD PLANT BEDFORD, INDIANA AUGUST 11, 2003

### INTRODUCTION

General Motors Corporation (GM) is undertaking Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Corrective Action at the GM Powertrain - Bedford Plant (Site) in Bedford, Lawrence County, Indiana under a Performance Based Agreement (Agreement) with U.S. EPA Region V, signed on March 20, 2001. Removal Actions along Bailey's Branch and Pleasant Run Creek are being undertaken under an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) with the U.S. EPA Region V. The effective date of the AOC is July 31, 2003. The AOC is being utilized to expedite the implementation of the cleanup of areas off of the Plant property.

This is the sixth Project Fact Sheet that has been prepared to provide the community with information regarding activities being performed at the Site.

### SITE BACKGROUND

The Site is located at 105 GM Drive in Bedford, Indiana, on approximately 152.5 acres of land. The Site currently produces aluminum casting products, such as transmission casings, pistons, and engine blocks, within approximately one million square feet of operating floor space.

The Bedford Site was originally constructed in the early 1900's as a limestone milling operation. The U.S. Government purchased the mill in 1942, converting the Site to an aluminum aircraft engine foundry, which was operated by GM. GM purchased the property after World War II and has continued to operate the Site as an aluminum foundry as part of various GM operating divisions.

Project Fact Sheets will be issued periodically by GM during the implementation of the Corrective Action program to keep the community informed of ongoing activities at the Site.



project fact sheet

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE U.S. EPA AND IDEM AND ARE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW IN THE PUBLIC REPOSITORIES AND ONLINE

#### RCRA FACILITY INVESTIGATION (RFI) REPORTS

- Current Conditions Report (CCR) - May 25, 2001
- Community Relations Plan - June 6, 2001
- Health and Safety Plan (HASP) - July 12, 2001
- Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), Preliminary RFI Activities - July 18, 2001
- RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) Work Plan - October 29, 2001
- QAPP, RFI Work Plan - November 5, 2001
- RFI Work Plan Addendum No. 1 - November 18, 2002
- RFI Work Plan Addendum No. 2 - May 22, 2003

#### STREAM INVESTIGATION REPORTS

- Stream Investigation Work Plan - June 6, 2001
- Stream Investigation Field Sampling Plan - September 21, 2001
- Bedford RFI Technical Memorandum No. 1 - March 19, 2002
- Stream Investigation High Flow Sampling Memorandum - May 12, 2002
- Bedford RFI Technical Memorandum No. 1 Addendum - March 27, 2003
- Technical Memorandum Phase II Stream Investigation - February 11, 2003

#### OFF-SITE WELL INVESTIGATION REPORTS

- Off-Site Well Survey and Sampling Work Plan - June 6, 2001
- Technical Memorandum Off-Site Residential Well Survey and Sampling - December 9, 2002

#### QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORTS

- Quarterly Progress Report 1 - July 12, 2001
- Quarterly Progress Report 2 - October 15, 2001
- Quarterly Progress Report 3 - January 15, 2002
- Quarterly Progress Report 4 - April 15, 2002
- Quarterly Progress Report 5 - July 15, 2002
- Quarterly Progress Report 6 - October 15, 2002
- Quarterly Progress Report 7 - January 15, 2003
- Quarterly Progress Report 8 - April 14, 2003
- Quarterly Progress Report 9 - July 14, 2003

#### REMOVAL ACTION WORK PLANS

- Parcel 22 Removal Action Work Plan - July 18, 2003
- Upstream Parcels Removal Action Work Plan - July 18, 2003

#### MAPS

- Stream Investigation Summary Maps (Study Areas 1 through 10) - August 9, 2002



Please direct any questions about this project to Ms. Becki Akers of GM by phone (toll free) at 1-866-223-0856 or by e-mail at becki.akers@gm.com. U.S. EPA and IDEM contact information is provided on the next page.

## RCRA CORRECTIVE ACTION UPDATE

### ON-SITE RFI ACTIVITIES

A RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) involves gathering information regarding possible releases of hazardous waste or hazardous constituents from waste management units and other areas of interest at the Site. The on-Site investigations continued through July 2003. Activities in the first two quarters of 2003 consisted of the completion of multi-level monitoring wells at various areas on the Site property for the collection of groundwater samples, and advancement of angle borings.

RFI Work Plan Addendum No. 2 was submitted to the agencies on May 22, 2003. This Addendum outlined the additional on-Site investigative activities along the east side of the Site property conducted in the first two quarters of 2003. These activities will provide additional information on the bedrock geology and groundwater along the east side of the Site property. This additional data will be used to support interim measures and final Corrective Measures for the Facility.

### OFF-SITE ACTIVITIES

An Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) was signed by U.S. EPA and GM. The AOC has been entered into voluntarily by the U.S. EPA and GM for the Removal Action to expedite the implementation of the cleanup work. A Removal Action under the recently executed AOC, has begun in order to clean up PCB contaminated sediment and floodplain soil within Bailey's Branch and the Pleasant Run Creek Watershed. This area includes approximately 5 miles of creek from the GM Bedford Plant Outfall downstream to approximately the Old Murdoch railroad trestle. Both the creek bed and the adjacent floodplain areas are a part of the Removal Action activities. The objectives of the AOC are to control any potential ongoing releases to the creek, and to remove sediment and soil present at levels above the cleanup criteria. The soil cleanup criteria is the State default standard of 1.8 ppm. The sediment cleanup criteria is 1 ppm.

Work Plans for the first phase of cleanup were approved by the U.S. EPA as part of the AOC. The first components of the cleanup activities began in April 2003 with the cutting of larger trees on several of the

upstream properties. Now, the areas targeted for cleanup are being cleared. Once clearing is completed the sediment and floodplain soils exceeding the cleanup criteria will be removed. The creek will be cleared in sections of up to 500 feet at a time. During this removal activity, the creek will be temporarily re-routed around the work area through piping. Temporary dams will be placed upstream and downstream of the work area to keep it dry. Testing is then conducted to ensure the cleanup criteria are achieved prior to regrading and planting. The second phase of the cleanup activities is anticipated to begin in the fall/winter 2003 and will continue throughout 2004.

GM has continued to address specific requests from residents for additional sampling based on knowledge and location of the property relative to the plant and/or contamination. Analytical results from these requests are included in stream project data packages and distributed to the property owners and agencies as the results are obtained. In addition, PCB warning signs have been posted at various locations along the creek and these signs will remain until the cleanup has been completed.

### UPCOMING FIELD ACTIVITIES

The Pleasant Run Creek Watershed area is a potential nesting area for the Indiana Bat, an endangered species. Should bats be present in the area, the clearing of the trees for the Removal Action will be handled on an individual basis during the bat roosting period from April 15 to September 15. In order to confirm the presence or absence of Indiana Bats in the area, a bat survey is taking place this summer.

The Removal Action along the stream will continue, starting with the upstream section first and then proceeding downstream. On-Site analytical data, collected as part of the RFI Investigation in soil and groundwater, will continue to be assessed to determine future cleanup requirements.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

An information repository has been established where project-related documents, which include the Community Relations Plan, are available for public review

(a complete list of available project documents is provided on Page 1 of this FactSheet).

A meeting was held with owners of property on and adjacent to the creek on June 3, 2003. A general community meeting was held on June 4, 2003. Both of these meetings provided updates on the Corrective Action activities.

PUBLIC ACCESS WEB SITE IS AVAILABLE AT [www.BedfordPowertrainCorrectiveAction.com](http://www.BedfordPowertrainCorrectiveAction.com) Get up-to-date project information and view project-related documents.

The Community Liaison Panel (CLP) has met periodically since September 2002 to discuss community concerns and involvement with the GM Bedford Corrective Action project. These meetings will continue during 2003. The names of members and meeting minutes have been posted on the public website, and are available at the information repository.

The information repository is located at:  
Bedford Public Library  
1323 K Street  
Bedford, Indiana  
Tel: (812) 275-4471

An Information Center has also been established in the GM Powertrain lobby at the Bedford Plant on GM Drive. This Information Center can be viewed by appointment (Contact Becki Akers).

### CONTACT INFORMATION

If you would like more information about this project, please contact any of the following:

#### U.S. EPA

Peter Ramanauskas - for general information and on-site work  
Tel: (312) 886-7890

Brad Stimple - for creek cleanup work  
Tel: (440) 250-1717

#### GM

Becki Akers  
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#### IDEM

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