

## RCRA CORRECTIVE ACTION GM POWERTRAIN-BEDFORD PLANT, BEDFORD, INDIANA January 20, 2004

### 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 and amended October 1, 2002. 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 seventh 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.



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

- 1 through 10

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON CONSENT

- AOC for Removal Action - August 14, 2003

#### REMOVAL ACTION WORK PLANS

- Parcel 22 Removal Action Work Plan - July 18, 2003
- Upstream Parcels Removal Action Work Plan - July 18, 2003
- Site Source Control Work Plan - November 5, 2003
- Upstream Parcels Removal Action Work Plan: Addendum No. 1 - November 25, 2003

#### CERCLA MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORTS

- July 2003 through November 2003

#### MAPS

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

project fact sheet



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. Since reporting in the previous fact sheet (August 2003), the project team has continued the on-site activities. During the first three quarters of 2003, the project team completed multi-level monitoring wells at various areas on the Site property to collect groundwater samples, as well as the advancement of angle borings.

### OFF-SITE ACTIVITIES

The U.S. EPA and GM signed an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC), which became effective July 31, 2003. 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 in the creeks. 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 that runs 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 residential standard of 1.8 ppm. The sediment cleanup criteria is 1 ppm.

As part of the AOC, the U.S. EPA approved the Work Plans for the first phase of cleanup. The first components of the cleanup activities began in April 2003 with the cutting of larger trees on several of the upstream properties. Following the Indiana Bat mist-netting survey, completed July 31, 2003, GM received concurrence from United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) to cut the remaining trees in the upstream reach remediation areas. Tree removal was started and has been completed on the area north of the former GM Landfill and on select parcels within the Upstream Work Plan. Soil and sediment removal activities have begun in the upstream areas, on and adjacent to the GM Bedford Plant, in September. Air monitoring was started just prior to the excavation activities and will continue throughout excavation activities. Due to the discovery of previously unknown fill materials, test pits have been conducted on the areas north of the former GM Landfill. The creek cleanup 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 are 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. These signs will remain until the cleanup has been completed.

GM is currently focusing on cleanup of the area just downstream from the plant's historic discharge location. Currently, some surficial rock is being excavated in the soft eroded surface to more clearly understand the limits and form of contamination in this area. Seep/spring control water collection system(s) are going to be placed in this area. Once this area is understood and under control, work will progress farther downstream.

### UPCOMING FIELD ACTIVITIES

The downstream section of the Pleasant Run Creek Watershed area is a potential nesting area for the Indiana Bat. As a result, GM will be working with USFWS in preparing a biological assessment on the potential impacts of PCBs on the Indiana Bat downstream of Broomsage Road.

The Removal Action along the creek will continue with the upstream section first followed by the downstream section. The Site Source Control Work Plan has been submitted and has been approved by the U.S. EPA. The Work Plan details measures that will be implemented. The downstream Parcels Removal Action Work Plan was also submitted in October for U.S. EPA review. GM will continue to work with the U.S. EPA and residents to obtain access to remaining parcels along the creeks.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

On November 11, 2003, GM donated two homes to the Charity Chapel for use in their mission work. These homes were among properties GM has purchased through the property plans being offered to residents whose property fit certain criteria.

A meeting was held with owners of property on and adjacent to the creek on October 1, 2003. A general community meeting was held on October 2, 2003. Both of these meetings provided updates on the Corrective Action activities. 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 Fact Sheet.

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 2004.

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  
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#### GM

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#### IDEM

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