

RCRA CORRECTIVE ACTION

GM POWERTRAIN-BEDFORD PLANT, BEDFORD, INDIANA

May 28, 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 eighth 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
- RFI Work Plan Addendum No. 3 - March 23, 2004
- RFI Work Plan Addendum No. 4 - May 6, 2004

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 12

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 (SSC) Work Plan - November 5, 2003
- SSC Work Plan: Addendum No. 1 - April 21, 2004
- Upstream Parcels Removal Action Work Plan: Addendum No. 1 - November 25, 2003
- Upstream Parcels Removal Action Plan: Addendum No. 2 - March 23, 2004
- Upstream Parcels Removal Action Plan: Addendum No. 3 - May 11, 2004

CERCLA MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORTS

- July 2003 through April 2004

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

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 (January 2004), the project team has continued the on-Site activities. During the first quarter of 2004, the project team completed on-Site investigation activities from the RFI Work Plans. Groundwater sampling activities were conducted during this quarter at several of the monitoring wells installed late last year. As part of the groundwater investigation, a thermal imaging activity has been completed in the area around the Site and the results are currently being evaluated. Thermal imaging was done using special photographic equipment mounted on a helicopter and the pictures are used to locate springs near the area of the investigation and cleanup. Associated with the groundwater investigation, a dye tracer study will soon be performed to better understand groundwater flow at and near the Site.



View looking west of Bailey Scales Road
- post excavation but prior to restoration



View looking east of Bailey Scales Road
- during excavation activities

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.



Soil removal to bedrock north of GMs property



Back filling activities north of GMs property

A Removal Action under the recently executed AOC continues 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 are 1 ppm.



Trench excavation in bedrock as part of the
Site Source Control activities near
GMs historic outfall

(The solid lines represent the location of the collection trenches that are perpendicular to the stream channel. The dashed line represents the location of the center collection trench to be excavated.)



Site Source Control system during installation

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. GM received concurrence from United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) to cut trees in a section of the downstream reach remediation areas up to the Peerless Road Bridge. This work was done before potential spring roosting of bats would occur.

Soil and sediment removal activities began in the upstream areas, on and adjacent to the GM Bedford Plant, in September 2003 and have continued through the winter and spring. GM is currently working on the creek area just downstream from the Plant's historic discharge location and on the north side of the Plant property. Excavation and removal activities are currently proceeding in an easterly direction. To date, over 30,000 tons of soil and sediment exceeding the cleanup criteria have been removed, tested, and taken off-Site to a permitted landfill. Air monitoring is conducted around all air monitoring activities. Restoration activities are following behind these removal activities.

In addition to soil and sediment removal activities, GM is installing spring and seep controls to collect groundwater east of GMs historic outfall and north of GMs on-Site historic fill area. These systems collect water that has been impacted by PCBs to prevent recontamination of the creek. PCB warning signs were posted at various locations along the creek. These signs will remain until the cleanup has been completed.

UPCOMING FIELD ACTIVITIES

The Removal Action has moved east of Bailey Scales Road along the creek and will continue downstream throughout 2004. The approved Site Source Control Work Plan is being implemented. The Downstream Parcels Removal Action Work Plan was also submitted in October for U.S. EPA review.

GM is continuing to address specific requests from residents for additional sampling based on location of the property relative to the Plant and/or contamination. Analytical results from these requests are included in project data packages and are distributed to the property owners and agencies as the results are obtained.

As part of the dye tracer study, GM plans to insert a harmless green dye into the bedrock groundwater in late spring to evaluate connections to the creek from the groundwater. GM is also continuing to perform additional investigation of soil and groundwater both on the Plant properties as well as several fill areas near the Facility.

GENERAL UPDATE

A meeting was held with owners of property on and adjacent to the creek on January 27, and April 28 2004. A general community meeting was held on January 28 and April 29, 2004. Both sets of meetings provided updates on the Corrective Action activities. During the public meeting, held January 28, 2004, it was suggested that copies of the general community presentations be posted to the website. As a result, these presentations are being posted, beginning with the January 2004 presentation. Future presentations will be posted following the public meeting.

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.

The next public meeting is being scheduled for early August 2004. Specific details will be published prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC ACCESS WEB SITE IS AVAILABLE AT
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

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