

## RCRA CORRECTIVE ACTION GM POWERTRAIN BEDFORD FACILITY, BEDFORD, INDIANA January 16, 2006

### INTRODUCTION

General Motors Corporation (GM) is undertaking Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Corrective Action at the GM Powertrain – Bedford Facility (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 completed 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 Facility property. This is the thirteenth 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.

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project fact sheet



Underdrain Construction



Mesh Installation



Clay Placement &amp; Compaction

Backfill Placement In  
Creek RestorationDiversion Channel  
2 BypassHydroseeding  
Diversion Channel 2

Rock Breaking Parcel 28



Bud Ikerd Rd. Refinishing

Refinished Bud Ikerd and  
Peerless Roads Intersection

Grading Area 2



Tarped Truck



Dye-Trace Sampling

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE U.S. EPA AND IDEM SINCE FACTSHEET 12 AND ARE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW IN THE PUBLIC REPOSITORIES AND ONLINE

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORTS  
• 18 and 19  
PROJECT FACT SHEETS  
• Project Fact Sheets 13

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS  
• October 6, 2005  
CERCLA MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORTS  
• September 2005 through December 2005

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](mailto:becki.akers@gm.com). U.S. EPA and IDEM contact information is provided on the next page.

## RCRA CORRECTIVE ACTION UPDATE

GM developed an East Plant Area Interim Measure sent out for a public comment from May 31 to July 14, 2005. U.S. EPA has approved the cleanup remedy for the plant property east of GM Drive. Each component's detailed design will be reviewed and approved by U.S. EPA. This area was historically used for plant waste management activities. Components of the Interim Measure include soil removal of areas with greater than 50 ppm PCBs (the soil to be placed in an on-Site vault), a cover system to prevent contact with the remaining soil materials and limit rain water infiltration, the use of low-level PCB soil from the off-Site removal work as grading soil below the low permeability cover system, a groundwater collection trench installed downgradient into the bedrock around the northern, eastern, and southern perimeter of this area, and a groundwater source removal system in the former process pond 4 area. Long-term maintenance and monitoring is also part of the selected remedy. ENTACT completed installation of the vault underdrain system in December 2005. SES will be done placement of the clay layer by about the end of January followed immediately by the installation of the liner.

GM also has been conducting additional on-Site investigations for the East Plant Area remedy. These investigations have involved further delineation of the fill materials, bedrock coring, and geophysical surveys. In early November a new dye trace test of the groundwater in the East Plant Area was started to determine potential contaminant migration pathways from a historical waste management area. A dye trace investigation west of GM Drive also is being prepared. Additional dye trace tests will be completed in the future as required, and the results will be incorporated into the final design of the groundwater collection trench.

## 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 jointly and voluntarily by the U.S. EPA and GM for the Removal Action to expedite the implementation of the cleanup work in the creeks.

The Removal Action is ongoing 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 Facility Outfall downstream to approximately the Old Murdoch railroad trestle. Both the creek bed and the adjacent floodplain areas are 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 criterion is the State default residential standard of 1.8 parts per million (ppm). The sediment cleanup criterion is 1 ppm.

The first components activities began in April 2003, with the cutting of larger trees on several of the upstream properties. Soil and sediment removal activities began in the upstream areas, on and adjacent to the GM Bedford Facility, in September 2003, and have continued throughout 2004 and 2005. The upstream removal contractor, Severson, has advanced removal of soil and sediment, along the creek channel and floodplain, to approximately 5,600 feet downstream of the Outfall 002 and continues to excavate downstream north toward Broomsage Road. ENTACT, the contractor for the cleanup in the downstream section (north of Broomsage Road) has advanced removal of soil and sediment, along the creek channel and floodplain, to approximately 4,500 feet and will continue in a northerly and westerly direction. Restoration is nearly complete to approx 3,800 ft from Outfall 002. ENTACT has opened a short section of Diversion Channel No. 2 to by-pass the staging pad at Peerless and Bud Ikerd Roads. The remaining section of Diversion Channel No. 2 is scheduled for completion by approximately early spring. The diversion channel will temporarily re-route creek water around the work areas so that excavation activities can occur under dry conditions. The creek channel will be returned to its original course once cleanup and restoration have been completed.

To date, more than 438,987 tons of soil and sediment exceeding the cleanup criteria have been removed, tested, and disposed off-Site to permitted landfills, or transferred into the East Plant Area as part of the Interim Measure. Restoration activities are following behind these removal activities as work progresses downstream.

ENTACT has begun rock breaking activities along the creek bed in Parcel 28. Rock will be removed until soil criteria are met similarly to work completed in the Upstream Parcels by SES.

Local borrow sources will be used in the creek restoration as backfill material has been approved by the U.S. EPA. GM's contractors, SES and ENTACT, are building off-road haul roads where possible to reduce truck traffic on local roads.

Maintenance of local truck traffic routes is an important aspect of the ongoing project and GM will continue to monitor, repair and/or replace roadway surfaces when necessary.

Site Source Control (SSC) sampling of the seeps and springs was conducted beginning November 21, 2005, and December 27, 2005, in fulfillment of the Third Quarter 2005 High-Flow Sampling Event and of the Fourth Quarter 2005 Low-Flow Sampling Event respectively.

PCB warning signs have been posted at various locations along the creek. These signs will remain in those areas until the cleanup has been completed in those areas. GM continues to caution the public to avoid the creek and floodplain areas and to keep animals and pets away from the creek until the cleanup has been completed.

## UPCOMING FIELD ACTIVITIES

The Removal Action will continue downstream through 2006. The approved Site Source Control Work Plan (which includes spring and seep monitoring and the collection and treatment of water from impacted spring and seep sources) is being implemented and will be amended if new seeps and springs impacted with PCBs are encountered.

Work on the East Plant Area Interim Measure will continue. Construction of the vault is underway. Weather permitting, clay placement in the liner will be complete by about the end of January. Upon completion of the vault liner, materials greater than 50 ppm in the East Plant Area will be excavated and placed in the vault. Less than 50 ppm material from the Removal Action will be placed into the greater than 50 ppm excavation areas as well as subgrade under the cover system.

GM will continue to address specific requests from residents for additional sampling based on location of the property relative to the Facility and/or creek 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.

GM is currently working with the USFWS, IDEM and IDNR to restore the habitat of the stream. GM is also working with these agencies to investigate the potential dredging of Spring Mill Lake as a potential borrow source for the creek restoration and as a benefit to Spring Mill State Park.

## GENERAL UPDATE

A meeting was held with owners of property on and adjacent to the creek on October 5, 2005, and an open-house was held the next day at the GM Powertrain Facility under a tent in the parking lot. Displays were set up in the tent and key members of the remediation team were present to answer questions from residents. In addition to the displays, a BBQ lunch was served to open-house attendees, there was a birdhouse construction center for children, new GM vehicles were available to test drive, and guided tours of the Site were given. These meetings provided information on the status of the cleanup and on the East Plant Area proposed remedy. The presentations for these meetings, as well as past meetings are posted to

the project website at: [www.BedfordPowertrainCorrectiveAction.com](http://www.BedfordPowertrainCorrectiveAction.com). The next public meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2006.



Open House

A meeting with the U.S. EPA and IDEM will be held on-Site January 25, 2006 to review project progress.

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 regularly since September 2002 to discuss community concerns and involvement with the GM Bedford Corrective Action project. The next CLP meeting is scheduled to take place February 3, 2006, and meetings will continue through 2006. 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 Facility on GM Drive. This Information Center can be viewed by appointment (Please 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 Tel: (866) 223-0856 (toll-free)

### IDEM

Gerald O'Callaghan Tel: (317) 233-1522

### ATSDR (Public Health Agency)

Clayton G. Koher Tel: (312) 886-0840

### TRUCK TRAFFIC COORDINATOR

Shelly Gould Tel: (812) 279-0977