

RCRA CORRECTIVE ACTION GM POWERTRAIN-BEDFORD PLANT, BEDFORD, INDIANA October 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 ninth 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.



Creek restoration looking west from Bailey Scales Road



Seep controls east of Outfall 002



Restoration at GM Drive and Breckenridge Road

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 14

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 Work Plan: Addendum No. 2 - March 23, 2004
- Upstream Parcels Removal Action Work Plan: Addendum No. 3 - May 11, 2004
- Upstream Parcels Removal Action Work Plan: Addendum No. 4 - June 30, 2004
- Downstream Parcels Removal Action Work Plan - May 25, 2004

CERCLA MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORTS

- July 2003 through September 2004

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. Additional investigation during this quarter included, groundwater sampling activities at several of the monitoring wells installed late last year. Associated with the groundwater investigation, a dye tracer study was performed in early September, near Outfall 002, to better understand groundwater flow at and near the Site. This involved injecting a harmless green dye into the rock near Outfall 002 and monitoring seeps, springs, and wells in the area around the injection point to see where the dye went. The results from this study are currently being evaluated. Additional delineation of PCBs in soil was conducted through drilling and test pitting. Test pitting was conducted to further investigate results of the geophysical survey. Test pits were conducted on Plant property and a few off-Site historical fill areas. Test pits are shallow holes dug with a backhoe to provide a larger open area to view subsurface conditions.

Interim Measure Work Plans for Northern and Western Tributaries, as well as the East Plant Area are being prepared. GM is also preparing the first of two Environmental Indicators (EI) required by RCRA. An EI is an interim project measurement of the progress of the Corrective Action.

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.

The Removal Action has been undertaken 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 cleanup. The first components of the cleanup activities began in April 2003 with the cutting of larger trees on several of the upstream properties. Due to the potential presence of the endangered Indiana bat, care must be exercised prior to

cutting down trees in this area. GM received concurrence from United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) to cut trees in the downstream reach to the Murdock Station. This work has been substantially completed and will resume this winter.

Soil and sediment removal activities began in the upstream areas, on and adjacent to the GM Bedford Plant, in September 2003 and have continued throughout 2004. GM has completed excavation of soil and sediment approximately 2,000 feet downstream of the historical Outfall 002 and continues to excavate downstream. Excavation and removal activities are currently proceeding in an easterly and northerly direction. To date, over 60,000 tons of soil and sediment exceeding the cleanup criteria have been removed, tested, and taken off-Site to permitted landfills. Air monitoring is conducted around all air monitoring activities. Restoration activities are following behind these removal activities as work progresses downstream.

In addition to soil and sediment removal activities, GM is installing seep and spring controls to collect groundwater east of GMs historic outfall and around GMs on-Site historic fill area. These systems collect water that has been impacted by PCBs to prevent the potential for recontamination of the creek.

PCB warning signs have been posted at various locations along the creek. These signs will remain until the cleanup has been completed. 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 throughout 2004 and 2005. The approved Site Source Control Work Plan is being implemented and will be amended if new seeps and springs, that are impacted with PCBs are encountered. An environmental remediation specialist, ENTACT, has been retained as the contractor for the cleanup downstream of the Broomsage Road Bridge. This work will be initiated in November 2004.

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.

GM will be continuing to perform additional investigation of soil and groundwater both on the Plant properties as well as several fill areas near the Facility. GM will also complete the final segment of tree cutting in remaining areas of the creek in the Winter of 2004.

GENERAL UPDATE

Meetings were held with owners of property on and adjacent to the creek in August and October 2004. General community meetings were held in August and October 2004. These meetings provided updates on the Corrective Action activities. The presentations for these meetings, as well as past meetings are posted to the project website at:
www.BedfordPowertrainCorrectiveAction.com

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 scheduled for early 2005. 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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