

RCRA CORRECTIVE ACTION GM POWERTRAIN-BEDFORD PLANT BEDFORD, INDIANA SEPTEMBER 9, 2002

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 an Agreement with U.S EPA Region V, signed on March 20, 2001.

This is the fourth 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. 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 1900s 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.



Surface Water Sampling
in October 2001



Soil Sampling with Soil
Probe in January 2002



Drilling Activities in 2002

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 AT:

www.BedfordPowertrainCorrectiveAction.com

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

STREAM INVESTIGATION REPORTS

- Stream Investigation Work Plan - June 6, 2001
- Stream Investigation Field Sampling Plan - September 21, 2001
- Bedford RFI Technical Memorandum No. 1: 2001 Stream Investigation Data Summary - March 19, 2002
- Bedford Stream Investigation High Flow Sampling Memorandum - May 12, 2002

OFF-SITE WELL INVESTIGATION REPORTS

- Off-Site Well Survey and Sampling Work Plan - June 6, 2001

PROJECT FACT SHEETS

- Project Fact Sheet 1 - May 24, 2001
- Project Fact Sheet 2 - July 16, 2001
- Project Fact Sheet 3 - February 10, 2002
- Project Fact Sheet 4 - September 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

MAPS

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



Please direct any questions about this project to Ms. Kathy Bommarito of GM by phone (toll free) at 1-866-223-0856 or by e-mail at kathy.bommarito@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 RFI Work Plan for initial on-Site activities was submitted to U.S. EPA and IDEM on October 29, 2001. On-Site investigations began in January 2002 and consist of collecting surface and subsurface soil and rock, groundwater, sediment, and surface water samples from various areas on the Site property. Approximately 250 soil samples have been collected on the plant property and analyzed for a variety of chemicals. In addition, 10 bedrock monitoring wells have been installed and will be sampled in the near future. The results of the testing are currently being evaluated to determine any chemicals of concern.

OFF-SITE RFI ACTIVITIES

Additional separate work plans addressing the evaluation of off-Site issues were submitted to the U.S. EPA and IDEM prior to the main RFI Work Plan. These work plans included the Off-Site Well Survey and Sampling Work Plan and the Stream Investigation Work Plan.

The Off-Site Well Survey and Sampling Program was initiated in July 2001. GM teams interviewed over 380 owners of properties within a ½-mile radius of the Bedford Plant to locate wells and cisterns. Based on the results of the interviews, 11 groundwater samples were collected and analyzed. Additional sampling of wells or cisterns within the ½-mile radius is ongoing at the request of property owners and as new information becomes available (20 off-Site wells and 1 cistern have been sampled since January 2002). A Technical Memorandum for the Well Survey and Sampling Program (July 2001 to present) will be available in the near future.

The Stream Investigation Program began with a field reconnaissance in August 2001 with sampling completed in October 2001. Results of the initial study indicated a general occurrence of PCBs in surface water, stream sediments, fish/crayfish, and floodplain soils along Bailey's Branch and Pleasant Run to the east of the GM Plant, thus requiring further testing and an evaluation of cleanup options in certain areas. A 2.2 parts per million (ppm) concentration for total PCBs is used as a screening level for floodplain soils. As a result of these PCB detections, GM has cautioned residents to avoid contact with Bailey's Branch and Pleasant Run creeks on the east side of the GM Plant until

the investigation and cleanup are completed. PCB levels generally decrease with distance from the Plant and the stream. The results of this initial testing are presented in the Bedford RFI Technical Memorandum No. 1: 2001 Stream Investigation Data Summary, which was submitted to the U.S. EPA and IDEM on March 19, 2002.

Additional floodplain soil sampling was initiated along Bailey's Branch and Pleasant Run in January 2002 and is ongoing with more than 3,000 soil samples having been collected to date. Other testing has included soils from agricultural fields and vegetable gardens, corn, hay, cattle, and water from springs and groundwater seeps. High flow sampling of surface water, springs, and groundwater seeps was conducted in May 2002. Preliminary results of the 2002 stream sampling (through June 2002) are presented on a set of maps that are located in the public repositories (see below) and a Technical Memorandum of the 2002 sampling will be available in the near future. Results of the 2002 stream investigation provide an understanding of the extent of PCBs in the floodplain soils.

UPCOMING RFI FIELD ACTIVITIES

Additional sampling will be occurring on- and off-Site to further define areas that have been impacted. As data is evaluated, an overall plan will be developed and Interim Measures may be proposed. The purpose of an Interim Measure is generally to perform cleanup activities sooner than normal within the Corrective Action process. Commonly, cleanup activities are performed at the final stages as a final Corrective Measure. GM has already submitted one work plan to U.S. EPA and IDEM to conduct soil cleanup on one private property and additional work plans will be prepared and submitted.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A Community Relations Plan has been prepared as part of the RCRA Corrective Action program. The purpose of the Community Relations Plan is to present GM's general approach to keeping the community informed of the findings and status of activities and to receive input from the community. Progress Reports are published every calendar quarter. An information repository has been established where project related documents, which includes 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 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. Parking for the Information Center is available in the lot across the street from the lobby. The lobby will be open to the public on Tuesdays (10am to 2pm) and on Thursdays (4pm to 8pm). NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

NEW!

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www.BedfordPowertrainCorrectiveAction.com
Get up-to-date project information and view project-related documents.

A Community Liaison Panel (CLP) has been established by GM consisting of members of the community.

The CLP will meet in September to discuss community concerns and involvement with the GM Bedford Corrective Action project. The CLP will meet regularly to review and track the project progress.

GM is offering a free PCB blood testing program for current and former residents living in the affected areas along the creek (Bailey's Branch and Pleasant Run). The test results are private - GM does not receive any test results. The program is available until the end of 2002.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

U.S. EPA

Peter Ramanauskas
Tel: (312) 886-7890

GM

Kathy Bommarito
Tel: (866) 223-0856 (toll-free)

IDEM

John Gunter
Tel: (317) 232-3413