



FACT SHEET

RCRA/State Superfund Programs

Receive Site Fact Sheets by *Email*. See "For More Information" to Learn How.

Site Name: Ciba Geigy Main Plant/Pretreatment Plant
DEC Site #: 557011 **DEC Permit #:** 5-5234-00008-00096
Operable Unit*: 04 Hudson River downstream of the Bakers Falls Dam
Address: 89 Lower Warren Street
Queensbury, NY 12801

Have questions?
See
"Who to Contact"
Below

No Further Action Remedy Proposed for RCRA/State Superfund Site; Public Comment Period and Public Meeting Announced

Public Meeting, Thursday, June 28, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.

Queensbury Town Hall – Senior Center: 742 Bay Road, Queensbury, NY

NYSDEC invites you to a public meeting to discuss the no further action remedy proposed for the site.

You are encouraged to provide comments at the meeting, and during the 45-day comment period described in this fact sheet.

The public is invited to comment on a No Further Action remedy proposed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) related to the Ciba Geigy Main Plant/Pretreatment Plant site ("site") located at 89 Lower Warren Street, Queensbury, Warren County. Please see the map for the site location.

Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the locations identified below under "Where to Find Information."

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=557011>

How to Comment

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed remedy and permit modification to incorporate the proposed No Further Action remedy for 45 days, from **May 30, 2018** through **July 16, 2018**. The draft Statement of Basis and permit modifications are available for review at the locations identified below under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area below.

Remedial Program

The site is in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) solid and hazardous waste management program and also listed as a Class "2" site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; action is required. Site Permittees Ciba Corporation (acquired by BASF) and Hercules Incorporated (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ashland, Inc.) must comply with New York State Codes Rules and Regulations.

**Operable Unit (OU):* An administrative term used to identify a portion of a site that can be addressed by a distinct investigation and/or cleanup approach. An operable unit can receive specific investigation, and a particular remedy

Draft Statement of Basis

The remedy proposed for the site includes:

No Further Action for Operable Unit 04 due to the results of the investigation, the remedial actions conducted for OUs 01, 02, and 03, and navigational and PCB dredging activities performed by others, which removed over four million cubic yards of sediment. The Department believes that this remedy is protective of human health and the environment and satisfies the remediation objectives.

Summary of the Investigation

Focused investigations were conducted in two areas (see attached figure) of the Hudson River that had previously exhibited elevated concentrations of metals. These investigations found that metals concentrations where elevated, were spatially limited and primarily detected within deeper sediments. As a result, the contamination is not significantly impacting public health or the environment.

NYSDEC developed the proposed remedy after reviewing the detailed investigation of the site submitted by the Permittees.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments as it finalizes the no further action remedy for the site. The selected remedy will be described in a document called a "Statement of Basis" that will explain why the remedy was selected and respond to public comments. NYSDEC would then modify the RCRA permit and reclassify the site on the Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites.

Background

Location: The Ciba-Geigy Main Plant and Pretreatment Plant site is located in a suburban area on Lower Warren Street in Queensbury, New York and covers approximately 60 acres. The site consists of eight parcels located along Warren Street and Quaker Road. The main plant is located south of Lower Warren Street and is bisected by the Delaware and Hudson railroad tracks. The pretreatment plant is located at the northeast corner of Lower Warren Street and Quaker Road. The Hudson River borders the southern boundary of the site and a cement company borders the site to the west. Commercial and residential properties are located to the north of the site.

Site Features: Most site features/structures have been removed. The majority of the site parcels including the main plant, pretreatment plant, north lot, and sliver quarry are surrounded by a fence.

Current Zoning and Land Use: The site is currently inactive and is zoned heavy industrial south of Lower Warren Street, commercial east of Quaker Road and commercial light industrial for the north lot.

Past Use of the Site: The Ciba-Geigy Main Plant site was used to manufacture color pigments, aqueous dispersions and plastic concentrates used in the manufacture of paints, printing inks, plastics, fibers and other items. The types of pigments produced include lead chromate, chromium oxide, cadmium pigments, organic blues, yellows, reds and iron blues. Manufacturing activities at the site date back to 1901. The site was previously used by American Wallpaper Company, Imperial Color Works, and Underwood Paper Mills. These three companies were consolidated into a company with various names, the last being Imperial Color Chemical & Paper Corporation. In 1960, Hercules, Inc. purchased the site and sold it to Ciba-Geigy in 1979. Ciba-Geigy ceased production of pigments in 1989 and demolished the buildings on the site. From 1901 to 1973, site operations discharged industrial water to the Hudson River. In 1973, industrial water was treated prior to discharge to the Hudson River. In 1983, industrial water was discharged to the Publicly Owned Treatment Works

facility until closure of the facility. Post closure activities are being performed under RCRA permit number NYD002069748.

Operable Units: The site was divided into four operable units. An operable unit represents a portion of a remedial program for a site that for technical or administrative reasons can be addressed separately to investigate, eliminate or mitigate a release, threat of release or exposure pathway resulting from the site contamination. A summary for each operable unit (OU) is provided below.

- OU 01 pertains to on-site contamination, which is addressed by the Statement of Basis dated November 5, 1996.
- OU 02 pertains to site contamination located within the Hudson River bordering the site and on adjacent properties, which is addressed by in the Statement of Basis dated January 8, 1999.
- OU 03 pertains to site contamination located within the Poned Backwater Area located just upstream of the Bakers Falls Dam on the Hudson River, which is addressed by the Statement of Based dated November 29, 2000.
- OU 04, the subject of this proposal, pertains to the Hudson River, downstream of the Bakers Falls Dam.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: Due to historical operations, fill deposits (up to 36 feet) are present across much of the Main Plant site. A discontinuous lacustrine sand deposit (up to 12.7 feet) consisting primarily of sand with lesser amounts of silt and gravel underlies the fill. The next deposit consists of a discontinuous lacustrine clay unit (up to 19.8 feet) that consists of silty clay that is typically layered with silt and sand. A thin discontinuous layer of glacial till (up to 4.7 feet) was encountered above the bedrock. Bedrock consisting of limestone is present beneath the overburden.

Groundwater has been encountered within four feet of ground surface. Groundwater in the overburden and the upper bedrock zones flows south to southeast towards the Hudson River. Groundwater is influenced by the feeder canal and the groundwater extraction system.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Program: New York's RCRA Program requires industry to properly manage solid and hazardous waste at the facility and address environmental contamination caused by site operations.

For more information about the RCRA Program, visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8794.html>

State Superfund Program: New York's State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

For more information about the SSF, visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed.

Crandall Public Library
Attn: Andrea Herman
251 Glen Street
Glens Falls, NY 12801
phone: 518-792-6508

Who to Contact

Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project Related Questions

Brian Jankauskas
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7015
518-402-9626
brian.jankauskas@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions

Eamonn O'Neil
New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation
Empire State Plaza - Corning Tower Room 11787
Albany, NY 12237
518-402-7860
BEEI@health.ny.gov

Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox.

NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>. It's quick, it's free, and it will help keep you *better informed*.

