BB&S Treated Lumber Corporation Site

Site Number: 1-52-123

Hamlet of Speonk, Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, NY

Cleanup Action to Begin at State Superfund Site

Action is about to begin that will address contamination related to the BB&S Treated Lumber Corporation State Superfund site ("site") located at 1348 Speonk-Riverhead Road in the Hamlet of Speonk, Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, under New York’s State Superfund Program. See map for site location.

The cleanup action for the site generally includes excavating soils from the site and adjacent off-site areas that contain significant levels of contamination and backfilling the excavated areas with clean soil. The cleanup activities will be performed by a remedial contractor, EQ Northeast, Inc. (“EQ”) with full-time oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (“NYSDEC”) representatives.

Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities

The goals of the cleanup action for the site is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment, eliminating, to the extent practical, exposure to contamination, and eliminating, to the extent practical, the off-site migration of contamination. The remedy originally detailed in the February 2000 Record of Decision and later modified by the October 2009 Amended Record of Decision generally includes:

- Excavating soil and debris that has been determined to exceed Site Cleanup Objectives and disposing it off site, followed by backfilling excavated areas with clean soil;

- Installation of additional off-site groundwater wells to monitor plume attenuation and migration. The new off-site wells will include sentinel groundwater monitoring wells between the contaminant plume and downgradient water supply wells. Sampling of a select number of groundwater wells and downgradient private water supply wells to monitor plume migration; and,

- Imposing deed restrictions/environmental easements to prevent exposure to residual soil and groundwater contamination.

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 the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

NYSDEC generally attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit: www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html
Next Steps

EQ is expected to begin cleanup activities at the site on or about September 20, 2010. These activities are anticipated to take about one year to complete at a cost of approximately $5,000,000.

It is anticipated that construction of the remedy will be completed in the fall of 2011. Long-term site management by NYSDEC will follow. All construction work will be performed under full-time oversight by Ecology & Environment Engineering P.C., the engineering consultant hired by NYSDEC. In addition, the contractor's Health and Safety Plan for the work was reviewed to ensure that on-site workers and the nearby community are protected during these activities. A copy of that plan has been placed into the document repositories identified below.

During cleanup activities, all truck traffic to and from the site associated with excavation and off-site disposal activities are being limited to non-residential areas as much as practical. Furthermore, the contractor is responsible for keeping the transportation route clean of soil and fill materials generated during site cleanup activities.

After it completes the cleanup activities, NYSDEC will prepare a Final Engineering Report. The Final Engineering Report will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed during the cleanup of the site.

Background

The site is listed as a Class “2” site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; action is required.

As seen in the attached figure the site is located in the Town of Southampton in eastern Suffolk County, Long Island, on Speonk-Riverhead Road, approximately 1.5 miles north of the Hamlet of Speonk. The approximately five-acre site was most recently used as a lumberyard for wholesale and retail lumber distribution (Best Building Supply and Lumber Company). In May 2009 the lumberyard ceased operations and filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. The site is currently being leased by the property owner to park tractor trailers and office trailers.

The site is found in a rural area. There are homes and businesses found within a half-mile radius of the site, including south of the site in the general direction of groundwater flow.

From the early 1980s to 1996, the site operated as a lumber treatment and storage facility. Lumber was pressure treated on site using a chromated copper arsenate (CCA) solution. CCA was documented to be released to the environment through surface spills and sump leakage. A flame proofing solution containing zinc oxide was also used at the site for a time to treat lumber.

BB&S conducted its own environmental study between 1985 and 1987 after the Suffolk County Department of Health Services identified chromium contamination in an on-site water supply well. As a result, BB&S installed a network of on-site and off-site groundwater monitoring wells and three groundwater extraction wells. BB&S used the extraction wells to pump and treat groundwater at the site from 1987 to 1996. The groundwater treatment system frequently failed.
to meet surface water discharge requirements for chromium. Consequently, NYSDEC placed the site on the New York State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites and negotiated with BB&S to have the company perform a Remedial Investigation and a Feasibility Study (“RI/FS”). BB&S declined to perform additional investigations. Therefore, NYSDEC performed the RI/FS using state superfund monies. In the summer of 2003, work was suspended while NYSDEC negotiated with BB&S after they expressed an interest in implementing a remedy at the site. The negotiations failed, and in February 2005 NYSDEC resumed its plan to design and implement the remedy.

Since that time pre-design investigation activities have been conducted and included an assessment of the existing groundwater treatment system installed by BB&S, on-site and off-site soil sampling, installation and sampling of off-site sentinel multi-level groundwater monitoring wells, survey and sampling of existing private water supplies, a literature review to identify available technologies suitable for treating contaminated soil on site, bench scale testing of the contaminated soil, and development of plans and specifications for the purpose of competitively bidding the cleanup remedy. More recently, additional private water supply well sampling and off-site sentinel well installation and sampling activities were conducted by NYSDEC in April 2009 and June 2009 as part of long-term efforts to monitor groundwater plume migration and potential impacts to potable water supplies.

A Proposed Amended Record of Decision (“ROD”) was prepared in July 2009 that incorporated proposed changes to the remedy (i.e., groundwater monitoring program in lieu of the pump and treat component for the groundwater and for soils the remedy has been changed to off-site disposal in lieu of the ex-situ solidification/stabilization process). Issuance of the Amended ROD occurred in October 2009.

Twelve additional sentinel monitoring wells were installed at the end of August 2009. Well development and sampling occurred in October 2009. Seven (7) homes along Speonk-Riverhead Road threatened by the plume were connected to the existing public waterline in September and October 2009. One (1) home on Fifth Avenue was hooked up in February 2010 since that particular connection also involved an extension to the public waterline.

Plans and specifications associated with implementation of the remedial action were advertised for bid in December 2009 thru January 2010. Bids have been received and opened. Contract was approved by the NYS Office of the State Comptroller on July 14, 2010. EQ Northeast of Wrentham, Massachusetts, will be given formal notice to proceed with the project on September 13, 2010 since state funding for this project is now available.

**Where to Find Information**

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public to stay informed. These documents include the decision documents describing the selected remedy for the site, called the “Record of Decision” and “Amended Record of Decision.”
Whom to Contact
Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project Related Questions
David J. Chiusano, Project Manager
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway, 12th floor
Albany, New York 12233-7017
Phone: (518) 402-9814
E-mail: djchiusa@gw.dec.state.ny.us
(Please call for an appointment)

Site-Related Health Questions
Steve Karpinski
New York State Department of Health
Flanigan Square
547 River Street
Troy, New York 12180-2216
Phone: (800) 458-1158 ext. 2-7860
E-mail: beei@health.state.ny.us

Citizen Participation Specialists
Bill Fonda/Aphrodite Montalvo
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Region 1
50 Circle Road
Stony Brook, NY 11790
Phone: (631) 444-0350
E-Mail: bmfonda@gw.dec.state.ny.us or axmontal@gw.dec.state.ny.us

If you know someone who would like to be added to the site contact list, have them contact the NYSDEC project manager above. We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area for others to see.

For additional information on the soil cleanup technology that is being used at this site, please visit the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s website at: “A Citizen’s Guide to Soil Excavation:” http://www.epa.gov/tio/download/citizens/excavation.pdf.

Information about this site and other sites in the State’s remedial programs will now be distributed electronically by email. To continue to receive site information, you must sign up at the appropriate NYSDEC county e-mail listserv at: www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html. NYSDEC cannot register your e-mail address, only the e-mail address owner can do so. If you have already signed up for the same County identified on this fact sheet (Suffolk County), you do not need to do anything else. If “paperless” is not an option for you, or if you have questions, write to the Project Manager at the e-mail address or mailing address above.
FIGURE 1
SITE LOCATION MAP
BB&S TREATED LUMBER SITE
NYSDEC SITE # 1-52-123

MAP SOURCE INFORMATION:

JULY 2009 97347