



FACT SHEET Environmental Remediation Program

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

Site Name: Study Area
DEC Site #: 851046 Operable Unit 03*
Address: Corning Boulevard
Corning, NY 14830

Have questions? See "Whom to Contact" Below

Interim Remedial Measures Proposed; Public Comment Period Announced

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is proposing an expedited cleanup for operable unit 3 (OU3) of the Study Area project located in the City of Corning, Steuben County. Please see the map for the site location. Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." NYSDEC is conducting a public comment period because these Interim Remedial Measures (IRMs) are likely to represent a significant part of the cleanup for this operable unit of the project.

How to Comment

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed IRM work plans for 30 days, from May 5, 2016 through June 6, 2016. The proposed plans are available for review at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project Related Questions in the "Whom to Contact" area below.

Draft Interim Remedial Measure Work Plans

An IRM is a cleanup activity that may be performed when a source of contamination or potential exposure pathway (the way in which a person may contact contamination) can be effectively addressed without extensive investigation and evaluation.

Draft IRM work plans prepared by Corning Incorporated describe the proposed cleanup activities for OU3 properties including Corning-Painted Post High School (CPPHS), Corning Memorial Stadium (CMS), and Corning Christian Academy (CCA) to address shallow soils that contain contaminated fill outside of any previously installed cover systems.

The draft IRM work plans propose:

- Excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soils from targeted areas to a maximum depth of two feet;
Placement of geotextile fabric;
Backfilling the excavations with certified imported soil that meets residential use criteria; and
Environmental Easements and Site Management Plans.

*Operable Unit: An administrative term used to identify a portion of a project that can be addressed by a distinct investigation and/or cleanup approach. See Background section for further explanation.

Additional Details

In the summer of 2015, the CPP School District installed a new artificial turf field and resurfaced the adjacent track at CMS to act as a cover system over contaminated fill. The school district previously installed at least one foot of soil cover at the majority of the CPPHS property as part of their school expansion project. The Study Area Characterization work has identified certain limited areas outside of these cover systems at the CMS and CPPHS properties with contaminated fill in shallow soil. In addition, an area of contaminated fill was identified at the CCA property including shallow soils less than two feet deep.

Summary of the Investigation

The study area characterization is being undertaken by Corning Incorporated to determine the nature and extent of fill disposed of in the area.

Environmental sampling performed to date as part of the Study Area Characterization has confirmed the presence of fill containing ash, brick, and glass (target fill) at various locations in OU3 including the CPPHS, CMS, and CCA properties. Testing results exceed applicable guidance values for each of these properties in most of the target fill soils.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments, revise the plans as necessary, and approve the IRM work plans in consultation with New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). The approved work plans will be made available to the public (see “Where to Find Information” below). After the work plans are approved, the activities detailed in the work plans will be implemented. Upon completion of the work, Construction Completion Reports will be prepared that document the activities that were performed.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the area.

Background

Location: The Study Area is located in the northeastern portion of the City of Corning. It is bounded by the Chemung River to the south, Post Creek to the east, East Pulteney Street to the north, and Pyrex Street to the west.

The project has been divided into five operable units as listed below. An operable unit (OU) 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. The original Study Area project being evaluated by Corning Incorporated under Consent Order with NYSDEC consists of OU1 through OU4. The off-site Expansion Area being evaluated by NYSDEC under the State Superfund program is OU5.

- OU1 - Residential Area: The primary residential area including Houghton Park. It is bounded by school properties to the south, NYS Flood Control lands to the east, East Pulteney Street to the north, and Pyrex Street to the west.
- OU2 - Residential Area at the Eastern End of Corning Boulevard.
- OU3 - School/Community Use Areas: Properties owned by the Corning-Painted Post School District, Corning Christian Academy, and the City of Corning (Memorial Stadium and land in front of the firehouse).

- OU4 - Flood Control Areas: The southern and eastern most portions of the Study area including flood control structures, levies, and adjacent portions of the Chemung River and Post Creek.
- OU5 - Off-site Expansion Area: The residential areas immediately to the north and west of the boundaries of the Study Area. The Expansion Area is further bounded by I-86 to the north, Centerway (NYS Route 414) to the west, and the Guthrie Medical Center property to the south.

Site Features: The Study Area includes Corning-Painted Post High School, Corning Memorial Stadium, Corning Christian Academy, Houghton Park, and 216 residential parcels. The off-site Expansion Area includes 108 residential parcels.

The (former) Corning-Painted Post East High School was expanded to accommodate the consolidation of two former high schools at this location. Excavation work began in 2012 and the reconfiguration of the new Corning-Painted Post High School was largely complete at the outset of the 2014-2015 school year.

During construction work at the school in 2012, fill containing ash, brick and glass waste was encountered in excavated soils. NYSDEC determined that the presence of this material warranted additional investigation at the school property and in nearby properties within the Study Area. NYSDEC asked Corning Incorporated to conduct an evaluation and Corning Incorporated entered into a Consent Order with NYSDEC to do so.

Current Zoning and Land Use: Current property use and zoning in the area includes residential and community services.

Past Use: The Corning-Painted Post High School property and much of the surrounding neighborhood is a former low area along the river that has been extensively filled from the 1930s, or earlier, to the early 1960s when the school was constructed. Historic property deed records contain a condition that allowed Corning Glass Works to maintain ash dumps "as now located" in the Study Area in 1920.

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

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=851046>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

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

Southeast Steuben County Library
300 Nasser Civic Center Plaza
Suite 101
Corning, NY 14830
phone: (607) 936-3713

NYSDEC - Region 8 Office
Attn: Linda Vera
6274 East Avon-Lima Rd.
Avon, NY 14414
phone: (585) 226 - 5324
(ljvera@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Project documents are also available on the NYSDEC website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/97180.html>

Whom to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

Gregory B. MacLean, P.E.
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
6274 East Avon-Lima Road
Avon, NY 14414
585-226-5356
greg.maclea@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions

Melissa A. Doroski, MPH
New York State Department of Health
Empire State Plaza Corning Tower Room #1787
Albany, NY 12237
(518) 402-7860
BEEI@health.ny.gov

We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.

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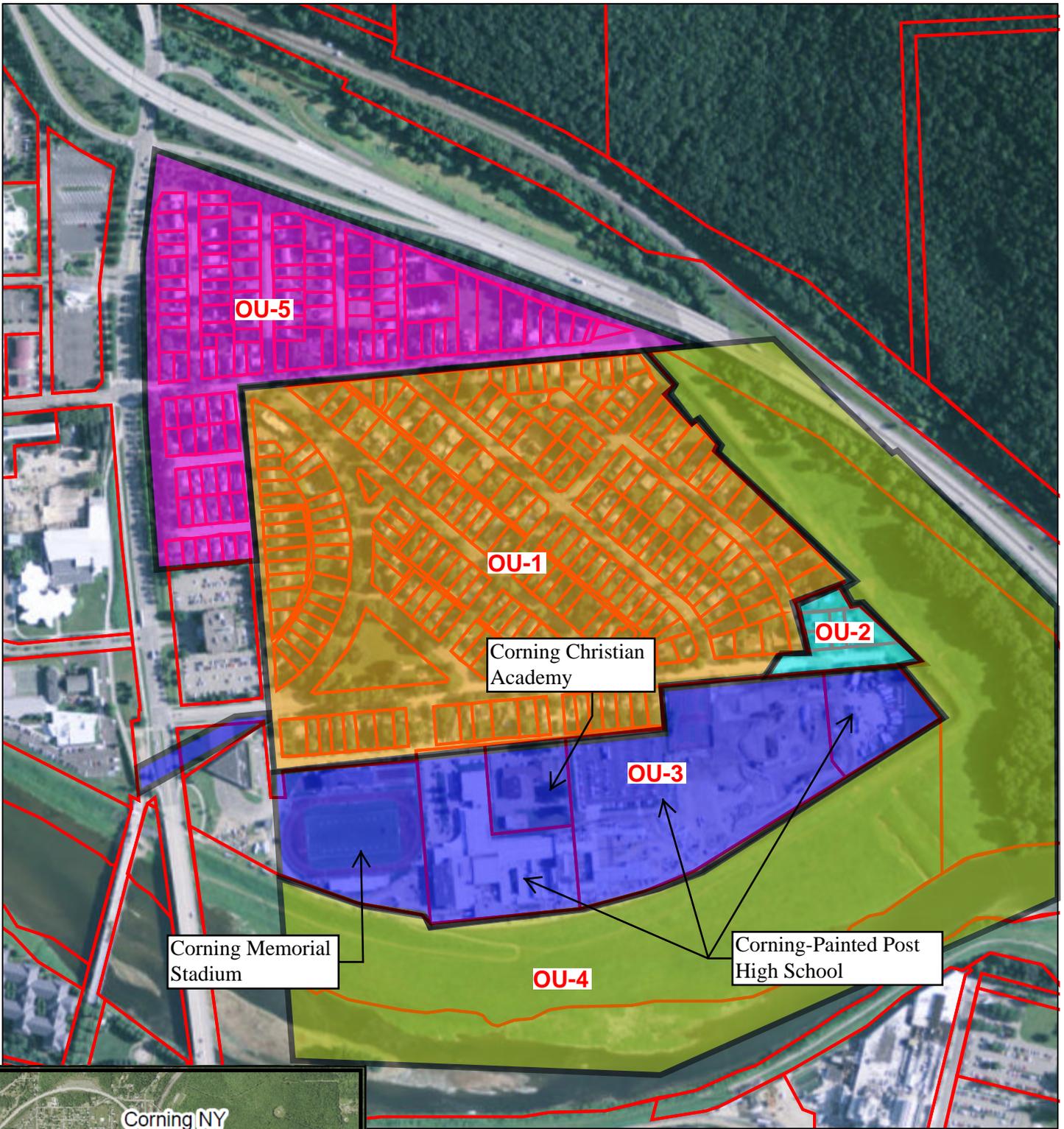
Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>. It's quick, it's free, and it will help keep you *better informed*.



As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

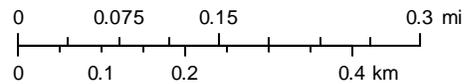
Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.

Study Area Operable Units



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

1:9,028



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community