



FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

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Site Name: Study Area Expansion
DEC Site #: 851046 Operable Unit 5*
Address: East Pulteney Street and Pyrex Street
Corning, NY 14830

Have questions?
See
"Whom to Contact"
Below

Investigation to Begin Funded by the State Superfund

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) will soon begin an environmental investigation at the Study Area Expansion ("Expansion Area") located north of East Pulteney Street and west of Pyrex Street in the City of Corning, Steuben County. Please see the map on Page 5 for the location. Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information."

Scope of Work

A Scope of Work for characterization of the Expansion Area was developed under New York's State Superfund Program after Corning Incorporated declined NYSDEC's request to investigate this area for suspected waste disposal. NYSDEC and its consultant, Arcadis Inc., will perform the investigation activities to further characterize the potential presence and nature of fill material containing ash, brick, and/or glass in this off-site portion of the Study Area project. The purpose of the characterization is to define the nature and extent of contamination in surface and subsurface soil, and any other parts of the environment that may be affected.

Summary of Existing Data

Characterization work completed to date in the Study Area by Corning Incorporated has identified the presence of fill containing ash, brick, and glass extending to the project boundaries at East Pulteney Street and Pyrex Street near the intersection with Houghton Circle. This type of fill has frequently exhibited elevated concentrations of metals including lead, arsenic, and cadmium. Some of this type of fill material in this northwestern portion of the Study Area has also tested as hazardous waste for lead. Likewise, similar fill material present at and adjacent to the Corning-Painted Post High School property in the Study Area has routinely tested as hazardous waste for lead and (less frequently) cadmium. Preliminary shallow evaluation work completed by NYSDEC in the off-site Expansion Area has identified the presence of similar fill with ash, brick, and/or glass on multiple properties. A comprehensive characterization of the Expansion Area will be undertaken by NYSDEC under the State Superfund Program. Until further characterization is conducted, there is not enough information to determine whether any fill material represents an exposure concern for residents in the expansion area that have not been evaluated.

*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 Page 3, Background section for further explanation.

Highlights of the Upcoming Work

Characterization of the Expansion Area is being undertaken by NYSDEC to determine the nature and extent of fill material containing ash, brick, and/or glass that may have been disposed in these areas. The characterization includes an initial records search, to be followed by sampling of surface and subsurface soil on City of Corning road rights-of-way (ROWs) and residential properties. The sampling will be accomplished by a combination of hand tools for surface soil samples, direct push hydraulic probes for soil borings, and a rubber-tire backhoe for test pits. Preliminary soil boring and test pit locations in the road ROWs are shown on the attached figure.

Each residential property owner in the Expansion Area will be given the opportunity to have their property tested. Sampling on residential properties in the Expansion Area will be performed in a similar manner to investigation in the initial Study Area. At each residential property where testing is requested, up to four surface soil samples (0 to 2 inches beneath any sod or other ground cover) will be collected and two or more soil borings will be installed to depths up to 16 feet below grade. Additional soil borings will be installed as necessary to identify the limits of any layers of fill containing ash, brick, or glass that may be identified on a property.

Schedule

Work in the road ROWs is scheduled to begin by the end of July 2015 and at residential properties during August through September 2015. A second round of residential sampling may be offered in October to November 2015 depending on the number and timing of responses to the sampling requests. **If you own a property within the Expansion Area and would like to have your property tested, please sign and return the access agreement recently mailed to you as soon as possible. If you did not receive an access agreement, please contact NYSDEC Project Manager Greg MacLean (see page 4.)**

Next Steps

Upon completion of the characterization activities, NYSDEC in consultation with NYSDOH, will evaluate the data and determine the next steps, including whether any cleanup measures or other remedial actions are necessary to protect public health and the environment. It is anticipated that property owners will be provided their final analytical results along with any recommendations for additional sampling or other measures approximately two to three months after the samples are collected. NYSDEC and NYSDOH are committed to working cooperatively with the community to ensure the area is properly evaluated and that any necessary cleanup measures are taken. Should cleanup be required, NYSDEC will attempt to identify parties responsible for site contamination prior to committing additional State funds.

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.

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

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

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 and excluding OU2. 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 Areas: The off-site Expansion Area consisting of the residential areas immediately to the north and west of the boundaries of 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 (Potential Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Site No. 851051) 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 109 residential parcels.

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

Past Use of the Site: 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 project 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&progn=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
(linda.vera@dec.ny.gov)

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

Greg MacLean, P.E.
New York State 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.

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*.



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.

Expansion Area, Corning NY

Soil Borings with Ash, Brick or Glass and Proposed Sampling Locations

