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United States
Environmental Protection Agency
Region 2: NJ, NY, PR, VI
26 Federal Plaza
New York, New York 10278

NEWS

93 (04) Mary Breitenbach (212) 264-2515

FOR RELEASE: Wednesday, January 6, 1993

RESPONSIBLE PARTIES AGREE TO PERFORM CLEANUP OF SUPERFUND SITE IN COLD SPRING, N.Y.

NEW YORK, N.Y. -- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 2 Administrator, Constantine Sidamon-Eristoff, announced today that Gould Incorporated, of Eastlake, Ohio, the U.S. Army and Marathon Battery Company have agreed to undertake clean up work estimated at $109 million at the Marathon Battery Company Superfund site in Cold Spring, N.Y.

Gould will be responsible for hiring a private contractor to perform the major phase of the site cleanup with EPA oversight under the terms of a proposed Consent Decree with the federal Government, which was lodged today in federal District Court in White Plains, New York by U.S. Attorney Otto G. Obermaier. As incorporated in the Consent Decree, the U.S. Army and Marathon Battery Company will finance part of the work. Superfund is the federal program to address the nation's worst hazardous waste sites.

According to EPA Regional Administrator Constantine Sidamon-Eristoff, "This proposed agreement represents one of the largest single settlements for a federal Superfund site in New York to date. The continued cooperation of the responsible parties means that the Superfund is spared virtually all of the expense of financing this hazardous waste site cleanup. In addition, this agreement will help extend the amount of money available for sites where responsible parties have not yet been identified or are unwilling to perform the site cleanups."

According to Paul K. Milmed, Chief of the Environmental Protection Unit at the U.S. Attorney's Office, the proposed Consent Decree, if approved by the Court, "will achieve the right result at the right time. The settling parties have agreed to perform and pay for the remedial work, with none of the protracted litigation that is frequently generated by Superfund cleanups of this size."

The lodging of the Consent Decree initiates a 30-day public comment period on the proposed Consent Decree. After Court

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review of the comments submitted and their responses, the agreement will become final.

EPA has divided the site into three areas: East Foundry Cove Marsh and Constitution Marsh (Area I); the 11-acre plant property, including the plant, a clay- and asphalt-lined underground vault containing dredged cadmium-contaminated sediment from Foundry Cove, and nearby residential yards (Area II); and East and West Foundry Coves and the portion of the Hudson River near the Village of Cold Spring pier (Area III).

This proposed agreement covers the cleanup of Areas I, III and the major portion of Area II of the site. The Marathon Battery Company is already in the process of completing the cleanup of the former battery plant building. This work is being partly financed by the other responsible parties. The nearby residential yards were remediated by EPA and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).
Since the Superfund program began, EPA Region 2, which covers New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, has spent a total of $407 million on National Priorities List (NPL) Superfund sites and non-NPL sites in the State. To date, as a result of regional enforcement efforts, private parties have contributed approximately $755 million in Superfund settlements. At approximately 65% of the 85 Superfund sites in New York, private parties are now performing the work.

From October 1, 1991 to September 30, 1992 (Fiscal Year 1992), EPA will have spent approximately $70 million on clean up activities related to NPL sites across the State and an additional $8.2 million on emergency response actions at 23 acutely hazardous sites.

In the past fiscal year, enforcement actions on New York NPL sites have resulted in clean-up work with an estimated value of $102.9 million.

PAST ACTIONS

In 1972-73, as part of a settlement agreement with the United States, the battery plant's present and former owners/operators dredged a portion of the channel in East Foundry Cove, removing about 90,000 square meters of cadmium-contaminated sediment. About 4,000 cubic meters of dredge material were dewatered in a diked enclosure constructed over a parking lot on the site property.

Sediments were allowed to settle, and the watery component was returned to Foundry Cove. Workers placed the dredge spoils in a clay and asphalt lined underground vault on the plant property. However, studies in Foundry Cove between 1976 and 1980 continued to detect high cadmium and nickel concentrations in the sediments.

Area I Cleanup: EPA selected a remedy for cleaning up East Foundry Cove Marsh and Constitution Marsh in 1986. The remedy requires: (1) dredging contaminated sediments from East Foundry

Cove Marsh; (2) chemically binding the sediment and properly disposing of the watery component; (3) disposing of the treated sediments off-site; (4) restoring the marsh by adding clean fill and clay and replanting the restored area; and (5) diverting storm sewers. Long-term sediment and water monitoring will be performed in East Foundry Cove Marsh and Constitution Marsh. A public awareness program and site access restrictions also will be undertaken. EPA completed the engineering design for this remedy in early 1992.

Area II Cleanup: In 1989, EPA selected a remedy for cleaning up Area II that features: (1) decontaminating the inside surfaces and contents of the former battery plant to remove cadmium dust; (2) excavating the cadmium-contaminated soil on the plant grounds and neighboring yards; (3) excavating the on-site vault containing dredge spoils from the 1973 dredging; (4) binding, as needed, the excavated soil, dust, and vault sediments and disposing of them off-site at an EPA-approved facility; (5) backfilling excavated areas with clean fill; (6) excavating the hot spots of VOC-contaminated soil, and cleaning and replacing the treated soil on-site; (7) placing ground water use controls on and monitoring the aquifer until it is cleaned.

EPA began engineering design work on the residential yards in 1989, and it is anticipated that remediation of the yards will be completed in early 1993. In late 1990, the responsible parties completed the pilot study for cleaning up the plant. The decontamination of the plant interior was completed in 1992. The design for treatment of the soil on the plant grounds was completed in early 1992.

Area III Cleanup: In 1989, EPA selected a remedy for this area that involves dredging 1-foot of sediments from East Foundry Cove and the Cold Spring pier area, treatment and disposal of the sediments off-site. EPA will continue to monitor West Foundry Cove. The engineering design for the area was completed in early 1992.

Areas I, II and III will be cleaned up at the same time under the terms of this proposed Consent Decree after it is entered by the Court.

Site access restrictions in place have reduced the potential for exposure to hazardous materials at the Marathon Battery Company Superfund site while the remedial design was being finalized and until the remaining final cleanup activities are completed.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The 60-acre Marathon Battery Company site includes a former nickel-cadmium battery plant and 11 surrounding acres, the Hudson River near the Village of Cold Spring pier, and a series of river backwater areas known as Foundry Cove and Constitution Marsh. The battery plant operated from 1953 to 1979, producing military and commercial nickel-cadmium batteries. During this time, the plant changed ownership several times, finally operating as the Marathon Battery Company from 1969 to 1979. Before 1965, the

plant's wastewater treatment system discharged into the Hudson River at the Cold Spring pier through the use of the municipal sewer system, except during periods of overload or system shutdown, when the wastewater was discharged directly into East Foundry Cove.

In 1965, New York State Department of Health concluded that the new sewage system being designed for Cold Spring could not handle the plant's industrial discharge, and the operators began disposing of the wastewater in East Foundry Cove Marsh. Although the Marathon Battery Company and other potentially responsible parties dredged parts of Foundry Cove and surrounding areas in 1972 and 1973, studies of the wetlands still revealed high levels of cadmium and nickel in the late 1970s.

In 1980, the battery plant was sold to Merchandise Dynamics, Inc. for use as a warehouse to store books. All business activities at the site ceased in 1986. The decontaminated books are currently being removed and recycled as part of the plant cleanup. The surrounding area is residential and includes two historic districts.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation found high levels of heavy metals, including cadmium, zinc, nickel, and cobalt both inside and outside the plant. Trichloroethylene was detected in the groundwater underlying the site. A state-supervised sampling program conducted in 1984 and 1985 revealed widespread heavy metal contamination of the sediments and marsh soils of Foundry Cove. The highest levels were found in East Foundry Cove Marsh at the outfall from which the battery plant's process wastes were discharged. Cadmium was found in soils along on the fence line between the former battery plant and neighboring backyards. Tidal action has been slowly flushing remaining cadmium deposits from the wetlands into the Hudson River.

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Please give copy to Hwi if he didn't get one

Hwi 8/7/89

United States
Environmental Protection Agency
Region 2: New Jersey, New York
Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands
26 Federal Plaza, NY, NY 10278

NEWS

89(82) Lisa Peterson (212) 264-2980

FOR RELEASE: Tuesday, August 1, 1989

EPA EXTENDS PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AT MARATHON BATTERY COMPANY SUPERFUND SITE

NEW YORK -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has extended the public comment period on the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) report and the Proposed Plan for Area III of the Marathon Battery Company Superfund site in Cold Spring, Putnam County, New York until August 21, 1989. Area III consists of East Foundry Cove, West Foundry Cove, and the Hudson River in the vicinity of the Cold Spring Pier.

The extension was granted following requests from the public for more time to review and comment on the RI/FS, Proposed Plan, and preferred remedy. The remedy calls for the dredging of East Foundry Cove and pier area contaminated sediments to a depth of one foot; restoration of the original contours with clean fill; and fixation and off-site disposal of the dredged sediments. Continued monitoring is proposed for West Foundry Cove.

Copies of the RI/FS report, can be reviewed at the following information repositories:

- more -

Cold Spring Town Hall
234 Main Street
Cold Spring, New York

Philipstown Town Hall
238 Main Street
Cold Spring, New York

PROCO
73A Main Street
Cold Spring, New York

New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
50 Wolf Road
Albany, New York

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
26 Federal Plaza, Room 747
New York, New York

The RI/FS discusses the nature and extent of the contamination as well as options for addressing the contamination. The Proposed Plan discusses the rationale for the preliminary selection of the preferred remedy.

Comments on the preferred alternative may be sent to Pamela Tames, P.E., U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 26 Federal Plaza, Room 23-102, New York, New York 10278.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION II
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10278

NOTICE

Representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and EBASCO Services Inc., its consultant, will hold a Public Meeting to discuss activities being conducted at the Marathon Battery site.

Date: November 30, 1987

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: Cold Springs Fire Company
146 Main Street
Cold Springs, NY

If you have further questions, please call Isabel Funcia, Community Relations Specialist, Office of External Programs at (212) 264-2515.

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION II
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10278

AGENDA

Information Meeting
Marathon Battery Company Site
Putnam County, New York

September 4, 1987
10:00 P.M.

I.	Introduction	Isabel Funcia, Superfund Community Relations Specialist U.S. EPA, Region 2
II.	Background and History of Marathon Battery Site	Magalie Beausejour, Remedial Project Manager for the Marathon Battery Site U.S. EPA, Region 2
III.	Status of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS)	
IV.	Questions and Anwers	
V.	Closing	

Marathon Battery Site

PLEASE SIGN IN

Sept 11, 1987

	NAME	ADDRESS OR AFFILIATION
1.	Isabel Fonseca	U-SEPA (212) 264-2575
2.	Magalie Beausejour	USEPA (212) 264-1336
3.	Paul R. Keller	NYSDEC (914) 255 5453
4.	Ron Sloan	NYSDEC (518) 457-1769
5.	Jim Rod	NATL. AUD. SOC. 914-265-3119
6.	Gardner L Grant	Hudson River Foundation
7.	[illegible]	Hudson Riverkeeper Fund
8.	TAYLOR G. BELCHER	HERITAGE TASK FORCE GARRISON, N.Y. 10524
9.		
10.	John Mylod	Clearwater 914 454 7673
11.	Ivan Dunwell	NYS DEC 914-255-5453
12.	Cara Lee	Scenic Hudson
13.	Joseph Iannotti	NYSDEC, (518) 457-1708
14.	Ram Pergadia	NYS DEC (914) 255-5453
15.	Dennis J Suszkowski	Hudson River Foundation
16.	JOHN CRONIN	HUDSON RIVERKEEPER
17.		
18.		
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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION II
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10278

N O T I C E

A Record of Decision (ROD) for the Marathon Battery Superfund Site in Cold Spring, New York was signed by EPA Regional Administrator Christopher J. Daggett on September 30, 1986.

Copies of the ROD are available for public review at two repositories in Cold Spring --the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, and PROCO at 73 A Main Street.

If you have further questions please call EPA's Superfund Technical Information toll-free line at 1-(800)-732-1223.

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United States
Environmental Protection Agency

Region 2
26 Federal Plaza
New York, NY 10278

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Penalty for Private Use
$300

Mr. Paul Keller
NYS DEC-Region 3
21 South Putt Corners
New Paltz, NY 12561

Superfund Update

EPA
Region 2

Marathon Battery Company Site
Putnam County, New York

September 1987

EPA To Investigate Clean-Up of Marathon Battery Site

As part of the Superfund process, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is conducting a Supplemental Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) to further characterize the extent and potential public health and environmental effects of wastes from the Marathon Battery site. The Marathon Battery site is located in the Village of Cold Spring, Putnam County, New York, about forty miles north of New York City. The site consists of five sub-areas where contamination has been detected (See Exhibit 1 for Site Map):

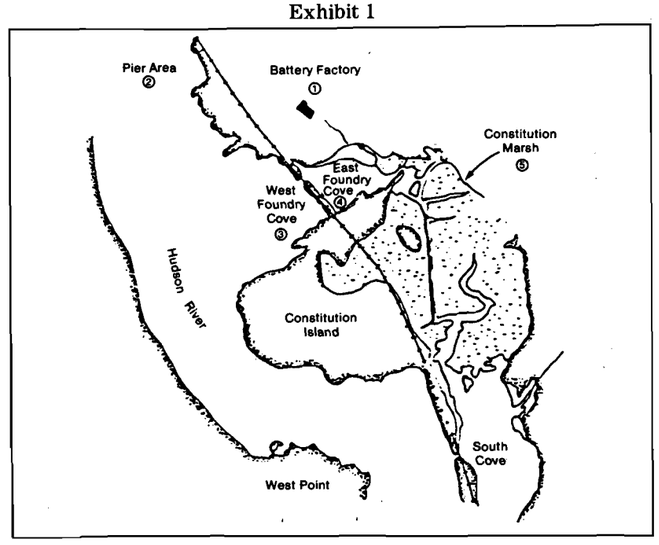
1. Former battery plant and surrounding property;
2. Hudson River pier area in the Village of Cold Spring;
3. West Foundry Cove;
4. East Foundry Cove Marsh, and
5. Constitution Marsh.

In 1986, EPA assumed primary responsibility for clean-up activities at the site. Since April 1986, EPA has been conducting detailed sampling and study efforts known as a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) to supplement studies conducted by the New York State Department of Conservation (NYSDEC). In order to expedite the Superfund process, EPA has divided the site into two separate geographic areas called "Operable Units". Area I (Operable Unit 1) is comprised of Constitution Marsh and East Foundry Cove Marsh, and Area II (Operable Unit 2) encompasses West Foundry Cove, the Hudson River pier area in Cold Spring Village, and the former site of the battery plant and surrounding properties.

Separating the site into operable units allows clean-up activities to begin in Area I while a second RI/FS is being conducted to determine future clean-up requirements for Area II.

This Fact Sheet provides background information on the Marathon Battery Site, summarizes the cleanup remedy selected by EPA for East Foundry Cove and Constitution Marsh, (Area I), and describes upcoming activities for the Hudson River pier area, West Foundry Cove, and the former battery manufacturing facility (Area II).

Exhibit 1



SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

Site Location

The Marathon Battery Company site, located in the Village of Cold Spring, Putnam County, New York, approximately 60 kilometers (km) north of New York City, includes the former nickel-cadmium battery manufacturing facility and the surrounding plant grounds; the Hudson River in the vicinity of the Cold Spring pier, and a series of river backwater areas known as Foundry Cove and Constitution Marsh.

Site History

In 1952, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) constructed a battery manufacturing facility in the Village of Cold Spring, New York, for the U.S. Army Signal Supply Agency.

In 1953, under contract with the Army Signal Corps, Sonotone Corporation began operating the plant to produce nickel-cadmium batteries for use in the NIKE Missile Program. Subsequent contracts for battery production at the plant included batteries for warhead failsafe systems and military jet fighter batteries. Between 1954 and 1955, the contract was amended to permit Sonotone Corporation to produce commercial batteries.

In 1962, the government, having declared the property excess, sold it to Sonotone Corporation. In 1967, Sonotone Corporation became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Clevite Corporation. In 1969, Clevite Corporation merged with Gould, Incorporated. In 1969, Gould, Incorporated sold the plant to Business Fund, Incorporated which later changed its name to Marathon Battery Company. Marathon Battery Company operated the plant until March 1979. The plant was inactive from March 1979 until November 1980, when it was sold to the current owner, Merchandise Dynamics, Incorporated, for use as a book storage facility. Prior to selling the plant to Merchandise Dynamics, Incorporated, all battery manufacturing equipment was removed and shipped to a Marathon Battery plant in Waco, Texas, and approximately 225,000 kilograms (kg) of drummed process wastes were shipped to Precious Metals Refining Corporation in Hollywood, California for refining and recycling.

After completion of the dredging operation, the dewatered dredge spoils were placed in a clay-lined underground vault on the plant property. The vault was then sealed with asphalt and fenced.

Various studies by New York University (NYU) and others, were conducted on the Foundry Cove cadmium contamination problem prior to, during, and after the dredging activities. Post-dredging monitoring continued to detect elevated cadmium and nickel concentrations in the Cove's sediments, flora and fauna.

In October 1981, EPA listed the Marathon Battery Company site on the National Priorities List (NPL).

In August 1983, EPA and the State of New York signed a cooperative agreement to undertake a remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) for the Marathon Battery Company site. ACRES International, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation consultant, initiated the RI/FS covered by the cooperative agreement in May 1984.

An RI report on the nature and extent of the contamination of the Foundry Cove/Hudson River portion of the site was completed in July 1985. Because the FS contained insufficient information to effectively evaluate the technical merits and environmental effects of the remedial alternatives under consideration, the COE was tasked to expand upon the study by further evaluating technically feasible means of remediating Foundry Cove and Constitution Marsh, including identifying and evaluating effective means of containing the site's cadmium-contaminated sediments, evaluating the effectiveness and efficiencies of site-wide and hot spot dredging, and determining the long-term hydraulic impacts on Constitution Marsh associated with dredging and/or containing the contaminated sediments in Foundry Cove. The COE completed its technical assistance in February 1986. In addition, some additional RI/FS activities were performed by an EPA Zone Contractor, EBASCO Services, Incorporated. These activities included: bench top testing of heavy metal treatment technologies; additional sediment corings in Constitution Marsh; a wetland assessment; interpretation and incorporation of the COE's technical assistance input, and the results of the bench top testing, sediment corings, and wetland assessment, into a supplemental RI/FS. This work was completed in August 1986.

AREA I ACTIVITIES

On September 30, 1986, EPA approved a Record of Decision (ROD) which authorized funds for cleanup operations in Area I. Selection of the cleanup option was based on previous studies, current site investigations, and comments received from the public. The clean-up activities include:

- The dredging of contaminated sediment from east Foundry Cove Marsh;
- Thickening of the dredged sediment;
- Rendering the sediment non-hazardous through chemical treatment;
- Transporting the non-hazardous sediment to a local sanitary landfill;
- Replacing the sediment and restoration of the Marsh, and
- Long-term monitoring of heavy-metal concentrations at Constitution Marsh.

It is believed that dredging of Constitution Marsh would cause extensive environmental degradation to the marsh. As a result, the No Action alternative was selected.

AREA II ACTIVITIES

Field activities for Area II were initiated in late 1986 and are scheduled for completion in December 1988. These activities include the collection of soil sediments, water, and fish tissue sampling from West Foundry Cove, and the Hudson River near the pier in the Village of Cold Spring. All samples will be analyzed for cadmium, cobalt, and nickel content. Results of this sampling will be used to determine concentrations of these metals, and will be included in public health and environmental hazard assessment reports. In addition, this information will be placed in the public information repositories listed below as it becomes available.

Groundwater sampling wells were drilled from mid-March to early April 1987, and groundwater samples were taken in late April.

On March 16, 1987, additional field work associated with the former battery facility was initiated. EBASCO installed and developed fourteen groundwater monitoring wells. Soil and groundwater samples were collected in April 1987. Results of the data will be available in the fall. On June 19, 1987, EPA and EBASCO decided that an additional round of ground water samples was necessary. The additional samples were to clarify the differences between NYSDEC's groundwater data and EBASCO's data.

FUTURE EPA ACTIVITIES

As part of area II activities, EPA contractors will be testing groundwater in summer 1987 to determine aquifer characteristics, the extent of contamination, the direction of contaminant migration, and the potential effect of this contamination on residential wells. This requires taking samples of groundwater from the monitoring wells and analyzing this water to determine if treatment is necessary.

Two additional studies will be performed at the site. These include analyzing Hudson River sediments and water to determine the effect of sediment contamination on the ecosystem. Water and sediment sampling in West Foundry Cove and the Hudson River will be conducted concurrently.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Copies of the final draft RI and FS reports for Area I, and an inventory of other site documents are available for review at the following information repositories:

PROCO
73A Main Street
Cold Spring, New York 10516

Cold Spring Town Hall
234 Main Street
Cold Spring, New York 10516

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Region 2
26 Federal Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10278

Mr. Rich Gardiner
NYS DEC - Region 3
21 South Putt Corners Road
New Paltz, NY 12561

EPA News Release

86(75) Rich Cahill (212) 264-2515

FOR RELEASE: October 01, 1986

EPA SELECTS CLEANUP OPTION FOR MARATHON BATTERY SUPERFUND SITE IN COLD SPRING, NY

NEW YORK -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will conduct a cleanup of East Foundry Cove Marsh, off the Hudson River, as the first phase of the long-term solution to the environmental and potential public health threat posed by the Marathon Battery Superfund site in Cold Spring, New York.

According to a Record of Decision signed yesterday by EPA Regional Administrator Christopher J. Daggett, the cost of the first phase cleanup action is estimated to be $21 million, which will pay for the removal of cadmium contamination from the East Foundry Cove Marsh portion of the site, where levels of cadmium as high as 171,000 parts per million (ppm) have been found.

"However, without a reauthorized Superfund from Congress, EPA cannot say when the cleanup action will begin," Daggett said.

To date, over $1.1 million of federal funds have been spent

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on studies of the site where cadmium, nickel and cobalt wastes from a nearby battery factory were discharged into the Hudson River and East Foundry Cove Marsh. Part of the Cove was dredged in the early 1970's, but significant levels of contamination remain.

The selected cleanup action includes:

- dredging an estimated 6[illegible],000 cubic yards of sediments from East Foundry Cove Marsh with cadmium concentrations greater than 100 ppm;
- thickening of the dredged sediments;
- chemical fixation of the sediments on-site to render them non-hazardous;
- truck transport of the fixated sediments to a local sanitary landfill;
- replacement of the sediment and restoration of the Marsh; and,
- long-term monitoring of the adjacent Constitution Marsh, a National Audubon Society Bird Sanctuary.

"Both federal and state scientific experts agree that this approach will virtually eliminate a significant source of cadmium contamination to Foundry Cove and Constitution Marsh. Additional areas of contamination are currently under investigation.

"The same experts agreed that any attempt to remediate the adjacent Constitution Marsh would produce more harm than benefit to the marsh and wildlife," Daggett said.

The selection of this first phase cleanup option was based on the results of an investigation and study which screened a comprehensive list of remedial technologies, as well as on comments received during a public comment period, and at an August 26th public meeting in Cold Spring. The public comment period closed on September 23.

This Record of Decision covers only the East Foundry Cove Marsh/Constitution Marsh portion of the site. A remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) for the West Foundry Cove, the former battery facility, and the Hudson River in the vicinity of the Cold Spring Pier portions of the site is currently underway. Upon completion of the RI/FS, and bioassay work in East Foundry Cove to better characterize the link between levels of cadmium contamination and the bioaccumulation in the aquatic fauna, a Record of Decision will be prepared for the remaining portions of the site.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The Marathon Battery Company site is located in a mostly residential area in Cold Spring, Putnam County, New York. The site includes a former nickel-cadmium battery plant and its surrounding grounds, the Hudson River in the vicinity of the Cold Spring Pier, East and West Foundry Coves, East Foundry Cove Marsh, and Constitution Marsh.

As a result of a consent decree in 1972, the previous owners/operators of the battery facility, including Marathon Battery Company, Sonotone Corporation, Gould, Incorporated, and Clevite Corporation, partially dredged the Cove. In 1974, the U.S. Attorney filed a satisfaction of judgement which stated that the executed dredging was completed according to the amended final judgement. However, EPA is pursuing legal avenues to make those companies mentioned above, as well as the Army Corps of Engineers, for which the battery plant was constructed, participate financially in the additional cleanup.

In 1980, Merchandise Dynamics, Inc. assumed ownership of the former battery plant. The facility was utilized as a book warehouse until the summer of this year.

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Marathon Battery Meeting 340006

Directions to meeting:

Phillipstown Town Hall:

Take Rt. 9 south. Go 2 miles into Putnam County. Take Cty. Road Rte. 10 (also known as North Highland Rd. or Fishkill Rd) into Nelsonville. (You will know that you are going in the right direction by following the sign for Highlands Fire Dept.)

Make a right on Main Street, and you will find a small white town hall.

343006

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Region 2
26 Federal Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10007

New Jersey
New York
Puerto Rico
Virgin Islands

Mr. Rich Gardiner
NYS DEC - Region 3
21 South Putt Corners Rd.
New Paltz, NY 12561

EPA News Release

86(63) Herman Phillips (212)264-2515

FOR RELEASE: Monday, August 18, 1986

EPA SETS PUBLIC MEETING ON MARATHON BATTERY SITE IN COLD SPRING, NY

NEW YORK -- The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will hold a public meeting to discuss the results of the supplemental remedial investigation and feasibility study conducted for the Marathon Battery hazardous waste site in Cold Spring, New York at 7:30 p.m., August 26, 1986, in the Philipstown Town Hall, in Cold Spring.

The supplemental investigation and study documents are located for public review at two repositories in Cold Spring -- the Philipstown Town Hall, 238 Main Street, and PROCO at 73A Main Street.

EPA will continue to accept public comments until September 15, 1986.

Background

The Marathon Battery site includes a former nickel-cadmium battery manufacturing facility, the Hudson River in the vicinity of the Cold Spring pier, and a series of river backwater areas known as East Foundry Cove, Constitution Marsh, and West Foundry Cove.

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While the battery facility was in operation from 1953 to 1979, process wastes were discharged into the Hudson River at the Cold Spring pier and into Foundry Cove. In the early 1970's, portions of Foundry Cove were dredged and the dredge spoils were entombed in a lined vault on the battery plant grounds. Post-dredging monitoring, however, continued to detect elevated levels of cadmium and nickel in the Cove.

The State of New York's contractor, Acres International, performed extensive sampling and remedial alternative analysis at the site from 1984-1985.

During the week of May 26, 1986, EPA's contractor, EBASCO Services, Inc., began field activities collecting additional samples in the highly contaminated East Foundry Cove and in Constitution Marsh in order to satisfy additional data needs to aid EPA in selecting a remedial measure for East Foundry Cove and Constitution Marsh. The activities were part of the Phase I Supplemental Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study.

A later phase, beginning this fall, will address long-term problems posed by the rest of the site, including West Foundry Cove, the Hudson River in the vicinity of the Cold Spring pier and the former battery plant. EPA is conducting the work under the federal Superfund for remediation of hazardous waste sites.

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AUG 14 1986

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT
REGION #3

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

POLLUTION REPORT

DATE: July 14 1986

Region II
Response and Prevention Branch
Edison, New Jersey 08837

(201) 548-8730 - Commercial & FTS
24 Hour Emergency

TO: C. Daggett, EPA
W. Librizzi, EPA
F. Rubel, EPA
J. Marshall, EPA
ERD, Washington
(E-Mail)
J. Czapor, EPA
B. Sprague EPA
G. Zachos, EPA
G. Pavlou, EPA
M. Polito, EPA
W. Andrews, EPA
G. Dominach, EPA
N. Nosenchuck, NYSDEC
J. Sevinsky, NYS
Attorney General's
Office
Region 3 NYSDEC
C. Mannion, OSHA

POLREP NO.: One 1
INCIDENT NAME: Marathon Battery, Cold Springs, N.Y.
SITE NO.:
POLLUTANT: Heavy Metals
CLASSIFICATION: Medium
SOURCE: Marathon Battery Operation
LOCATION: Cold Springs, New York
AMOUNT: Unknown
WATER BODY: Hudson River

1. SITUATION:

A. A request was received by the U.S. EPA Response and Prevention Branch from the State of New York, through the U.S. EPA NY/Caribbean Remedial Action Branch, to consider the Marathon Battery site in Cold Springs, New York for an immediate removal action.

B. Sampling efforts by the State of New York in the summer of 1985 identified high levels of heavy metals such as cadmium, lead, zinc, nickel and cobalt both inside the facility buildings and around the facility's property.

C. Since the former manufacturing plant has now been converted to an active book warehouse and distribution center employing from eight (8) to ninety (90) personnel, it was determined that an immediate investigation was warranted.

2. ACTION TAKEN:

A. On July 9, 1986, a team consisting of the U.S. EPA and TAT arrived at the site and met with representatives of the CDC, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), Putnam County Health Department and Mr. John Campo, Warehouse Manager for Merchandise Dynamics, the present site occupant.

B. Mr. Campo conducted a tour of the facility and briefed the inspection party on pertinent information such as number of employees and current health and safety measures being employed in light of the documented heavy metal contamination at the facility.

C. Following the meeting on July 9, 1986, the U.S. EPA and TAT began to conduct a perimeter assessment of the site. The site was photodocumented and it was noted that sections of the facility's property are being accessed by the public for recreational activities. Bicycle tracks, empty beer bottles, graffiti on water tower, and paper debris from fireworks were discovered at several locations.

D. On July 9, 1986 and July 10, 1986, a total of fourteen (14) composite samples of surface soil were taken around the perimeter of the facility. Also taken, were five (5) discrete soil samples at low areas of drainage around the site.

E. On July 10, 1986, four (4) air samples were collected utilizing Gillian pumps with cellulose ester filter cassettes. The samples were collected around the site perimeter close to entry/exit points. The pumps were run at two (2) liters per minute for two hundred and fifty (250) minutes.

F. On July 10, 1986, the U.S. EPA and TAT completed the assessment and departed the site.

3. FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Under a special projects TDD, all samples will be submitted to a laboratory for analysis of heavy metals.

B. Further actions will be dependent upon the results of the above mentioned sample analysis.

FINAL POLREP ___ FURTHER POLREPS FORTHCOMING X

SUBMITTED BY Eugene G. Dominach
Eugene Dominach
Response and Prevention Branch

(TAT)

DATE RELEASED July 25, 1986

COPY: Commissioner Williams, L. Marsh, J. Corr, D. Banks, J. Greenthal, D. Barolo, H. Hovey, C. Goddard, D. King, P. Keller

FYI

Coleman A. Greenbaum

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Region 2
26 Federal Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10278

New Jersey
New York
Puerto Rico
Virgin Islands

EPA Environmental Facts

August 1986

MARATHON BATTERY COMPANY SITE
COLD SPRING
PUTNAM COUNTY, NEW YORK

STATUS ADVISORY:

Evaluation of Remedial Alternatives

SITE DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND:

The Marathon Battery Company site, located in the Village of Cold Spring, Putnam County, New York, includes the former battery manufacturing facility, the Hudson River in the vicinity of the Cold Spring pier, and a series of river backwater areas known as East Foundry Cove, Constitution Marsh, and West Foundry Cove.

Nickel-cadmium batteries were manufactured at the plant from 1953-1979. The plant's wastewater treatment system originally consisted of a lift station and piping for transfer of all process wastewater into the Cold Spring sewer system for discharge directly into the Hudson River at the Cold Spring pier. In addition, a by-pass valve was installed so that when the lift station was shut down or overloaded, a direct gravity discharge could be made into a storm sewer for discharge into Foundry Cove.

In the early 1970's, studies conducted by New York University, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) showed high levels of cadmium contamination in Foundry Cove sediments. Samples of vegetation and various species of fish, muskrat, turtle eggs, and green heron all revealed high concentrations of cadmium, as well.

After continued failure to meet state and federal discharge limitations, in 1970 a lawsuit was filed against the past and

-more-

present owners/operators. In 1972, the U.S Department of Justice signed a Consent Agreement requiring the removal of as much cadmium from the outfall area and channel leading into the cove as was economically, technically, and ecologically feasible. The dredge spoils were entombed in a lined valut on the plant's property. The dredging, however, was not totally successful. Post-dredging monitoring continued to detect elevated cadmium and nickel concentrations in the cove's sediments flora, and fauna. Tidal action is slowly flushing the remaining cadmium deposits from the cove into the Hudson River and the adjacent Constitution Marsh, a wildlife sanctuary.

In July 1985, Acres International, NYSDEC's contractor, completed a draft remedial investigation/feasiblity study (RI/FS). To satisfy additional data and remedial alternative evaluation requirements, EBASCO Services, Inc., EPA's contractor, performed a supplemental RI/FS which was completed in August 1986.

SUMMARY OF REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION:

Public health and environmental concerns are summarized below:

The results of Acres' 1984-1985 remedial investigation sediment sampling program, and EBASCO's 1986 investigation indicate widespread heavy metal contamination of the sediments and marsh soils of Foundry Cove. The highest level of contamination occurs in East Foundry Cove in close proximity to the Kemble Avenue outfall. This area, characterized by a layer of greenish-white sediment spanning an approximately 15 by 30 meter area, shows concentrations as high as 171,000, 156,000 and 6,700 milligrams/ kilogram (mg/kg) for cadmium, nickel and cobalt, respectively. In Constitution Marsh, substantial contamination is present in the surficial sediments of the main channels in the northern section of the marsh. Samples from the former battery facility indicate contamination as high as 120,000 mg/kg cadmium and 130,000 mg/kg nickel in the rafters.

As a result of the extent of the sediment contamination, practically every trophic group sampled has elevated tissue burdens of cadmium, cobalt and nickel. Biota contaminant levels are greatest in East Foundry Cove, particularly in the vicinity of the outfall, apparently the direct result of elevated heavy metal levels in the sediments in this area.

SUMMARY OF FEASIBILITY STUDY:

A draft supplemental FS, which evaluated remedial alternatives, was completed for the East Foundry Cove/Constitution Marsh portion of the Marathon Battery Company site in August 1986. A comprehensive list of remedial technologies was screened in terms of feasibility, environmental effects and order-of-magnitude costs. Applicable remedial technologies were then combined into remedial alternatives specifically applicable to the Marathon Battery Company site. These

remedial alternatives, which were evaluated in terms of technical, environmental, public health, institutional, and cost criteria, include:

Alternative 1: No Action

Alternative 2: Hydraulic Dredging/Thickening/Fixation/Off-Site Disposal

Alternative 3: Hydraulic Dredging/Thickening/Fixation/On-Site Disposal

Alternative 4: Hydraulic Dredging/Dewatering/Off-Site Disposal

Alternative 5: Containment

Each one of these alternatives was evaluated in terms of applicability to East Foundry Cove and Constitution Marsh.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Written comments will be accepted throughout the 30-day public comment period which ends on September 15, 1986. All comments regarding the evaluation of remedial alternatives will be considered in determining our final selection of a remedial alternative for the East Foundry Cove/Constitution Marsh portion of the Marathon Battery Company site. Comments should be forwarded to:

Mr. Joel Singerman, Project Manager
New York/Caribbean Remedial Action Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
26 Federal Plaza, Room 747
New York, New York 10278

FUTURE ACTIVITIES:

A supplemental RI/FS for the West Foundry Cove, Hudson River in the vicinity of the Cold Spring pier, and the former battery facility portion of the site is scheduled for completion next spring.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

For further information concerning the proposed CERCLA action at the Marathon Battery Company site, please contact Joel Singerman at (212) 264-9589 or Rick Wice at EPA's Superfund Technical Information line by calling 1-(800)-732-1223.

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340006

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION II
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10278

AGENDA

Public Meeting
Marathon Battery Site
Philipstown Town Hall
Cold Spring, New York

August 26, 1986
7:30 P.M.

I.	Welcome & Introduction	Lillian Johnson, Superfund Community Relations Coordinator U.S. EPA Region 2
II.	Update on the Marathon Battery Project Activities	Joel Singerman, Project Manager Marathon Battery Site U.S. EPA, Region 2
III.	Discussion of the Results of the Supplementary Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study	Sanford Strausberg Project Manager EBASCO (Consultants to EPA)
IV.	Questions & Answers	
V.	Closing	

ECM — 2

EC 2

CM 1

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Emergency and Remedial Response Washington DC 20460
Spring 1986
WH/FS-86-002

EPA

The Superfund Remedial Program

Under the Superfund Remedial Program, EPA takes long-term cleanup actions to stop or substantially reduce releases or threats of releases of hazardous substances that are serious but not immediately threatening.

How Does EPA Learn About Potential Remedial Sites?

EPA learns about potential sites for remedial action through a variety of sources, including required reporting, routine inspections of facilities that treat, store or dispose of hazardous wastes, and visible evidence and citizen reports. Once a site is identified, EPA or State officials review any available documents on the site, in what is called a preliminary assessment, to determine if further action is needed. Some sites do not require further action because it is determined they do not threaten public health or the environment.

If a potential problem does exist, EPA or the State conducts a site inspection. Typically, the site inspection involves collecting information about the site — for example, types of soils on site, streams or rivers on or near the site, number of people in the area, weather conditions, and who owns or operates the site. Samples of wastes, soil, well water, river water, and air are collected to determine what hazardous substances are on the site. Samples are also taken nearby to determine if the substances have traveled, or migrated, away from the site.

Based on information obtained from the site inspection, EPA uses its Hazard Ranking System (HRS) to compare the potential risk posed by the site to the potential risk posed by others throughout the nation. Using the HRS, EPA calculates a score for the site that indicates if hazardous substances have migrated

In 1980, Congress passed a law called the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). CERCLA created a tax on the chemical and petroleum industries. The money collected from the tax goes to a Trust Fund to clean up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. The money has come to be called the Superfund. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for running the Superfund program.

Under the Superfund program, EPA can:

- Pay for the cleanup of hazardous waste sites when those responsible for such sites cannot be found or are unwilling or unable to clean up a site.
- Take legal action to force those responsible for hazardous waste sites that threaten public health or the environment to clean up or pay for the cleanup of those sites or reimburse EPA for the costs of cleanup.

The law authorizes two kinds of response actions:

- Short-term *removal actions* where immediate actions may be taken to address releases or threats of releases requiring expedited response.
- Longer-term *remedial actions* that stop or substantially reduce releases or threats of releases of hazardous substances that are serious but not immediately life-threatening.

Response actions may include, but are not limited to:

- Removing hazardous materials from the site to an EPA-approved, licensed hazardous waste facility for treatment, containment, or destruction.
- Containing the waste on-site so that it can safely remain there and present no further problem.
- Destroying or treating the waste on-site through incineration or other innovative technologies.
- Identifying and removing the source of ground water contamination, and halting further spread of the contaminants.

This fact sheet is one of a series prepared by the Superfund Community Relations Program to help citizens understand how the Superfund program works.

through ground water, surface water, and air or if they have the potential to migrate. Sites with high enough scores are considered for placement on EPA's National Priorities List (NPL). Sites on the NPL present the most serious problems among hazardous waste sites nationwide and are eligible for long-term remedial actions through the Superfund program.

What Is the State Role in Superfund?

States play an important role in the Superfund process. The Superfund law requires that States be consulted in every Superfund remedial response. Some States receive money from EPA for identifying and managing Superfund sites through a formal Cooperative Agreement. Further, States are always responsible for the long term maintenance of a site once the response action is finished.

What Happens During Remedial Action?

Remedial actions have two main phases: Remedial investigation and feasibility study, during which conditions at the site are studied, the problem(s), if any are defined, and alternative methods to clean up the site are evaluated. The entire process can take up to two years to complete.

In the Remedial design and action stage, the recommended cleanup is designed and undertaken. The design phase can take up to one year. The time required to complete the remedy may vary according to the complexity of the site.

During a remedial investigation, EPA or the State collects and analyzes information to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the site. Aerial photographs may be taken of the site and surrounding area to map the physical features of the land, including rock formations and sources of water. A variety of techniques are used to locate contaminated ground water and buried drums or tanks that might contain hazardous substances.

Samples are taken from soils, drums, lagoons, rivers and ground water, then analyzed by EPA-approved laboratories to determine if hazardous substances might be present and, if so, the type and amount. EPA or the State reviews and interprets results of the laboratory analysis.

Once the extent of contamination is known, the feasibility study can begin. During the feasibility study, specific alternative remedies are considered and evaluated by EPA and the public.

The recommended remedy may include:

- Removing hazardous materials from the site to an EPA or State approved, licensed hazardous waste facility for treatment, containment, or destruction.

- Containing the waste on-site so that it can safely remain there and present no further problem.

- Destroying or treating the waste on-site through incineration or other innovative technologies.

- Identifying and removing the source of ground water contamination, and halting further spread of the contaminants.

Or, instead, the recommended remedy could be to move people away from the site or provide an alternate source of drinking water for area residents. During the remedial design and action phases, the cleanup alternative chosen is constructed or installed. Design and construction activities are conducted under the supervision of EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, or the State can manage all site activities on its own.

How is the Best Cleanup Alternative Chosen?

EPA must take into account certain requirements specified in the National Contingency Plan (NCP), the Federal regulation that guides the Superfund program, for evaluating alternative remedial actions at hazardous waste sites. For each alternative, the following questions must be answered:

- How effective and reliable will a particular remedy be in protecting public health, welfare, and the environment?

- Is the remedy technically feasible, considering the location and conditions at the site?

- What, if any, effects might the remedy have on the surrounding environment?

- How much will the remedy cost, including costs of construction and operation and maintenance?

The NCP requires EPA to select an alternative that is cost effective. This requirement does not mean that EPA must choose the least expensive alternative. It means that if there are several cleanup alternatives available to deal effectively with the problems at a site, EPA must choose the remedy that is most cost-effective, considering cost, reliability, and permanence.

Can EPA Make Those Responsible Pay?

EPA always makes a thorough effort to identify and locate those responsible for causing contamination problems at the site ("potentially responsible parties"). Although EPA is willing to negotiate with private parties and encourages voluntary cleanup, it has the authority under the Superfund law to legally force those responsible to take specified cleanup actions. All work performed by those responsible is closely guided and supervised by EPA and must meet the same standards required for actions financed through Superfund.

Because negotiations can take a lot of time, EPA may decide to use Superfund monies promptly to clean up a site. For example, if a site presents an immediate threat to public health and the environment, or if conditions at a site worsen while negotiations are being conducted, it may be necessary to start the cleanup immediately. Those responsible are liable under the law for the money EPA spends in cleaning up the site, and EPA will attempt to recover those costs through legal actions after the cleanup has been completed.

Can Local Citizens Get Involved in Superfund Cleanups?

To ensure that the local public is involved in Superfund actions, EPA has established a community relations program. The program is designed to inform local officials and residents about conditions and developments at Superfund sites and to make sure that the concerns of the community are communicated to EPA and State officials. For each Superfund site where action takes longer than 45 days, EPA or the State prepares a community relations plan that is tailored to the needs of the community near the site. The plan describes the activities that will be conducted to encourage citizen input and inform the community of progress at the site. Community relations activities may include holding periodic informal meetings of small groups of interested citizens and government staff, or larger public forums that include a presentation about activities at the site and a question and answer period. Information can also be provided through the distribution of fact sheets such as these and technical summaries. Two-way communication is essential throughout the process.

For further information on the Superfund Program,
call toll free 1-800-424-9346

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Office of Emergency
and Remedial Response
Washington DC 20460

Spring 1986
WH/FS-86-003

EPA

The Superfund Removal Program

Incidents involving hazardous materials that present an imminent threat to human health or the environment may occur or be discovered in any community at any time. These kinds of incidents may include, but are not limited to:

- Illegal disposal of toxic materials or hazardous waste.
- Improper handling or disposal of hazardous materials at landfills, industrial areas, etc.
- Spills of hazardous materials when a truck or train overturns.
- Discharges of hazardous materials into the air or water during a fire.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Superfund Emergency Response Program was created to respond to situations such as these.

How Can EPA Respond to Releases or Threatened Releases of Hazardous Substances

Under Superfund, EPA may respond to releases or threats of releases of hazardous substances by starting a removal action. A removal action is a short-term action intended to stabilize or clean up an incident or site which poses a threat to human health or the environment. These actions may include:

- removing and disposing of hazardous substances;

In 1980, Congress passed a law called the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). CERCLA created a tax on the chemical and petroleum industries. The money collected from the tax goes to a Trust Fund to clean up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. The money has come to be called the *Superfund*. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for running the Superfund program.

Under the Superfund program, EPA can:

- Pay for the cleanup of hazardous waste sites when those responsible for such sites cannot be found or are unwilling or unable to clean up a site.
- Take legal action to force those responsible for hazardous waste sites that threaten public health or the environment to clean up or pay for the cleanup of those sites or reimburse EPA for the costs of cleanup.

The law authorizes two kinds of response actions:

- Short-term *removal actions* where immediate actions may be taken to address releases or threats of releases requiring expedited response.
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Response actions may include, but are not limited to:

- Removing hazardous materials from the site to an EPA-approved, licensed hazardous waste facility for treatment, containment, or destruction.
- Containing the waste on-site so that it can safely remain there and present no further problem.
- Destroying or treating the waste on-site through incineration or other innovative technologies.
- Identifying and removing the source of ground water contamination, and halting further spread of the contaminants.

This fact sheet is one of a series prepared by the Superfund Community Relations Program to help citizens understand how the Superfund program works.

- constructing a fence, posting warning signs, or taking other security precautions necessary to control access of humans or animals to a site;

- providing a temporary alternate water supply to local residents when their drinking water supplies are contaminated;

- temporarily relocating area residents.

The 1980 CERCLA law currently limits removal actions to six months in duration and a total cost of $1 million, although exemptions may be granted if work at a particular site cannot be completed within the six month or $1 million limitations.

Because the purpose of a removal action is to respond to an imminent threat and is a short-term action, long-term environmental problems like area-wide contamination of ground water cannot generally be addressed. In that event, the On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) will refer the site to EPA's Remedial Response Program for further investigation and assessment.

Remedial actions are longer-term actions that stop or substantially reduce releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances that are serious, but not immediately threatening. Remedial actions are undertaken only at sites on EPA's National Priorities List (NPL), which is EPA's list of hazardous waste sites chosen for possible long-term remedial actions under Superfund. EPA often conducts both removal and remedial actions at NPL sites. Removal actions may be required during a remedial action if an immediate threat is discovered during the course of the remedial work.

How Does the Removal Program Work?

The National Contingency Plan (NCP), the Federal regulation that guides the Superfund program, outlines the roles and responsibilities of each agency involved in responding to releases of hazardous substances. The U.S. Coast Guard has primary responsibility for response to releases in or near the coastal areas of the United States, and EPA has primary responsibility for response inland.

The first step in EPA's removal program is the discovery of a release or threatened release of hazardous substances which presents a threat to public health or the environment. EPA may be notified through the National Response Center (NRC) at the 24-hour telephone number 1-800-424-8802, which is operated by the U.S. Coast Guard, or contacted directly by industries or individuals.

Coast Guard officials at the NRC notify the appropriate government agencies and officials when a release occurs. An EPA official, the OSC, evaluates the situation. Based upon this evaluation, Superfund money may be used to clean up the incident if those responsible for the incident cannot or will not conduct the cleanup, or if State or local officials are unable to respond. Other government agencies may be called upon for assistance when necessary, depending upon the nature and extent of the release.

Who Pays for Removal Actions?

Most removals are paid for or conducted by those responsible for creating an emergency or the release of hazardous substances. Those responsible may include generators, transporters, or disposers of hazardous waste. The rest may be paid for and conducted by state or county response teams with their own funds, or by EPA, using Superfund money. When Superfund money is used, EPA may take action to compel those responsible to reimburse EPA for the costs of the cleanup.

How Can You Obtain Information On Removal Actions?

EPA makes every effort to ensure open, two-way communication with the public. Because EPA is aware of the importance of keeping the public informed of progress and developments at Superfund sites, every EPA Office has a Community Relations Coordinator who may be contacted for information on removal actions and public outreach activities.

For further information on the Superfund Program,
call toll free 1-800-424-9346

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Emergency and Remedial Response Washington DC 20460
Spring 1986
WH/FS-86-004

EPA

Public Involvement in the Superfund Program

How are local citizens involved in decisions about cleanup actions in their communities?

To guarantee that local citizens are involved in decisions about cleanup actions in their communities, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established a Superfund Community Relations Program. This Program helps inform citizens in an area where a hazardous waste response action is underway or planned. But the goal is not just to provide information to the local community. Equally important, the Community Relations Program also gives local citizens a voice in decisions about actions that may affect them.

The information that citizens provide to EPA about the history of a site is very valuable to EPA in planning a response action. Citizens' knowledge about when and how a site was contaminated has helped EPA select the areas in and around the site where sampling and monitoring are needed. EPA may also learn about who is responsible for a problem from discussions with community members. EPA also considers citizen concerns in choosing how to clean up the site, so that the cleanup actions will deal with the problems especially important to the community.

Community relations activities are somewhat different during a short-term "removal" action and a longer-term "remedial" action. During a removal action, the On-Scene Coordinator (the person in charge at the site) has to protect public health and property until the immediate threat is over. During such times, the primary community relations activity is to inform the community about response actions and their effects on the community. During a removal action, there is often very little time to involve citizens in how the site will be cleaned up because of the urgency of the problem.

In 1980, Congress passed a law called the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). CERCLA created a tax on the chemical and petroleum industries. The money collected from the tax goes to a Trust Fund to clean up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. The money has come to be called the Superfund. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for running the Superfund program.

Under the Superfund program, EPA can:

- Pay for the cleanup of hazardous waste sites when those responsible for such sites cannot be found or are unwilling or unable to clean up a site.
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This fact sheet is one of a series prepared by the Superfund Community Relations Program to help citizens understand how the Superfund program works.

During a removal action that lasts longer than 45 days or a remedial action there is more opportunity for citizens to learn about EPA activities and communicate their concerns to EPA.

Community Relations Plans

EPA learns about community concerns by conducting community interviews. These are informal discussions with local residents and government officials, usually at individual's homes or offices. Through these discussions, EPA learns about the history of the site and gains a basic understanding of the concerns of the community. EPA uses this information to prepare a Community Relations Plan for sites where removal actions last longer than 45 days and all remedial actions. The Plan outlines in detail the activities EPA will conduct to make sure that local residents can express their opinions and concerns about the site, and are kept informed of any actions at the site throughout the Superfund cleanup process.

There are many ways EPA exchanges information with the community. Typically, one of the first steps is to set up an information file that contains accurate, up-to-date documents on the site. The file is usually located in a public building that is convenient for local residents — such as a public school, library, or town hall. File materials may include news releases, fact sheets, and technical reports about EPA's activities and the contamination problem at the site.

A contact person is very important. Residents may contact this person to answer questions about the site. This contact, usually a Superfund community relations staff person in the nearest EPA Regional Office, can answer questions throughout the Superfund process. A State staff member will be the contact person when the State manages the cleanup.

While the information file and contact person are normally a part of every community relations program, EPA also uses a variety of other activities to ensure that local citizens are informed and given a chance to participate:

- Small discussion groups in which concerned citizens can exchange information with government officials;

- Large public meetings at which many community members can gather to listen to presentations about site developments, raise issues, express their concerns and ask questions;

- News releases issued to the media announce milestones in work at the site, such as the beginning of construction;

- Fact sheets summarizing current knowledge about the site's problems and cleanup options under consideration.

In some cases, EPA may be limited in the amount of information that it can make available to the public. For example, EPA usually tries to pursue legal action to make those responsible for the contamination at a site pay for or conduct the cleanup. As a

result, there may be some sensitive or confidential information that, if disclosed to the public, could damage the government's legal case.

Before all major decisions are made on remedial actions at a site EPA gives the public an opportunity to comment. Community involvement is particularly important during the public comment period provided after the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) is completed. This report describes the contamination and the response actions being considered. A copy of the draft RI/FS is placed in the information file, and other copies are made available for public review. Because the report itself may be quite long and techical, EPA usually prepares and distributes a fact sheet at this time to summarize the results of the study. Community members may also be invited to attend workshops or a public meeting to discuss the response actions.

The feedback that EPA receives from the public during the comment period is one of the factors EPA considers in selecting response actions. EPA also considers the reliability, the effectiveness and the cost of construction and maintenance of each alternative.

Can Citizen Input Really Influence EPA Cleanup Plans?

Public comment and involvement have significantly influenced EPA's plans for cleanups in a number of instances and citizens have provided EPA with valuable information about conditions at a site. For example:

- At a site in Illinois, local citizens and businesses expressed concern that EPA's proposed cleanup alternative would limit the use of a nearby lakeshore and harm the town's economy. In response to these concerns, EPA developed another cleanup alternative that preserved the town's use of the lakeshore.

- At a site in Minnesota, local residents expressed a strong preference for treatment of local contaminated wells over connection to the reservoir supply of a nearby city. After careful consideration of information provided by the residents, EPA proposed a plan to treat the local wells to remove contaminants.

- Local residents are often an excellent source of information. Many have lived in an area for years and can help identify those responsible and help locate illegally disposed waste sites in the neighborhood. Many times local residents have called the National Response Center (1-800-424-8802), a special number set up to report hazardous materials that present an imminent threat.

Although EPA tries to include the community's preferences in selecting a remedy for the site, requirements of the Superfund law may lead EPA to select a response action that is not the community's first choice, that is, the remedy that is most effective, considering cost, reliability and permanence.

The goal of the Superfund community relations program is to

ensure that citizens are kept as well-informed as possible about cleanup plans and progress and, at the same time, have a say in decisions about Superfund actions taken in their communities. Public involvement in Superfund contributes to sound decisions and greater protection of public health and the environment.

For further information on the Superfund Program,
call toll free 1-800-424-9346

340006

July 7, 1986

Meeting

MARATHON BATTERY SITE

SCREENING OF REMEDIAL ALTERNATIVES

AGENDA

1	INTRODUCTION	SACHDEV/STRAUSBERG
2	SUMMARY OF REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION	MOESE
3	RESULTS OF RISK ASSESSMENT	SCHAFFER
4	SCREENING OF ALTERNATIVES	YEH
	DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS	STRAUSBERG

*If we can

① sacrifice few (30-40) acres of marsh to have on site disposal of material

② buy land (60 acres) nearby and use it as a disposal site. — non haz. waste landfill.

③ Marsh restoration needs to look into fresh animals brought into this area and check for their life expectancy

④ if 320 ppm level is acceptable
@ 1000 ppm in Constitution Marsh

34 0006

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION II
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10278

RECEIVED
MAY 19 1986
NYS DEC
REGION 3

MAY 16 1986

Dear Resident:

During the week of May 26, 1986, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and its contractor, EBASCO, will begin field activities in your area. These activities are part of a Phase I supplemental Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RIFS) which will address highly contaminated East Foundry Cove and Constitution Marsh. Under Phase II we will address the long-term problems posed by the rest of the site, including West Foundry Cove, the Hudson River in the vicinity of the Cold Spring pier and the former battery plant.

In the meantime, it is necessary to collect additional samples at the East Foundry Cove and Constitution Marsh area in order to fill "data gaps" in earlier sampling. Also, this additional information is needed before EPA can evaluate remedial alternatives and sign a Record of Decision selecting a remedial measure for East Foundry Cove and Constitution Marsh.

Additional sampling and alternative evaluations under Phase II are expected to commence this fall.

If you require further information concerning EPA's activities at the site, you may contact Richard Wice, Information Specialist, by calling our toll-free Superfund information line at 800-732-1223.

We appreciate your continued interest in our Superfund activities associated with the Marathon Battery site.

Sincerely yours,

Lillian Johnson, Superfund
Community Relations Coordinator
Office of External Programs

340006

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12233-0001

1985 N.Y.S. Forest Preserve Centennial

Henry G. Williams
Commissioner

September 12, 1985

Dear Concerned Citizen:

The Marathon Battery Federal Superfund Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) being conducted in Cold Spring, Putnam County has been continuing since we last contacted you. This letter is intended to bring you up to date and make you aware of some important upcoming events.

The investigation of Foundry Cove has been completed and the draft Remedial Investigation Report is available for your review at the project's document depositories located at the Philipstown Town Hall, 234 Main Street and at the PROCO Office, 194 Main Street. The Draft Remedial Investigation Report reviews the sampling and analysis program that was carried out and describes the nature and extent of the contamination.

We will be holding a public meeting to present the results of the investigation, receive comments from the public and explain what happens next in the project.

PUBLIC MEETING
7:00 P.M.
SEPTEMBER 26, 1985
PHILLIPSTOWN TOWN HALL
234 MAIN STREET, COLD SPRING

As you are probably aware, it was necessary to postpone the on-site investigation that was originally scheduled for the Spring of 1984. This on-site work included the installation of five wells and the collecting of several soil samples. The wells have been installed and soil and ground water samples have been taken. We expect to receive the results from this work in the near future.

We have also been working on the development of the Feasibility Study. It will evaluate alternative methods of dealing with the contamination problem and identify a recommended course of action. During development of the Feasibility Study two significant problems have been pointed out which make it difficult to select a single alternative for remediation of the Cadmium (and other metals)

(OVER)

problem existing in the Cold Spring area; 1) degree of adverse impact of remediation on surrounding wetlands and 2) efficiency of removal of sediments. It is presently not possible, without a closer look at site conditions and physical makeup of the sediments, to determine what percentage of the contaminated material can be removed using different technologies available (various methods of dredging, dragline, dry excavation, etc). It is presently proposed by the USEPA that we reserve decision on a particular alternative until the impacts on Constitution Marsh wetlands and removal efficiencies can be reviewed in greater depth. It is hoped that by the date of the public meeting we will be able to inform you about how much of a project delay these additional studies will cause. We wanted to mention the additional work here so that it will not be a surprise, taking away from the main purpose of the meeting which is to discuss the findings of our investigation and where that will lead us.

If there are any questions or comments related to the project prior to the public meeting, Tom Reynolds of my staff can be contacted at (518) 457-9538. You may also contact Bruce Bentley with questions/comments at 1-800-342-9296. We urge you and your neighbors to review the documents at the depositories and we look forward to your attending the meeting, it is important that you take an active role and participate in the project.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Goddard, P.E.
Chief
Bureau of Hazardous Site Control
Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste

cc: G. Pavlou, USEPA
J. Singerman, USEPA
A. Bittner - Putnam County Health Department
B. Quinn - USEPA, Washington
S. Christoferson - National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration

340 006

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12233-0001

Henry G. Williams
Commissioner

March 27, 1985

Dear Concerned Citizen:

It has been a long time since you have heard from us (last September's public meeting) concerning the Marathon Battery Site Superfund Project. We would like to take this opportunity to bring you up to date.

All of the water, sediment, and biological (plants, fish, insects, animals, etc.) sampling planned for Foundry Cove, Constitution Marsh, South Cove, the Hudson River, and the Tivoli Bay Control Site has been completed. More than 1,200 samples were taken and we expect that their analysis will give us quite an accurate picture of the nature and extent of contamination. Results from these samples are now being received and reviewed by the project consultants, Acres American and Princeton Aqua Science.

Investigation of the former battery plant site itself and an evaluation of the in-ground vault where dredged material from the cove and marsh have been stored has not yet been undertaken. The on-site work was not carried out when originally planned due to the discovery of the present storage of approximately 10-15 drums, the past existence of a solvent storage shed, and a much greater than anticipated amount of debris on site. We have now adequately considered and accounted for these items and are ready to move ahead.

This part of the program will include on-site soil sampling, in-plant dust samples, and the installation of wells to sample the groundwater and identify its flow patterns. On-site field work will be carried out by Ecological Analysts Inc. of Middletown, New York using funding provided by the New York State Superfund Program. This field work is expected to start in six to eight weeks and be completed by this summer. It will then take about two months to analyze and review the results.

While the on-site activities are being negotiated and performed, data compilation and interpretation will continue so the Remedial Investigation Report can be prepared and ready for public review in early summer. The Remedial Investigation report will review the sampling and analysis program that was carried out and accurately describe the nature and extent of the contamination.

Over the next several months the Feasibility Study will also be proceeding, utilizing data as it becomes available. The Feasibility Study will evaluate alternative methods of dealing with the contamination problem and identify a recommended course of action.

OVER

We are making every effort to have this project proceed as close to planned schedules as possible. We would very much like to be able to complete the Record Of Decision (ROD) by the end of August, 1985. A ROD is the method the United States Environmental Protection Agency uses to determine the acceptability of the recommended alternative identified by the Feasibility Study. The Department of Environmental Conservation, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, representatives from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (they have guardianship over fisheries and tidal influenced areas) and the Consultants/sub-consultants recently met to plan how to proceed with the Feasibility Study. It was long and very constructive, with many complexities related to the "site" discussed. It is apparent the Feasibility Study will require imagination, ingenuity and a lot of common sense to arrive at the best solution.

We will make a draft copy of the Remedial Investigation Report available for your review as soon as it is completed so that we can gather your comments before it is finalized. This reports completion requires that all of the sampling (both on-"site" and off-"site") be completed, analyzed, compiled, and evaluated. We expect that this will mean a completion date sometime in late June or early July. We are also interested in getting your input on the Feasibility Study and as it develops we will keep you informed of its progress and provide opportunities for you to ask questions and make comments.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we have a toll free telephone line (1-800-342-9296) and encourage you to call if you have questions, concerns, or comments between now and our next letter or public meeting. We are also continuing to maintain document depositories where project information is kept on file for your review at the Cold Spring Town Hall, 224 Main Street and at the PROCO Office, 73A Main Street.

The on-site work, compiling and review of the samples already taken, and the development of the Remedial Investigation Report and the Feasibility Study will be moving along quite swiftly over the next few months. We will keep you informed and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Bruce Bentley

Bruce Bentley
Citizen Participation Specialist

340 006

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12233-0001

Henry G. Williams
Commissioner

August 6, 1984

Dear Resident:

The Marathon Battery Superfund Project is progressing and a large portion of the investigation has been completed. We would like to hold an informal information meeting to discuss project status and available preliminary results from completed field activities.

The meeting will be held at:

7:30 P.M., Wednesday, September 5
Court Room, Town Hall
238 Main Street
Cold Spring, NY

Please let us know prior to the meeting date if you have any questions or particular concerns you would like us to address. 1-800-342-9296. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Reynolds
Assistant Sanitary Engineer
Hazardous Waste Site
Investigation Section
Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste

Bruce Bentley
Citizen Participation Specialist
Office of Public Affairs

BB/bjd
bruc10

340006

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12233-0001

Henry G. Williams
Commissioner

June 28, 1984

Dear Resident:

It has been quite a while since you last heard from us concerning the Marathon Battery Superfund Site in Cold Spring and we would like to take this opportunity to give you an update on the project's progress.

Our Consultant, Acres American of Buffalo, New York, began the investigation with an on site inspection of the former battery plant property in April. They found more building rubble/debris, machinery and other disposed of materials (including 10 barrels) than was expected. This additional material has caused us to re-evaluate our plans for project activities scheduled to take place on the plant site. We originally planned to carry out a geophysical investigation of the plant site using electricity and magnetism to survey the area's underground structures and to drill sampling wells and collect soil samples. Finding more waste material than we expected has made the geophysical investigation impractical at this time. A small number of soil samples will be taken to aid in assessing how to proceed with a comprehensive on site investigation. It is still expected that the on site investigation should be completed by October. As the on site part of the project develops and we have a clearer idea of the direction we will take we will let you know.

The rest of the investigation has been moving along very well. Signs have been put up in the cove at selected access points. They identify the cove as a hazardous waste investigation site, noting the health advisory regarding the consumption of fish, crabs, and other wildlife and providing the Putnam County Health Department's number for further information.

Both Foundry Cove and Tivoli Bay (our control site) have been surveyed, and monitoring instruments to measure flow and water chemistry have been installed. Black and white aerial photography of both Foundry Cove and Tivoli Bay have been completed. Infrared photography which will assist in determining whether the cove's vegetation has been stressed will be completed shortly.

Sampling in Foundry Cove, Constitution Marsh, the Hudson River, and Tivoli Bay has been going on since the end of May. The majority of originally proposes sediment samples have been taken with completion of the remainder expected by the end of July.

The first set of water, vegetation, and aquatic biota (turtles, frogs, crabs, fish, etc.) sampling has been completed. Additional sets of biota sampling are to be undertaken over the next few months. The next set of sampling will be started in the middle of July and last set will be completed in October.

We will be holding an informal meeting later in the summer to discuss the project's progress and the sample results that will be available at that time. We will be in touch with you when we have selected a date. In the meantime, please let us know if you have any questions or comments. We want to hear from you. 1-800-342-9296.

The project has been aided considerably because of the assistance and cooperation of a number of people and we would like to thank Jim Rod, Audubon Society; Harvey Vlack, Merchandise Dynamics; Mayor McConville; Jack Kelly, PROCO; Tony Constantino, Town Clerk; Ann Bittner, Putnam County Health Department; Vince Marino, Metro North Railroad and Chip White of the Department of Transportation. There are certainly others that have also added to the project that we haven't named and they have our thanks as well.

Sincerely,

Bruce Bentley
Citizen Participation Specialist

340 006

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12233-0001

MAR 27 1984

Henry G. Williams
Commissioner

Dear Concerned Citizen:

A public meeting concerning the Marathon Battery Superfund Site in Cold Spring New York was held on February 23rd. The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the project's consultant (Acres American of Buffalo New York) gave an overview of the projects present status and explained the work that Acres American will carry out to investigate the problem and develop a recommended course of action.

This letter is intended to keep anyone unable to attend the meeting informed about the project and what information was exchanged. It also gives those people that were present the opportunity to review the information to be sure that we heard and understood their input. Please let us know if we didn't correctly hear what you were saying or if you have additional comments or questions.

Following is a brief summary of the tasks that Acres American will undertake. The complete scope of work detailing the investigation and feasibility study is available for review at the PROCO office at 73A Main Street, in Cold Spring and the Town Hall 234 Main Street, Cold Spring.

Project activities are divided into four major tasks:

Task I - Preliminary Activities

includes development of a detailed work plan; review of all available information about the plant and its operation as well as information about the area's geology, soils, ecology, climate and hydrology; setting up a field office in a trailer near the project site; development of base maps from new aerial photography; installation of warning signs in the project area. Above activities occur during March and April.

Task II - Field Work

includes a limited investigation of the on-site buildings and exterior stock piles of building materials and machinery; geophysical techniques (similar to those used by utility companies to locate underground pipes) will be used to identify underground features that may affect groundwater movement; installation of groundwater monitoring wells; an extensive environmental sampling program; an ecological evaluation of the project area. These activities will begin in March 1984 and field work should be completed in November 1984.

Task III - Data Evaluation and Report Preparation

following the collection of sufficient data, an assessment of the nature, extent and present and potential effects of the contamination will be made. An in-depth investigation summary report will be prepared. This should be completed by the end of 1984.

Task IV - Site Remediation Studies

remedial action alternatives will be developed and evaluated. An alternative will be selected and a conceptual design will be developed. A final feasibility study engineering report will be prepared and should be completed by April 1985.

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Following the completion of these tasks the recommended alternative will be submitted to the EPA with a request for funding to carry out a detailed engineering design and implementation of the actual remediation program.

FOLLOWING IS A REVIEW OF THE COMMENTS THAT WERE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING.

There were many questions that concerned the VAULT AREA located on the former battery plant property. The vault is an underground concrete container (approximately 20x40x8')that materials dredged from the cove in 1972/73 were put into. The area is fenced in and located on private property.

COMMENT: You have agreed to put up signs in the cove identifying the problem. We would also like to see a sign warning people about the vault area. REPLY: At this point there has not been any investigation around the vault or anywhere else on the plant property and we have no reason to believe that there is any danger. The vault area is also fenced in and on private property. We will, however, consider putting up a "posted/no trespassing" or "Area under investigation for heavy metal contamination" sign. We will keep you informed of any decision that is made.

COMMENT: Has the State checked the vault at anytime since it was put in? When it was put in a well was put in the center so that the vault could be checked. REPLY: The State has not checked on or monitored the vault since it was installed. We were not aware of the well located in the middle of the vault site. This kind of information helps us in our investigation. If the well is still intact it will become a sampling point in the program. Monitoring well installation is scheduled to be completed early in the project (March/April) so sampling could occur as soon as April.

COMMENT: Was the Army Corps of Engineers involved in the construction of the vault? REPLY: No. The vault was constructed by the Ninnie Corporation (Beacon, N.Y.).

COMMENT: If the study shows that the vault is secure and is not allowing any contamination to escape is there a mechanism for long term monitoring? It would be a shame to go through this whole study and then not monitor the site and eventually have to go through this whole process again. REPLY: The State will be responsible for operation and maintenance costs associated with the selected remedial program. The investigation includes the installation of monitoring wells and these could be left in place for use in long term monitoring if the vault is left in place.

COMMENT: Is it reasonable to expect that this waste could actually be taken away? REPLY: Investigating the vault and determining what problems it presents is part of the investigation. Until we know more about the vault's condition it's premature to determine what remedial action is appropriate. Actually taking the vault and the waste it contains away is a possibility. Among the problems with its removal are high cost and the difficulty in finding another site for it.

COMMENT: You keep talking about monitoring. If you just monitor and leave it the community is not helped at all! Couldn't blasting or

construction crack the vault or place cracks in the clay and then we'd be right back where we started? One of the things elevators have on them is a date stamp of when they were last checked. What kind of a guarantee do we have that the monitoring will continue? REPLY: Following the investigation we will be reviewing and evaluating various alternative remedial action programs. Throughout the evaluation of the alternatives we will continue to look for your assistance and input. Quality, cost, security and long term acceptability will be among the considerations that all alternatives will undergo.

If the recommended alternative is to leave the vault in place monitoring responsibilities, program duration, sampling frequency, etc., will all be parts of the alternative and only recommended following public evaluation and input.

COMMENT: Will this investigation include a study of what effect this problem might have on property values? REPLY: No, a study of property values is not included. Input concerning property values may influence alternative development and selection. Local assessors would be the best people to address property value concerns to.

COMMENT: Who is responsible for paying? Is the Marathon Corporation still in business? How much of the contamination is the Army Corps of Engineers responsible for? REPLY: The Cooperative Agreement between the EPA and DEC will fund 100% of the remedial investigation and feasibility study under the Federal Superfund program. This program allows the problem to be addressed prior to any legal action to determine the responsible party(s) that could take years to resolve.

Marathon Corporation is still in business and was owner of the plant during a portion of the period when wastes were improperly disposed. The Sonotone Corporation and the Army/Signal Corps were also owners during the period of improper disposal. Final determination of who is responsible and who should pay is a complicated issue that will take considerable time to resolve. In the meantime we will move ahead with funding from the superfund program.

COMMENT: On your blue information sheet it says that no groundwater contamination has been identified. What studies did this information come from? REPLY: The statement that no groundwater contamination has been identified referenced in the blue information sheet is from the narrative provided in the Cooperative Agreement prepared by the "USEPA." This material was probably part of the information discovered by a literature search performed by USEPA's zone contractor. At this point we are not sure where the statement originates. The important thing to note, however, is that wherever the statement comes from the present study includes an investigation to determine if there is any groundwater contamination.

COMMENT: Have there been any studies done of health effects? cancer, etc.? We think there is a lot of cancer here and that it should be looked into! REPLY: We don't know of any health effect studies that have been done. Health studies are not part of this engineering investigation and feasibility study. The type of study you suggest has definite merit. We

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will refer your request to the New York State Department of Health. We will keep you informed of any health information that we obtain.

COMMENT: Now that EPA has spent $625,000 on this program, how committed are they to spend the money necessary for remediation? REPLY: When a remedial alternative has been selected a recommendation for funding is submitted to EPA's Washington Office. They would then evaluate the recommendations and make a decision concerning funding. There is no guarantee that funding would be provided.

COMMENT: If the study does recommend that additional work be carried out (and it is funded), how long would it be before it actually got started? REPLY: The time between the authorization for funding and work actually starting will depend to a large degree on what remedial action is selected. Design of almost any alternative that involves much engineering work is likely to take at least 6 months.

COMMENT: Does this mean you're saying that actual remedial field work might not take place until 1986? REPLY: Yes, it is certainly possible that remedial field work might not be undertaken until 1986. If an imminent threat to health were identified emergency funds could be authorized and work could be started in a very short time.

COMMENT: Can we get the results of the sampling program and not just the recommendations? REPLY: Yes. Water (surface and ground), sediment and biota sampling will be performed over a six (6) to seven (7) month period (April-October). At the end of data collection there will be an investigation report submitted to DEC from our contractor, Acres American. This report will contain results from all samplings carried out during this period. There will be a public meeting to present and discuss the sampling results. Prior to the meeting, the report will be on display at the depositories (PROCO Office, 73A Main Street, and the Phillipston Town Hall) for public review.

COMMENT: Do you know what form the Cadimum (Cd) is in? REPLY: No. That is one of the things the investigation will determine. A portion of the samples taken in the cove will be sent to SUNY at Albany to be analyzed by a technique called Nuclear Magnetic Resonance. This should tell us what form the Cd is in.

COMMENT: Will this study restrict access to the cove? REPLY: No.

COMMENT: You mentioned the debris in the back of the plant. Will this be removed if it is found that it is not contaminated? REPLY: The debris you mentioned is private property and if it is found to be uncontaminated it will be the owners decision as to whether it should be moved or not.

At the meeting a few people expressed interest in having project documents available at the Town Hall. The local Conservation Advisory Council has agreed to let us use one of their files and the Town has agreed to maintain the file for us (thanks). From now on we will make project documents available at both the PROCO office 73A Main Street and at the Town Hall 234 Main Street.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Merchandise Dynamics Company for allowing the field office/project trailer to be located on their property. The arrival of the trailer will probably be the first field activity that you may see. The aireal and field survey will follow shortly after.

We want your input on this project. Please let us know your comments and concerns. We will keep you informed of project progress and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Bruce Bentley

Bruce Bentley
Citizen Participation Specialist

340206

2/23/84

MARATHON BATTERY SITE
COLD SPRING, NEW YORK
REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM

FACT SHEET NO. 1 FEBRUARY 1984

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste has selected the planning, engineering design and project management firm of Acres American Incorporated of Buffalo, New York to conduct a remedial investigation and feasibility study of the former Marathon Battery Site, Foundry Cove and environs. The project is being funded by EPA through the CERCLA "Superfund" Program under a Cooperative Agreement with the State.

For this project Acres will utilize the services of several subcontractors who will provide specialty technical services to the project.

Princeton Aqua Science of New Brunswick, New Jersey will coordinate and provide staff for the field sampling program. ERCO, a state certified analytical laboratory, will provide the majority of project and analytical services. Badey and Watson of Cold Spring will provide land surveying services while aerial photography is being carried out by Lockwood Support Services, Inc. Installation of borings and monitoring wells will be performed by Empire Soils Investigation, Inc.

Project activities are divided into four major tasks:

Task 1 - Preliminary Activities;
Task 2 - Field Work;
Task 3 - Data Evaluation and Report Preparation; and
Task 4 - Site Remediation Studies.

All of these tasks contain a number of subtasks which are briefly described as follows:

ACRES

Task 1 - Preliminary Activities

This task contains seven subtasks: a) Work Plan and Support Documentation; b) Data Compilation and Review; c) Project Work/Health and Safety Plan Implementation; d) Site Preparation; e) Site Base Map and Field Surveying; f) Community Relations; and g) Installation of Warning Signs.

Under this task Acres staff will prepare a detailed plan of how the project will be carried out, a plan for providing quality assurance especially in collecting, transporting, and analyzing the myriad number of samples that will be obtained and a plan to assure the health and safety of all those associated with implementing this project. These plans must receive State and EPA approval.

Acres will next collect all available historical data on the battery manufacturing operations; waste handling, storage, treatment and disposal practices, and prior area dredging and remedial action activities. Other information on this area including geology, soils, ecology, climate and hydrology will be collected.

Before beginning field activities, Acres will establish a field operations office in a construction trailer located near the project site.

In order to provide a control area to compare with the sampling data from Foundry Cove and environs, the Tivoli Bay area on the Hudson River in Dutchess County has been selected. This site, located in the Red Hook area, will provide background data especially for the sediment and biotic sampling program.

As a frame of reference for the sampling program and potential future remedial actions, a series of base maps will be developed from new aerial photography. These maps will be tied into existing state and federal horizontal and vertical control datums. All project information obtained, such as location of sampling points and monitoring wells, will be located on these maps.

Finally, under this task, Acres will furnish and install several warning signs in the project area. The wording on each sign and its location is being established by the DEC.

The above activities will occur during March and April of 1984.

Task 2 - Field Work

a) In-Plant Investigation; b) Geophysical Investigation; c) Hydrogeologic Investigation; d) Environmental Investigation; e) Ecological Investigation; and f) Hydraulic Monitoring/Modeling.

Acres staff will conduct a limited investigation of the onsite buildings and exterior stockpiles of building materials and machinery. The purpose of this activity is to identify potential problems with the ultimate disposition of the structures and assorted materials. Geophysical techniques will be used to confirm the location of the onsite vault and other underground features that could affect the overall investigation of the site.

Through the installation of several monitoring wells strategically located on the plant site, Acres plans to define the site geology and, in particular, the stratigraphy, aquifers, and aquitards within the plant site; determine the ground water flow patterns and gradients; define the nature and extent of any ground water contamination and perform a limited assessment of the local aquifer as a potable water source.

An extensive program of environmental sampling will take place throughout the project area (see Figures 2.1 and 2.2). Acres and its subcontractors will conduct: Sediment and Marsh Soil Sampling and Analysis; Surface Water Sampling and Analysis; Collection and Analysis of Soil Samples; and Ground Water Sampling and Analysis.

Specific objectives for the proposed Sediment and Marsh Soil Sampling and Analysis Program include definition of: the area, degree and depth of contamination; the physical and chemical characteristics of the sediments; the species of cadmium in the sediments and their tendencies to leach; and the sediment contamination dispersal pattern.

Specific objectives for the proposed Surface Water Sampling and Analysis Program include: definition of the concentration of contaminants dissolved and suspended in the water column and the background water chemistry affecting the availability and mobility of cadmium, nickel and cobalt; estimation of the rate at which the contaminants are being transported from the Foundry Cove area; estimation of the continued rate of contamination of the Cove from upland storm water runoff; and determination of the species of cadmium that are entering the water column.

Specific objectives for the proposed Soil Sampling and Analysis Program include: location of onsite areas of contamination, identification of the vertical distribution of contaminants; and verification of the level of contaminants in a particular stratigraphic interval.

Specific objectives for the proposed Ground Water Sampling and Analysis Program include: identification of contaminants present in the ground water; definition of the spatial distribution of these contaminants; and establishment of the direction and gradient of ground water flow.

An ecological evaluation of the project area will be conducted. The objectives of the evaluation include: a determination of the extent to which organisms representative of various trophic levels, life forms and habitats in the project area are bioaccumulating the contaminants; analysis of the present and potential ecological effects of the contaminants on the organisms and biological communities within Foundry Cove and adjacent environs; delineation of the species of cadmium that pose the greatest potential for bioaccumulation and toxicity; identification of potential pathways by which the contaminants can move through the food web; and assessment of potential human health concerns.

To address the above objectives the following program has been preposed: field sampling and analysis of tissues from aquatic , wetland and upland biota of different trophic levels and life forms in the study site and the Hudson River for the presence of cadmium, nickel and cobalt; assessment of the ecological impacts in the Foundry Cove vicinity (i.e. biomass, diversity and territological forms), and estimation of the possible impacts on

the aquatic biota of the Hudson River; evaluation of the pathways by which the contaminants could move, and possibly biomagnify, through the food web based on the analysis of organisms of difference trophic levels and foraging habitats; comparison of the body and tissue burdens of contaminants found at the various sites to the concentration and species of cadmium in the sediments, soils and water columns they inhabit, and evaluation of the tissue burdens of edible species to determine the potential exposure to humans.

Finally, under this task Acres will carry out a hydraulic monitoring program in Foundry and South Coves to document the estuary conditions found during the previously described field sampling program. This activity will also supplement the available information on the potential flushing of contaminated sediments from the coves into the Hudson River by tidal action. In addition, a dye injection study is proposed for the project area to develop transport rates and patterns for sediments which may be disturbed within this area.

It is anticipated that the foregoing activities under this task will begin in late March and proceed throughout the spring, summer and fall with the field program complete by mid-November 1984. During this period samples will be collected over several two week periods to reflect seasonal changes in the ecosystem.

Task 3 - Data Evaluation and Report Preparation

Once the field program has obtained sufficient data on the project area an assessment of contamination will be made. This assessment will focus on the nature and extent of the contamination, identifying the pathways for contaminant migration and present and potential effects of contaminant migration on human health and the environment.

An in-depth remedial investigation summary report will be prepared incorporating results of all field investigations including chemical analyses of ground water, surface water, sediment, soil and tissue samples. We anticipate submittal of a draft of this report by the end of 1984.

Task 4 - Site Remediation Studies

The purpose of this task is to develop and assess remedial alternatives for the plant site, Foundry Cove and environs in monetary and non-monetary terms to determine the most cost-effective remediation for these areas. The proposed approach to the remedial analysis includes: development of a universe of possible alternatives; screening, evaluation and ranking of alternatives; and selection and conceptual design of the remedial alternative(s). A final feasibility study engineering report will be prepared incorporating the data, information and concepts developed previously. It is anticipated that this report will be submitted by April 1985.

Once these tasks are completed future project activities may include detailed engineering design and preparation of construction documents for the remediation measures chosen and implementation of the actual remediation program.

340 006

Putnam County

914/225-3641

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

County Office Building
Two County Center
Carmel, New York
10512

January 4, 1984

INFORMATIONAL RELEASE

The Putnam County Division of Environmental Health Services (DEHS) and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation have recently evaluated proposals from consulting firms to conduct an investigation and feasibility study for further remedial action of the Marathon Battery site in the Village of Cold Spring. The site was placed on the USEPA Superfund list after being nominated by DEHS.

Under the Superfund $625,000 of federal monies have been set aside for a two-phase investigation and feasibility study on the Marathon Battery site. Areas to be studied include the biota, flora and fauna in Foundry Cove itself, biotransformation in the Cove , and migration into the Hudson River of fish, shellfish and other wildlife. The second subject of investigation will be evaluating the integrity of the vault adjacent to the factory building where cadmium-contaminated dredge spoils have been placed. Extensive geophysical and hydrogeological studies are planned to define the vault and its relationship to the groundwater table. The third subject of investigation will be the factory building itself. Samples of dust from heating and ventilation equipment and drains will be analyzed to see if there are any remnants of heavy metal contamination within the building itself.

The investigation is expected to begin by February 1984 and continue through November, 1984. The feasibility study should begin after investigations are complete in November and continue through March 1985. During the feasibility study, the site will be assessed in terms of alternatives for further remedial action.

Additional information will be disseminated through this office as it becomes available.