

# **FACT SHEET**

# State Superfund Program

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

**Site Name:** Old Chenango Canal

**DEC Site #:** 633051

**Address:** East Side of Route 12

Utica, NY 13503

Have questions?
See
"Who to Contact"
Below

# **Expedited Cleanup Action to Begin at State Superfund Site Availability Session Announced**

# Availability Session, Tuesday, December 5th from 5:00 to 7:00 PM Utica Public Library, 303 Genesee Street, Utica, New York

NYSDEC invites you to this discussion about cleanup activities about to begin at the site. Drop in any time during the session to ask questions and discuss the upcoming site activities.

Action is about to begin that will address the contamination related to the Old Chenango Canal site ("site") located in the southern section of the City of Utica near Rt. 12, under New York's State Superfund Program. Please see the figures below for the site location and work area.

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

Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." The cleanup activities will be performed by Honeywell International, Inc. with oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

## **Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities**

The goal of the cleanup action for the site is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment. The cleanup action for the site includes:

Excavation and disposal at a permitted facility of sediment and stream bank soil in the areas of highest contamination that exceeds 0.1 part per million (ppm) of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Surrounding soil outside the limits of the canal that exceeds 1 ppm PCBs will also be removed. Approximately 1,500 cubic yards of sediment and soil from a 3/4-acre area will be removed. During the removal a Community Air Monitoring Program and a Health and Safety Plan will be followed to protect the public and workers at the site. Following the removal, the site will be restored to promote recovery of the habitat.

### Additional Details

The investigation of the site (see "Background" below) included sampling surface water, sediment, and soil to identify contaminants of concern and to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the site. The results indicate that both soil and sediment are

contaminated with PCBs and the highest levels were detected at the southernmost portion of the site. Based on these results, an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) will be performed in the southernmost area to expeditiously remove the highest levels of contamination. See "Work Area" on the attached figure. Any necessary remediation of the remaining portion of site will be performed following completion of the investigation for the balance of the site, which is expected in 2018. Work in the southernmost section is scheduled to begin in November 2017 and be completed in December 2017. Work this fall will also include installation of fencing and signs to reduce the potential for exposure to remaining site contamination.

# **Next Steps**

After completion of the cleanup activities, Honeywell International, Inc. will prepare a Construction Completion Report. The Construction Completion Report will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved.

The NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the cleanup of the site.

### **Background**

Location: The Old Chenango Canal Site is located in an urban/industrial area in the City of Utica. The site is adjacent to the NYS Route 12 Arterial and begins at the end of a storm sewer, which originates at the former Bendix Facility on Seward Avenue, and extends a distance 150 feet beyond its confluence with Nail Creek. It passes through or adjacent to a combination of industrial, commercial and residential properties and vacant land.

Site Features: The Old Chenango Canal is an engineered drainage way which receives storm water from various road grates and developed properties near French Road. The Old Chenango Canal is comprised of steel and concrete culverts, stone lined channel, and open, unlined channel.

Current Zoning/Use: The Old Chenango Canal is part of the City of Utica's and the NYSDOT's drainage system.

Past Use of the Site: The Chenango Canal operated from 1836 to 1878, linking Binghamton to the Erie Canal in Utica. Highway construction circa 1960 included relocating the canal parallel to the highway. In 2003 sediment sampling was conducted by the NYSDEC to evaluate PCB impacts to the Old Chenango Canal and Nail Creek. PCBs were found up to 1300 ppm in the Old Chenango Canal samples. It was determined that the source of the PCBs was the Former Bendix Facility on Seward Avenue. Bendix was acquired by Honeywell International in 1983.

Operable Units: An operable unit represents a portion of a remedial program for a site that for technical or administrative reasons can be addressed separately to investigate, eliminate or mitigate a release, threat of release or exposure pathway resulting from the site contamination. The Old Chenango Canal is comprised of two (2) operable units.

Operable Unit Number 1 (OU1) is the Old Chenango Canal and Nail Creek section extending downstream or offsite to the entrance of the City of Utica's box culvert. This is predominately an open channel between two storm sewers and is approximately 3,600 feet in length.

Operable Unit Number 2 (OU2) is entirely off site and consists of the Utica Box Culvert and lower Nail Creek between the culvert and the Mohawk River. The culvert is approximately 9,350 feet long and terminates near Haak Avenue. The lower Nail Creek segment is approximately 1,200 feet long and is predominately an unlined channel. The channel passes beneath an active rail corridor.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: The Old Chenango Canal is comprised of steel and concrete culverts, stone lined channel, and open, unlined channel. Groundwater adjacent the Canal and Creek is expected to flow in a northerly direction toward the Canal and Creek.

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

http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=633051

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

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

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

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### Where to Find Information

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

Utica Public Library Attn: Ms. Sara Billman 303 Genesee Street Utica, New York 13501 Phone: 315-735-2279

#### Who to Contact

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

**Project Related Questions** 

Peter Ouderkirk
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
317 Washington St
Watertown, NY 13601-3787
315-785-2523
peter.ouderkirk@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions
Sara Bogardus
New York State Department of Health
547 River Street
Troy, NY
518-402-7860
BEEI@health.ny.gov

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

# **Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email**

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



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



