

**NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF**



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION**

**Dear Interested Citizen:**

This fact sheet is being provided to update you on upcoming construction activities at the ETE landfill site. If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact:

**Mr. Michael Cruden, P.E.**

Construction Project Manager  
NYSDEC

625 Broadway  
Albany, New York 12233-7013  
**(518) 402-9814**  
mjcruden@gw.dec.state.ny.us

or

**Mr. Eugene Melnyk, P.E.**

Construction Project Engineer  
NYSDEC

270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
**(716) 851-7220**  
ewmelnyk@gw.dec.state.ny.us

For **site-related health** questions,  
please contact:

**Mr. Cameron O'Connor**

Public Health Specialist.  
NYS Dept. of Health

584 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
**(716) 847-4385**

Project documents for the ETE landfill site are available for your review at the locations identified on the last page.

# FACT SHEET

## Landfill Consolidation and Capping Project to begin at ETE Landfill Site

Site # 9-61-005

August 2006

### Introduction

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is pleased to inform you that construction activities for the waste consolidation and capping project at the ETE Landfill site will soon begin. Improvements to the landfill are necessary to address soil and groundwater contamination that resulted from past improper disposal of municipal and industrial waste at the site.

The State has selected Patrick Concrete Constructors, Inc. (PCC) to perform the waste consolidation and capping project at the ETE Landfill site. Construction will begin in September 2006 and is expected to be completed by mid 2007.

### Site Background

The ETE Landfill is a 20 acre site located on Broughton Road in the Town of Gainesville, Wyoming County. (See site map on last page.) From 1969 to 1979, the site operated as an un-permitted, private landfill that accepted municipal and industrial waste from six surrounding towns in Wyoming County. Improper disposal of industrial waste such as paint sludge, plating wastes, and chlorinated solvents, resulted in the contamination of soil and groundwater at the site. The property was owned by ETE Corporation, who declared bankruptcy in 1979 and ceased all landfill operations.

In 1998, a Remedial Investigation (RI) was completed at the site to determine the type and location of contamination. Data from the investigation indicated that approximately seven acres of the ETE site contained landfill waste. Following the RI, a Feasibility Study (FS) was conducted to identify and evaluate the appropriate cleanup alternatives. The FS was used to select an appropriate cleanup plan or "Remedial Design" for the site. The Remedial Design was finalized on November 14, 2000.

Investigations confirmed that hazardous wastes were disposed of on-site, resulting in exceedances of groundwater standards, and migration hazardous contaminants into nearby surface waters. Fortunately, NYS Department of Health (DOH) testing of private wells in the area in 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 2001, and 2002 did not indicate the presence of any known site-related contaminants in private wells. The ETE Landfill site is listed as a Class "2" site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites. A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment, whereby corrective action is required.

The selected cleanup plan for the ETE Landfill site is described in detail in a “Record of Decision” (ROD) for the site. The ROD documents the plan selected by DEC and DOH, and gives detail about the information and rationale used to select the final plan. Included in the ROD is a summary of public participation activities undertaken by DEC, including the holding of a public meeting on March 3, 1999. The ROD and other project documents can be viewed at the locations listed below under the heading, “For More Information.”

### **What will the upcoming work involve?**

Based on the ROD, Upcoming activities to improve and remediate the ETE Landfill site will include:

1. Consolidating waste, regrading, and covering areas that contain waste with a “cap”. The cap serves as a barrier, preventing exposure to the waste, and minimizing the formation and migration of leachate from the waste. The cover system will include a passive landfill gas venting system.
2. Permanently draining the South Pond to significantly reduce leachate production and reduce the threat to down gradient residents. Wastes currently under the South Pond will be excavated and consolidated under the landfill cap.
3. Excavating contaminated sediments from the North Pond and placing them under the landfill cap, and expanding the north pond by approximately one acre. The expansion of the north pond will partially compensate for the loss of aquatic habitat from the permanent drainage of the South Pond.
4. Installing and monitoring two additional well clusters down gradient of the site to detect potential future off-site migration of groundwater contamination towards residences.
5. Imposing institutional controls, such as an environmental easement, that will prevent the use of groundwater as a source of drinking or process water without necessary water quality treatment.
6. Setting up a monitoring program that includes periodically sampling groundwater, surface water, private wells and landfill gas vents to monitor the effectiveness of the landfill cap.

Construction management and inspection services will be performed by DEC.

### **Project Schedule**

The capping and consolidation project at the ETE Landfill site will begin in September 2006 and is expected to be completed by mid 2007. Routine monitoring and maintenance will continue at the site beyond completion of construction.

Work is anticipated to occur Monday through Friday for approximately ten hours per day. The first month of activity will consist primarily of mobilizing equipment, materials and manpower to perform the work. The contract includes provisions for PCC to minimize noise, odors and dust from the site during construction work, as well as perform community air monitoring. PCC has prepared several construction documents, including a remedial work plan, quality assurance/quality control plan, health and safety plan and sampling plans for the work to be performed. Efforts will be made to minimize disruption to the nearby community. Thank you for your patience while necessary improvements to this site are made.

## For More Information

Project related documents for the ETE Landfill site are available for review at the locations listed below. If you have questions regarding this site, please feel free to contact the representatives identified in the box on the left side of the first page.

Gainesville Town Library  
10 Church Street  
Silver Springs, NY 14550  
(716) 493-2970

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 9 Office  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
Please call 716-851-7220 for an appointment  
Hours: 8:30 AM -4:30 PM  
Contact: Eugene Melnyk

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
625 Broadway, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-7013  
518-402-9814  
Hours 8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.  
Contact: Michael Cruden

