Study Area
Bounded by Pyrex Street, E. Pulteney Street, Post Creek, and Chemung River
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
&
New York State Department of Health Representatives

Greg MacLean, NYSDEC Project Manager

Bart Putzig, NYSDEC Regional Hazardous Waste Engineer

Melissa Doroski, NYSDOH Project Manager
Meeting Agenda

• Project Background - NYSDEC
• Health Overview - NYSDOH
• Study Area Characterization Plan – Corning Incorporated/Weston
• Questions and Answers - All
East High Expansion Project

- Encountered Fill During Excavations
  - Ash, Brick and Glass

- Primary Constituents of Concern Found During Characterization for Disposal
  - Lead, Cadmium and Arsenic
East High Expansion Project

• Fill Material Disposed Off-Site:
  – 7,880 Tons as Hazardous Waste
  – 24,795 Tons as Non-Hazardous Waste
Typical Fill Containing Ash, Brick and Glass
Limitations of Soil Data

- Initial soil data collected for waste disposal determination (i.e., hazardous vs. non-hazardous waste)
- Not a characterization of what remains in the ground across the facility
- Limited ability to correlate waste disposal data to excavation location
What is Hazardous Waste

• Defined under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976

• Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP)
  – Simulates how soils will leach in a landfill (acidic environment).
  – Measured as concentration of contaminant present in leachate
  – Also used to evaluate whether soil contamination has the potential to impact groundwater
Soil Cleanup Objectives (SCOs)

• Developed by NYSDEC, in consultation with NYSDOH, in 2006

• Use-based Objectives
  – SCOs for Residential Use apply to the Study Area
Soil Cleanup Objectives (SCOs)

- SCOs Measured as TOTAL Concentration of Contaminant in a Soil Sample (mg/kg)

- NOT the Same as TCLP

- TCLP Measures is the Concentration of Contaminant in Leachate (mg/l)
Primary Constituents of Concern

- **Lead**
  - 65 of 220 samples exceed hazardous waste levels
  - 69 of 166 samples equal or exceed the Residential SCO

- **Cadmium**
  - 3 of 220 samples exceed hazardous waste levels
  - 88 of 166 samples equal or exceed the Residential SCO

- **Arsenic**
  - No samples exceed hazardous waste levels
  - 84 of 166 samples equal or exceed the Residential SCO
Other Potential Constituents of Concern

• Other Metals
  – Limited list of 8 RCRA metals sampled for
  – No other hazardous waste exceedances
  – Out of 166 samples analyzed, Residential SCOs were equaled or exceeded in 14 samples for barium, 12 samples for mercury, and 1 sample for chromium.
Other Potential Constituents of Concern

• PCBs
  – Detected in 28 of 217 samples
  – No exceedances of Residential SCOs

• Additional Analytes
  – No data for total concentrations of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) or Semi-VOCs
Role of the DOH

Evaluate the ways in which an individual could be exposed to contaminants.

• Ensure appropriate samples are collected: review work plans.
• Review and evaluate sampling results.
• Recommend measures to prevent/minimize exposures, if any.
• Help communicate information.
Routes of Exposure

The physical contact with a chemical or substance

- direct contact (touching)
- ingestion (eating/drinking)
- inhalation (breathing)

One or more of these physical contacts must occur before a chemical has the potential to cause a health problem.
How will this study evaluate exposure?

Information will be collected to determine whether fill material represents an exposure concern for people in the study area.

- Collection of soil samples at/near the surface.
- Collection of soil samples under the ground.
- Collection of groundwater samples.
Practical Measures to Reduce Potential Exposure

In the interim, there are things people can do if they are concerned that contaminated fill may be present on their property.

- Minimize direct and repeated contact with soils. Avoid unnecessary digging.
- Wear gloves when working in the garden and avoid bringing soil inside the house by brushing off your clothes and remove shoes and gloves.
- Wash hands with soap and water after outdoor activities/gardening.
- Doormats and periodic damp mopping of floors for soil that might be tracked indoors.
- Consider growing vegetables in raised beds – use untreated wood to make the beds.
- Maintenance of a grass or mulch cover.
Corning Incorporate/Weston Presentation
Next Steps

- DEC/DOH will keep the Public Updated:
  - During the sample collection process;
  - As the sample results are evaluated;
  - By communicating the results and recommended action(s), if necessary.
To Stay Informed

- NYSDEC Study Area Website
  www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/97180.html

- List-Serv Signup
  www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html

- Document Repository
  Southeast Steuben County Library
  300 Nasser Civic Center Plaza
  Suite 101
  Corning, NY 14830
  Phone (607) 936-3713
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QUESTIONS?