

Fact Sheet

Status of Interim Remedial Measures Duracell Inc. Site, Site ID No. 360011 Sleepy Hollow, Westchester County, New York

The Gillette Company
Bethel, Connecticut

January 2013

Introduction

The intent of this fact sheet is to update residents and the interested public on the progress of the Interim Remedial Measures (IRMs) at the Duracell Inc. Site (Site) located in Sleepy Hollow, New York. Remedial activities got off to a solid start thanks to the close collaboration of the community. These activities included removal of soil from select properties in the vicinity of the Site that contained mercury concentrations greater than the remedial goal established for the Site by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

Implementation of the IRMs is protective of human health and the environment and minimizes the potential for exposure to affected soil. This fact sheet provides information about the IRMs and the status of the project.

Background

For periods between 1944 and 1984, a battery manufacturing facility operated at the Site located at 60 Elm Street. The facility was originally operated by P.R. Mallory. Duracell began operations at the Site in 1979 and the facility was closed in 1984. As a result of operations at the former battery plant, certain environmental impacts have been identified and are being addressed.

Between September and December 2010, The Gillette Company (Gillette), which acquired Duracell, collected and analyzed over 1,600 soil samples from 146 properties in the vicinity of the Site at the direction of the NYSDEC. The sample results indicated inorganic mercury concentrations ranging from not detected to 180 parts per million (ppm), with the highest mercury concentrations found closer to the Site.

A Site-Specific Soil Cleanup Objective (SSSCO) of 4.8 ppm for inorganic mercury was approved by the NYSDEC in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), and serves as the remedial goal for the Site. This goal has been evaluated and deemed protective of health by the NYSDEC and the NYSDOH based on consideration of potential exposures through ingestion of soil, dust and homegrown fruits and vegetables. A review of the soil sampling results indicates that approximately 80 properties contain inorganic mercury in soil above the remedial goal and require cleanup.

IRM Implementation

Following NYSDEC approval of the IRM Work Plan in April 2012, Gillette prepared the necessary design plans and specifications for the work.

This included taking photographs of each property in its current state and collecting survey information; developing plans that are applicable to all properties (Health and Safety Plan, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, Community Air Monitoring Plan, and Transportation Plan); and developing property-specific drawings showing excavation, backfill and restoration plans for the first group of IRM properties.

Following NYSDEC approval of all plans and property-specific drawings, Gillette began meeting with each property owner to discuss the work being proposed for their property (the remediation plan), as well as the planned restoration (the restoration plan). Ultimately, each owner signed an access and remediation/restoration agreement for their property before work began.

Once agreements from the property owners were obtained, the final plans were provided to the Village of Sleepy Hollow for review and approval. The Village's approval was necessary prior to issuing a building permit for the work.

Remediation Work Initiated in August 2012

From September through December 2012 Gillette completed IRMs at seven properties. AECOM, an environmental engineering firm working for Gillette, provided oversight for the work performed by Viasant, an environmental services contractor.

The first task completed at each property was to mark underground utilities as well as the construction area. The "work area" (the zone where the excavation occurred) was then cordoned off, and cleared of materials and debris. This included plants and trees, and small structures.

Next, soil was excavated, containerized, and transported off-site to an approved disposal facility. Confirmation samples were collected and analyzed to verify that the



remedial goal was met for each property. If the remedial goal was not achieved, additional soil was excavated. Once all sample results confirmed that the remedial goal was met, the excavated areas were backfilled with clean soil and the properties were restored as near as possible to their pre-work condition.

Safety Measures During Remediation Work

Cleanup activities are being conducted under the direction of the NYSDEC in a manner that is protective of public health and safety and in accordance with the approved site-specific health and safety plan. For example, the work areas were surrounded with temporary construction fencing, and one field staff member was dedicated to site safety -- including preventing unauthorized individuals from entering the work areas. In addition, silt fencing and/or straw bales were placed around the excavation areas to prevent migration of contaminated soils during remedial activities or rain events.

A community air monitoring program, which was reviewed and approved by the NYSDEC in consultation with the NYSDOH, was implemented during the entire cleanup process. Dust levels were monitored continuously during cleanup operations and measures were taken, as necessary, to minimize the amount of fugitive dust (e.g., washing or wetting down the work area and equipment with water, and applying spray-mulch to exposed soil).

Remediation Work Suspended for Winter Months (December 2012-March 2013)

Site work has been suspended for the winter and we expect it to resume in the spring. However, during these winter months, we will be busy meeting with the next group of property owners, whose properties will be remediated during the 2013 construction season. Gillette and AECOM will meet with property owners to review the remediation plans for their properties, and obtain their agreement to conduct the cleanup work.

Local Project Office

Our Project Office, located at 160 Cortlandt Street, will be open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM and by appointment during these winter months. Once again, we thank the residents for their cooperation. We look forward to continued progress in the spring.



Example Post-Remediation Photographs

For Additional Information

If you have further questions, you may call our toll free telephone number or send a comment via e-mail:

(toll free) 877.410.8412 OR info@formermallorybatteryfactory.com

You may also contact the NYSDEC and NYSDOH project managers for the Site. Please refer to the Duracell Inc. Site when submitting questions.

Project-Related Questions

Dan Lanners, NYSDEC Project Mgr.

(866) 520-2334

drlanner@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions

Fay Navratil, NYSDOH Project Mgr.

(518) 402-7880

beei@health.state.ny.us

In addition, three document repositories have been established to provide the public with convenient access to important project documents and other information. These repositories can be found at the **Warner Public Library** (Tarrytown, NY), **Village of Sleepy Hollow Office**, and the **NYSDEC Region 3 Office** (New Paltz, NY).