



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Safety Light Corporation Site
Bloomsburg, Columbia County, PA
May 2005



--Safety Light Corp. Site Added to EPA's National Priorities List--

SLC added to the NPL...

On April 27, 2005, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) included the Safety Light Corporation (SLC) Site onto the National Priorities List (NPL). The NPL is EPA's national list of uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites identified for long-term cleanup.

When a site is added to the NPL, it becomes eligible for long-term federal cleanup funds under the Comprehensive Environmental and Restoration Compensation Law Act (CERCLA), better known as the Superfund program.

EPA is using both its removal and remedial programs to address contamination caused by previous on-site manufacturing of radioactive materials. The removal program focuses on short-term cleanup actions to reduce potential health risks posed by on-site contamination. The remedial program involves long-term cleanup design plans and operations.

Removal Program Activities...

- EPA work plans and health and safety plans are completed for removal activities at the Site.
- Disposal work for the on-site silo wastes will begin in early summer 2005.

EPA's federal On-Scene Coordinator will continue to work closely with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) during removal activities.



Next Steps...

Once a site has been added to the NPL, the next step in the Superfund process is the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS), often conducted at the same time. The RI/FS is a long-term study used to find out the extent of the contamination and if there are any potential long-term exposure risks to human health or the environment. The study will also help determine the best cleanup methods to use at the Site. Work for the RI/FS includes:

- Sampling of eight nearby residential wells to test for site-related contamination (completed);
- Mailing individual sampling results to the property owners who had their wells tested (due out May 2005);

EPA respects the privacy of property owners and considers personal information, such as specific names, addresses and test results, as confidential. However the overall water quality results will be shared with the community.

- Designing an investigation plan for on-site groundwater (scheduled to begin in summer 2005);
- Interviewing individual residents to help design the Site's Community Involvement Plan (CIP). Interviews include a short survey and an opportunity to discuss site-related concerns or questions (scheduling will begin in June 2005).

The CIP establishes the preferred methods of communication between EPA and the community regarding any Site information, updates and ongoing activities.

Background...

The SLC Site is located on Old Berwick Road in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania. Past activities at the Site include the manufacturing of:

- self-illuminated watches and instrument dials,
- smoke detectors,
- exit signs, and
- other products containing radioactive materials (such as radium-226, strontium-90, cesium-137, and tritium).

EPA is working together on this project with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), a federal public health service agency.

For more information, visit one of these EPA websites at: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund> and <http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd>.

Let Us Know What You Think

Community Involvement is a critical part of EPA's decision making process.

If you would like to participate in the interviews that will help design the Community Involvement Plan (CIP) for the Site, please contact:

Trish Taylor, Community Involvement Coordinator, by:

- ✓ Mail: 1650 Arch Street (Mailcode 3HS43), Philadelphia, PA 19103
- ✓ Phone: (215) 814-5539
- ✓ Email: taylor.trish@epa.gov
- ✓ Superfund Hotline: (800) 553-2509

Interviews will begin in June 2005.

EPA Adds Safety Light Corporation Site to the NPL

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