

Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corporation (SMC) Superfund Site

Newfield, NJ

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2

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Section 1: Overview of the Community Involvement Plan

The EPA's community involvement program is committed to promoting communication between the public and the Agency. Active public involvement is crucial to the success of any public project. Community involvement activities at the SMC site are designed to inform the public of the nature of environmental issues associated with the site, involve the public in the process that will affect them, and inform the public of the progress being made to implement the cleanup.

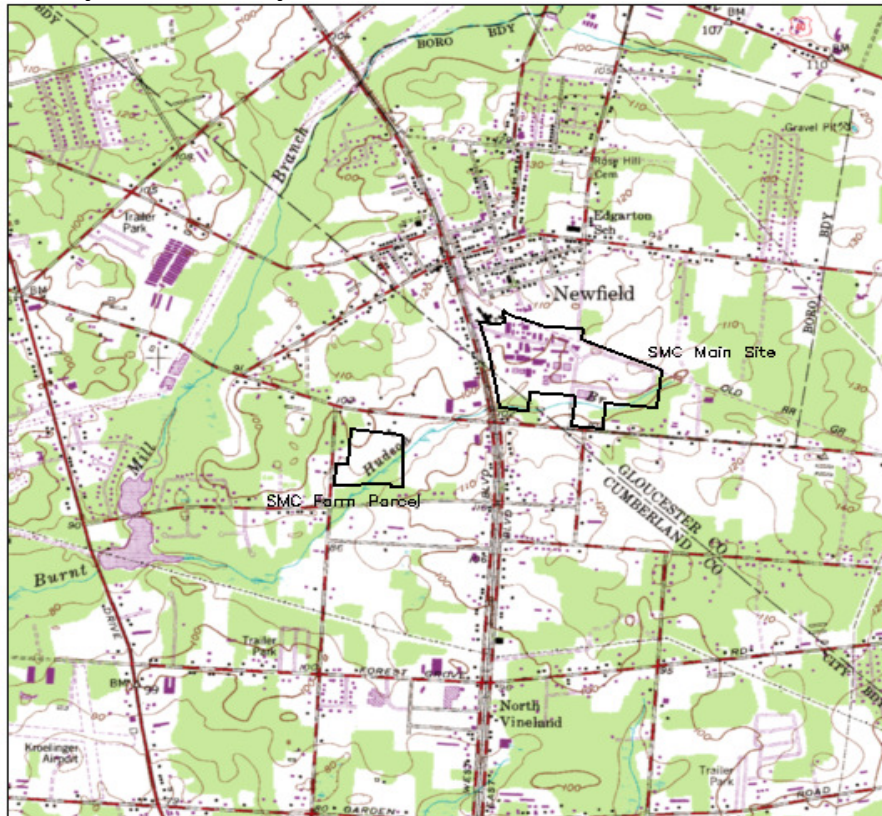
These goals will be achieved through various means, including published documents, public meeting and other activities.

The purpose of the Community Involvement Plan is not to provide technical answers to the community's questions, but to show how, when and where EPA and NJDEP will provide information the public needs to understand EPA's work and to show how stakeholders can be actively involved throughout the cleanup process.

EPA's Regional Office will oversee the implementation of the community involvement activities outlined in this Plan.

Section 2: Site Description

The site comprises two parcels. The larger parcel is the 67.7 acre SMC facility located at 35 South West Boulevard, in the Borough of Newfield, Gloucester County, New Jersey with a small portion of the southwestern corner located in the City of Vineland, Cumberland County, New Jersey.



SOURCE: NEWFIELD, N.J. QUADRANGLE, 1953, PHOTOREVISED 1984,
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP)

— SITE PROPERTY BOUNDARY

The SMC facility is bordered to the north by a rail spur and an inactive landfill; to the east by a wooded area, residences and small businesses; to the south by residences located along Weymouth Road; and to the west by Conrail rail lines, South West Boulevard, and various light industries and residences. The smaller parcel is the 19.8 acres of noncontiguous farmland, referred to as the farm parcel, in the City of Vineland approximately 2,000 feet southwest of the facility.

The site is being addressed as three operable units. OU1 consists of the non-perchlorate contamination in the groundwater at the site. The DEP issued a Record of Decision for OU1 in 1996 with EPA concurrence and it is in the long-term operation and maintenance phase. OU2 consists of the non-perchlorate contamination in the soil, surface water, and sediment. OU2 is in the Proposed Plan phase. The main contaminants of concern for OU2 are chromium and vanadium. OU3 consists of the perchlorate contamination in any medium (groundwater, soil, surface water, sediment, air etc.) at the site and is in the remedial investigation/feasibility study phase.

History

Specialty glass manufacturing began at the facility in the early 1900s. Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corporation purchased the facility in the early 1950s. From 1955 to approximately 2006, SMC manufactured specialty steel and super alloy additives, primary aluminum master alloys, metal carbides, powdered metals and optical surfacing products at the facility. Production processes also included chromium metal, chromium oxide, vanadium pentoxide, ferro-vanadium, uranium oxide, thorium oxide, ferro-columbium and columbium nickel. General facility operations, product spills and wastewater discharges contributed to the contamination of the site.

The facility is used by SMC as office space and leased by SMC to various construction companies and to Newfield Borough for warehousing. The facility is secured by a locked perimeter chain link fence. The Hudson Branch, an intermittent stream, runs along the southern edge of the facility and discharges to Burnt Mill Pond.

Chromium contamination of the groundwater was first detected by NJDEP in 1970 in a Borough of Newfield municipal well and a private well. As a result, NJDEP directed SMC to perform groundwater investigations to determine the extent of the chromium contamination and to develop an appropriate remedial action. SMC purchased the farm parcel in 1970 to construct a groundwater extraction and treatment system. In 1979, SMC began pumping and treating chromium contaminated groundwater.

In September, 1983, the SMC site was proposed for inclusion on the National Priorities List pursuant to Superfund law. The site was added to the NPL in September 1984.

In 1991, SMC completed a site-wide remedial investigation. The remedial investigation indicated that the groundwater, soil, surface water and sediments were contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and metals. Supplemental remedial investigation activities were conducted in 1995 to delineate the extent of contamination. A feasibility study report was completed in 1996.

In September 1996, the DEP issued a Record of Decision for OU1 with EPA's concurrence. The selected remedy includes modification of the groundwater remediation treatment system to optimize the capture of contaminated groundwater, air stripping to remove VOCs from the groundwater, electrochemical treatment with supplemental treatments as needed to remove inorganic contaminants, especially metals, and discharge of the treated groundwater to the surface waters of Hudson Branch. Pilot studies are ongoing to evaluate the effectiveness of in situ remedies to remediate the groundwater contamination (OU1).

Site Contamination

The SMC Facility soils are contaminated with vanadium and chromium, although much of the Facility is protected by existing caps. The risk associated with the Facility soils are primarily to future construction workers. Certain parts of Hudson Branch sediments (from the Facility to just past the Farm Parcel) are contaminated with vanadium, chromium, copper, lead and nickel. The risk assessment evaluated the potential human health risks to 1) a recreational trespasser exposed to facility surface soils, sediments in the impoundments, Hudson Branch, and Burnt Mill Pond, and surface water in Hudson Branch and Burnt Mill Pond, 2) an on-site worker exposed to on-site surface soils, and 3) a construction/utility worker exposed to surface soils and subsurface soils.

The cancer risks for the recreational trespasser and the on-site worker fall within the EPA target risk range of 10^{-6} to 10^{-4} and the noncancer hazard indices (HIs) are less than the EPA reference level of 1. The cancer risk for the construction/utility worker also falls within the EPA target risk range of 10^{-6} to 10^{-4} . The noncancer HI for the future construction worker is 2, slightly above the EPA reference level of 1, primarily based on inhalation of vanadium in fugitive dust.

The contaminants present some ecological risk to certain birds which may forage in the area. Based on a single sample location, a small “pond area” of the Hudson Branch immediately downstream of the farm parcel near the corner of North West Avenue and Arbor Street (less than ½ acre) also may be affected. The groundwater from the Facility to the Farm Parcel is contaminated with chromium. Extensive remediation has been performed to remediate this contamination. There is also TCE (a volatile organic compound, VOC) contamination in the groundwater under the Facility. The VOC contamination continues downgradient of the Facility and past the Farm Parcel, and includes contributions (TCE and PCE) from non-SMC offsite activities.

Section 3: Community Profile

Newfield Population

As of the most recent United States Census, 2010, there were 1,553 people, 579 households, and 452.8 families residing in the borough. The population density was 912.0 per square mile (352.1 /km²). There were 626 housing units at an average density of 367.6 per square mile (141.9 /km²). The racial makeup of the borough was 94.66% (1,470) White, 2.19% (34) Black or African American, 0.26% (4) Native American, 0.32% (5) Asian, 0.00% (0) Pacific Islander, 0.97% (15) from other races, and 1.61% (25) from two or more races. Hispanics or Latinos of any race were 6.57% (102) of the population.

There were 579 households of which 31.1% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 59.2% were married couples living together, 12.4% had a female householder with no husband present, and 21.8% were non-families. 18.3% of all households were made up of individuals and 7.6% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.68 and the average family size was 3.03.

In the borough, 23.4% of the population were under the age of 18, 7.0% from 18 to 24, 24.5% from 25 to 44, 31.0% from 45 to 64, and 14.1% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 41.5 years. For every 100 females there were 93.2 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 91.9 males.

Vineland Population

At the 2010 United States Census, there were 60,724 people, 21,450 households, and 15,230 families residing in the city. The population density was 887.5 per square mile (342.7 /km²). There were 22,661 housing units at an average density of 331.2 per square mile (127.9 /km²). The racial makeup of the city was 67.03% (40,703) White, 14.16% (8,600) Black or African American, 0.67% (406) Native American, 1.71% (1,036) Asian, 0.04% (24) Pacific Islander, 12.91% (7,841) from other races, and 3.48% (2,114) from two or more races. Hispanics or Latinos of any race were 38.03% (23,093) of the population.

There were 21,450 households of which 31.3% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 46.2% were married couples living together, 18.2% had a female householder with no husband present, and 29.0% were non-families. 23.3% of all households were made up of individuals and 10.8% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.76 and the average family size was 3.23.

In the city, 24.5% of the population were under the age of 18, 9.4% from 18 to 24, 26.2% from 25 to 44, 26.0% from 45 to 64, and 13.9% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 37.7 years. For every 100 females there were 92.4 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 88.1 males.

Section 4: Community Issues and Concerns

Residents in the communities have concerns about the future of the SMC site, and the impacts on the economy of the area. To date, the future use of the SMC site has not been determined, but SMC is hopeful that the site can be returned to useful service.

Also, the community has expressed concerns about some radiological issues at the site. These radiological issues are not managed by the EPA, and are not specifically covered in this CIP. The radiological issues are currently managed by the NJDEP (please contact them for information).

From an archeological perspective, a Stage 2 cultural resources survey was prepared and indicated that no cultural resources of significant exist at the facility.

Section 5: Community Involvement Action Plan

This section describes the specific activities and resources that EPA will use to help the community be actively involved in the cleanup process. Whenever EPA begins work on a site, it identifies a point of contact for community questions, issues or concerns. The two primary points of contact for the SMC Site are:

Sherrel Henry
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. EPA, Region 2
290 Broadway, 20th Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866
212-637-4273
henry.sherrel@epa.gov

Wanda Ayala
Community Involvement Coordinator
US EPA Region 2
290 Broadway
New York, NY 10007-1866
(212) 637-3676
ayala.wanda@epa.gov

Donna L. Gaffigan, Case Manager
NJDEP, Bureau of Case Management
Mail Code 401-05F
P.O. Box 420 (US Mail)
401 East State Street, 5th floor (Package Delivery)
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
(609) 633-1494
Donna.Gaffigan@dep.state.nj.us

In addition to providing an EPA representative to answer questions, EPA uses other tools and techniques to support the community's involvement in EPA's work.

1. Fact Sheets, handouts and flyers

Fact Sheets are EPA's principal method of providing site-related information to the community. They are short (two to four page) documents, written in non-technical language, which can be e-mailed directly to the site's mailing list, posted on the SMC EPA webpage, mailed directly to residents or provided at meetings. They often summarize larger, technical documents. They include EPA contact information and refer people to the site related webpage or site repository for more technical information. EPA will create fact sheets as events dictate or in response to community requests for specific kinds of information.

Flyers are one-page notices that are generally used to announce meetings. EPA can e-mail and/or mail flyers, post them to the webpage, and can also place them as display ads in local papers

2. Community Meetings

EPA holds public meetings at various milestones and at the request of the community. The public meetings are organized to convey Site information via presentations and discussions, and to answer questions from community members. Each meeting will be structured to fit its purpose by using different formats (e.g. town hall meetings, open houses, informal roundtables, powerpoint presentations, etc.).

3. Web Site

EPA has created a website specifically for this Site. The website includes electronic copies of EPA's investigation documents and will be one location for viewing the proposed cleanup plans as they are developed. EPA will update the webpage on a regular basis. The website for the SMC Site is located at:

<http://www.epa.gov/region2/superfund/npl/shieldalloy/>

4. Information Repository and Administrative Record

EPA maintains a local public site file, which is called the "Information Repository." The Information Repository contains hardcopies of major site documents, fact sheets and other relevant items. Electronic copies on compact disk are available for some documents as well. The information repository for the SMC Site is located at:

Newfield Public Library
115 Catawba Ave
Newfield, NJ 08344

When EPA is ready to formally propose a cleanup action, it collects documents that were used to develop and analyze the proposed action. This collection of technical documents is called the Administrative Record, and it will be located in the Information Repository.

5. Mailing List

EPA maintains a mailing list for distribution of fact sheets and meeting notices. To be added or deleted from the mailing list, contact EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator (see contact information above).

6. E-mail Group

EPA maintains an e-mail list for electronic distribution of fact sheets, meeting notes, and periodic site updates. To be added or deleted from the mailing list, contact EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator (see above).

7. Proposed Plan

When EPA is ready to formally propose a cleanup plan, it creates a special document called a Proposed Plan. The Proposed Plan summarizes the contamination that has been found, compares the various ways that the contamination can be cleaned up, and identifies one preferred alternative that EPA thinks balances all considerations. This is the most important time for community input.

EPA distributes the Proposed Plan to its mailing list, holds a minimum 30-day public comment period and conducts a public meeting where the Proposed Plan is discussed and public comments are taken.

8. Responsiveness Summary for the Proposed Plan Comment Period

When EPA makes a final decision about which cleanup methods it will use, it creates a document that explains how it has addressed the public comments that were received (see above #7 Proposed Plan). This document is called a Responsiveness Summary, and it is a part of EPA's decision document called a Record of Decision.

9. Formal and Informal Comment Periods

As discussed above (#7 Proposed Plan), EPA holds public comment period for certain documents. Sometimes the comment periods are less formal and not required, but nonetheless EPA wants to get the community's thoughts. These comment periods may be announced in several ways, including a notice in a fact sheet, an announcement at a public meeting or through the email list.

10. Public Notices

For those who are not on the site's mailing list, EPA will announce community meetings and formal comment periods in a display advertisement in Vineland's Daily Journal.

11. Press Releases/Media contacts

EPA will provide press releases and develop media contacts with the following newspapers: Vineland's Daily Journal.

12. Technical Documents

EPA will produce certain technical documents as part of its investigation and cleanup process. The major documents will include a summary suitable for a general audience. EPA will also mail out a summary of some documents as a fact sheet. Below is a listing and short description of those documents that will be developed over the course of the Superfund cleanup process.

- Remedial Investigation Report (RI): The overall purpose of the RI is to identify the nature and extent of contaminants, migration pathways of the contaminants, and potential threats to human and ecological receptors in the study area. The remedial investigation is usually done with the feasibility study. Together they are often referred to as the “RI/FS.”
- Feasibility Study (FS): A report that identifies cleanup objectives and alternatives to meet those objectives, and evaluates each alternative using the first seven of EPA’s nine criteria which are: protection of human health and environment; compliance with applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs); long-term effectiveness and permanence; reduction of toxicity, mobility or volume through treatment; short-term effectiveness; implementability; cost; state acceptance; and community acceptance. The evaluation of State and community acceptance criteria is completed after the receipt of public comments during the 30-day comment period for the Proposed Plan.
- Record of Decision: A public document that explains which cleanup methods, actions, tools and/or techniques will be used at the Site, including the residual contamination levels (if any) and any restrictions on future land use (where waste is left in place).
- Remedial Design: The development of engineering drawings and specifications for a site cleanup. This phase follows the remedial investigation/feasibility study.

15. Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)

A TAG is a federal grant that can be awarded to an incorporated nonprofit organization of community members affected by some superfund sites. It is used to fund an environmental professional to provide an independent technical review of cleanup documents. A TAG is not currently in place for the SMC Site.

16. Community Advisory Group (CAG)

A CAG is a self-forming, self-governing stakeholder group that can meet periodically, to learn about EPA's cleanup process, discuss their issues and concerns, and provide feedback to EPA. A CAG has not been formed at this site.

Appendix A EPA Regional Contacts

Sherrel Henry
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. EPA, Region 2
290 Broadway, 20th Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866
212-637-4273
henry.sherrel@epa.gov

Wanda Ayala
Community Involvement Coordinator
US EPA Region 2
290 Broadway, 26th Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866
(212) 637-3676
ayala.wanda@epa.gov

Appendix B Federal Contacts

New Jersey's Second Congressional District

Frank LoBiondo
5914 Main Street Suite 103
Mays Landing, NJ 08330-1746
Phone: (800) 471-4450 or (609) 625-5008
<http://lobiondo.house.gov/>

United States Senate

Cory Booker
One Port Center
2 Riverside Drive, Suite 505
Camden, NJ 08101
Phone: (856) 338-8922
<http://www.booker.senate.gov/>

Bob Menendez
One Gateway Center, Suite 1100
Newark, New Jersey, 07102
(973) 645-3030
<http://www.menendez.senate.gov/>

Appendix C
State Elected Officials

3rd New Jersey Legislative District State Senator

Stephen M. Sweeney
935 Kings Highway
Suite 400
West Deptford, NJ 08086
<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/bio.asp?Leg=216>

General Assembly

John J. Burzichelli
935 Kings Highway
Suite 400
West Deptford, NJ 08086
(856) 251-9801
<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/bio.asp?Leg=200>

Celeste Riley
935 Kings Highway
Suite 400
West Deptford, NJ 08086
(856) 251-9801
<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/bio.asp?Leg=312>

Appendix D
Local Officials

Mayor of Newfield
Borough Hall, Catawba Avenue
Joseph Curcio, III
Newfield, NJ 08344
www.newfieldboro.net

Borough Council President
Borough Hall, Catawba Avenue
Michael Carrow
Newfield, NJ 08344
www.newfieldboro.net

Mayor of Vineland
Ruben Bermudez
640 W. Wood Street
Vineland, NJ 08360

Vineland Council President
Anthony Fanucci
640 W. Wood Street
Vineland, NJ 08360

Appendix E
Information Repositories and EPA Web Site

Newfield Public Library
115 Catawba Ave
Newfield, NJ 08344

EPA- Region 2 Superfund Records Center
290 Broadway, 18th Floor
New York, NY 10007

EPA SMC Web Site:

<http://www.epa.gov/region2/superfund/npl/shieldalloy>

Appendix F Media Contacts

Vineland Daily Journal
891 E. Oak Road
Vineland, NJ 08360
(856) 691-5000
<http://www.thedailyjournal.com/>