



### **REMOVAL ACTION TO ADDRESS TRIBUTARY T11A**

In September 2017, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reached an agreement with General Electric (GE) for GE to conduct a removal action, often referred to as a short-term cleanup action, to address PCB-contaminated soil and sediment in Tributary T11A, which is a 1,900-foot stream located near the landfill that flows through a steep, woody ravine into the Valatie Kill. The sediment and adjacent bank soil of Tributary T11A contain elevated levels of PCBs which serve as an ongoing source of contamination to downstream areas, such as the Valatie Kill and Nassau Lake. The removal action will be performed by GE under EPA oversight and will consist of the excavation and disposal of PCB-contaminated soil and sediment, followed by the placement of backfill and restoration of habitat in the tributary. The removal action field work will begin this fall with the sampling of sediment and soil in Tributary T11A to support the development of a detailed design. The detailed design of the removal action is scheduled to be submitted in early 2018, followed by implementation of the removal action during the summer and fall of 2018.

The remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) of the surface drainageways, which is part of the long-term process to clean up the site (discussed further below), is ongoing and will continue in parallel with the removal action work.

### **REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDY (RI/FS): SURFACE DRAINAGEWAYS**

The remedial investigation of the drainageways is being conducted in two phases under EPA's oversight. The field work associated with the Phase 1 investigation was completed in December 2015 and included the collection and analysis of samples from the Valatie Kill, Nassau Lake, and other smaller waterbodies that have been impacted by the site. The Site Characterization Summary Report, which is under the final stages of review by the EPA, includes a summary of historical data for the surface drainageways, including the data collected during Phase 1 in 2015, as well as the identification of additional data still needed and to be obtained during Phase 2. Following the finalization of the Site Characterization Summary Report, a work plan will be submitted detailing the steps necessary for the completion of the remedial investigation of the drainageways (Phase 2). Later in the RI/FS process, this information will be used to assess risks to human health and the environment and to evaluate potential cleanup alternatives for the drainageways.

### **REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDY (RI/FS): LANDFILL - GROUNDWATER**

In October 2015, EPA approved the revised RI/FS Work Plan for the Landfill-Groundwater, which requires the investigation of groundwater, soil, and the landfill, including an assessment of the integrity of the existing slurry wall. The RI/FS Work Plan is available on the EPA's Dewey Loeffel site webpage under "[Additional Reports and Documents](#)."

The installation of shallow groundwater wells located both inside and immediately adjacent to the landfill was completed in May 2017. Consistent with the approved investigation work plan,

the locations and depths of the new shallow wells were selected based upon the results of the direct-sensing investigation and the discrete groundwater and soil sampling conducted in 2016 both inside and adjacent to the landfill. Hydraulic conductivity testing, which measures how readily groundwater flows in the surrounding aquifer, was performed in July and August 2017. The sampling of these new wells began in September 2017 and is scheduled to be completed in October 2017. The results of the sampling will be used to help determine the nature and extent of shallow groundwater impacts.

As part of the investigation of deep groundwater, three new deep bedrock boreholes were installed between December 2016 and February 2017. In accordance with the approved work plan, several different sampling and testing activities were performed within the three bedrock boreholes between March 2017 and August 2017. The new boreholes are scheduled to be converted into monitoring wells in fall 2017 before they are sampled to help determine the nature and extent of deep groundwater impacts.

As part of an investigation of the potential for vapors to migrate from the subsurface into indoor air (referred to as “vapor intrusion”), three new shallow groundwater wells were sampled in March 2017 and again in July 2017. The results of both sampling events did not reveal the presence of volatile organic compounds. Consistent with the approved work plan, the results of these sampling events will be used to evaluate the potential for vapor intrusion.

#### **WATER TREATMENT PLANT & GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION WELLS**

A 2012 agreement with GE and SI Group required the construction and operation of a water treatment plant at the site, as well as the installation of five additional groundwater extraction wells along the western edge of the landfill. The water treatment plant has been constructed and operating since late 2013, and the five additional extraction wells were brought online in late 2015. The additional extraction wells are located closer to the landfill than the three previously-installed wells, and serve to collect additional contaminated groundwater for treatment. Since the last of the five additional extraction wells was brought online in October 2015, the water treatment plant has been operating at a flow rate of approximately 6 gallons per minute. Regular weekly sampling of the treated water continues, and the results indicate that the plant continues to work effectively, and in compliance with discharge limits established by the State of New York. Sampling data from the treated water at the plant is available on the EPA’s Dewey Loeffel site webpage: [www.epa.gov/superfund/dewey-loeffel-landfill](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/dewey-loeffel-landfill).

#### **RESIDENTIAL WELL MONITORING**

Residential wells with individual treatment systems are sampled on a quarterly basis. Residential wells without treatment systems are either sampled on a semi-annual, annual or every-other-year basis depending on their location in relation to impacted groundwater areas, and location relative to the direction of groundwater flow. Residential wells monitored on a quarterly basis were sampled in August 2017. All of the residential wells included in the

monitoring program are scheduled to be sampled next in November 2017. Upcoming sampling events are subject to change based on the resident's availability.

### **GROUNDWATER MONITORING**

In addition to the residential well monitoring program, groundwater wells located both inside and outside of the landfill area are monitored on a semi-annual basis, with the next event scheduled for October 2017. The Performance Monitoring Plan, which outlines the residential well and groundwater monitoring programs, is available on the EPA's Dewey Loeffel webpage under "[Additional Reports and Documents](#)."

### **SURFACE WATER MONITORING**

Surface water from the Valatie Kill and Tributary T11A is sampled annually on three occasions during the summer and fall. The first of the three 2017 sampling events was completed in early September 2017 with the remaining two events scheduled to be completed later in fall 2017.

### **FISH MONITORING**

Annual fish sampling in Nassau Lake, the Valatie Kill and Tributary T11A was completed in June and July 2017. The report summarizing the results of the 2016 fish sampling is available on the EPA's Dewey Loeffel webpage under "[Additional Reports and Documents](#)." Fish consumption advisories issued by New York State remain in-place for Nassau Lake, Kinderhook Lake, and the Valatie Kill (between County Route 18 and Kinderhook Lake). For more information regarding the advisories in these and other waterways in the Hudson Valley/Capital District, please visit: [https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/outdoors/fish/health\\_advisories/regional/udson\\_valley\\_and\\_capital\\_district.htm](https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/outdoors/fish/health_advisories/regional/udson_valley_and_capital_district.htm).

For more information about the Dewey Loeffel Landfill Superfund Site, contact:

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