

**DEWEY LOEFFEL LANDFILL SUPERFUND SITE  
FEBRUARY 2018 PROJECT UPDATE**



**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 to address polychlorinated biphenyl (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 off-site disposal of PCB-contaminated soil and sediment, followed by the placement of clean backfill and restoration of habitat in the tributary.

The removal action field work began in October 2017 with an assessment of habitat (e.g., stream characteristics and vegetation) that would potentially be impacted during the removal action. In November 2017, over 400 soil and sediment samples were collected from 175 locations to further delineate the extent of PCB contamination in Tributary T11A and confirm that upstream areas do not serve as a source of contamination to the tributary. Based on these results, more than 150 additional soil and sediment samples were collected from 62 locations in January 2018 to further refine the extent of PCB contamination. Following the receipt of the analytical data from the January 2018 sampling event, a Data Summary Report will be submitted summarizing the results of both sampling events. A detailed design of the removal action, including habitat restoration, is expected to be completed in spring 2018, followed by implementation of the removal action during the summer and fall of 2018. EPA will provide additional information and public participation opportunities prior to the start of removal action construction activities.

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): LANDFILL - GROUNDWATER**

In October 2015, EPA approved the revised RI/FS Work Plan for the Landfill-Groundwater, which outlines the investigation activities to be performed for groundwater, soil and the landfill. The RI/FS Work Plan is available on the EPA's Dewey Loeffel site webpage under "[Site Documents and Data](#)."

The RI/FS Work Plan requires the sampling of groundwater and soil, as well as other sampling and testing activities, to determine the nature and extent of contamination. In accordance with the RI/FS Work Plan, over 40 new shallow and deep groundwater wells were installed throughout 2016 and 2017. Following their installation, several different sampling and testing activities were performed within these wells depending on their location and depth. Most of these new wells, along with certain existing wells, were sampled as part of the first site-wide

groundwater sampling event in October 2017. These wells will be sampled again in spring 2018 as part of the second site-wide groundwater sampling event, and the results of both sampling events will be used to help determine the nature and extent of contamination in shallow and deep groundwater. The integrity of the existing slurry wall (also referred to as the landfill cutoff wall) will be evaluated based on the soil and groundwater sampling results, as well as other subsurface and hydrogeologic data collected pursuant to the RI/FS Work Plan. The results of all of the sampling and testing activities required in the RI/FS Work Plan will be summarized in an Addendum to the 2014 Site Characterization Summary Report for the landfill and groundwater.

In addition to the data collected pursuant to the RI/FS Work Plan, site groundwater wells, which are located both inside and outside of the landfill area, and residential wells in the vicinity of the site, are routinely monitored. The site groundwater wells and residential wells are monitored on different frequencies, ranging from quarterly to every other year, depending on their location in relation to impacted groundwater areas and location relative to the direction of groundwater flow. The last monitoring event for the site groundwater wells was conducted in October 2017 and the next monitoring event is scheduled for spring 2018. All of the residential wells included in the monitoring program were sampled in November 2017. The next monitoring event is scheduled for February 2018 and will include residential wells monitored on a quarterly basis. The residential well sampling results are provided to each property owner following the receipt of the results from the laboratory. Residential wells with individual treatment systems are included in this monitoring program. These residents and several additional residents are provided bottled water for consumption purposes.

The Performance Monitoring Plan, which outlines the residential well and groundwater monitoring programs, is available on the EPA's Dewey Loeffel webpage under "[Site Documents and Data](#)".

#### **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, 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.

The continued monitoring of surface water and fish from the drainageways is also required as part of the RI/FS. Surface water from the Valatie Kill and Tributary T11A is sampled annually on

three occasions during the summer and fall, while fish sampling is conducted annually in Nassau lake, the Valatie Kill and Tributary T11A during the summer. Reports summarizing the results of the 2017 surface water and 2017 fish sampling are expected to be available in spring 2018. 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/hudson\\_valley\\_and\\_capital\\_district.htm](https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/outdoors/fish/health_advisories/regional/hudson_valley_and_capital_district.htm)

### **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 five additional extraction wells were brought online in late 2015. 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).

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

Joseph Battipaglia  
Remedial Project Manager  
Hudson River Field Office  
187 Wolf Road, Suite 303  
Albany, NY 12205  
(518) 407-0400  
[battipaglia.joseph@epa.gov](mailto:battipaglia.joseph@epa.gov)

Larisa Romanowski  
Community Involvement Coordinator  
Hudson River Field Office  
187 Wolf Road, Suite 303  
Albany, NY 12205  
(518) 407-0400  
[romanowski.larisa@epa.gov](mailto:romanowski.larisa@epa.gov)

[www.epa.gov/superfund/dewey-loeffel-landfill](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/dewey-loeffel-landfill)