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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

DRAFT

**US Environmental Protection Agency
Hudson River PCBs Reassessment Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
Community Interaction Program**

**Steering Committee Meeting
April 12, 1998⁹
Saratoga Springs, NY**

On April 12, 1999, a Steering Committee meeting was held at The Inn at Saratoga in Saratoga Springs, NY. The agenda for the meeting is Attachment 1. Sign-in sheets are found in Attachment 2. The use of brackets - [] - indicates clarifications made by the writer in cases where unclarified text would be unclear to those not at the meeting. Copies of the audio tapes recorded at the meeting are available on request.

Attending were the following:

- Ann Rychlenski, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Community Relations Coordinator for the Hudson River PCBs Superfund Site and Steering Committee Chairperson;
- Doug Tomchuk, EPA Project Manager;
- Alison Hess, EPA Project Manager;
- Judith Schmidt-Dean, Citizen Liaison Group Chairperson;
- Katie DeGroot, Citizen Liaison Group Cochairperson;
- Marion Trieste, Environmental Liaison Group Cochairperson;
- Paul McDowell, representing Tom Bordon, Agricultural Liaison Group Chairperson;
- Darryl Decker, Government Liaison Group; and
- John Santacrose, Environmental Liaison Group Chairperson.

Ann Rychlenski opened the meeting with a brief discussion of scheduling meetings of the Community Interaction Program's several committees. While EPA does its best to avoid scheduling conflicts with activities occurring in the various counties within the geographic bounds of the site, it is not always possible given the numerous organizations in the project area, and their schedules. [Added as supplemental information: the liaison group structure was designed with one chairperson and two co-chairpeople in order to provide for coverage in such situations.]

Mr. Tomchuk reported on several items:

Low Resolution (Low Res) Coring Report Responsiveness Summary. The Responsiveness Summary was released to the public and was also available to the peer reviewers reviewing the Low Res Report. The summary included three new analyses in the appendices:

- Calculation of mass loss on an area-to-area basis (the Low Res report mass loss calculation had been done on a point-to-point basis); this was done in response to a number of comments and required an entire new analysis of the data. EPA still found mass losses in the same general range.
- Geostatistical analysis of the sediment, involving statistics programs that provide concentration information utilizing maps of the sediment bed. This analysis involved polygonal declustering and incorporated side scan sonar sediment texture data, and resulted in a new estimate of PCBs for the Thompson Island Pool.
- Recalculation of transect data from the 1993 sampling, including corrections for flow utilizing USGS estimates and incorporation of some information on the bias found at the Thompson Island Dam sampling station.

Early Action Report. In March, EPA issued the Early Action Report that presented the basis for the announcement made in December that the agency could not "identify a feasible and appropriate interim action" for the Hudson River; the agency's full attention will be focused on completing the reassessment.

Peer Review for the Data Evaluation and Low Resolution Coring reports (the geochemistry for the project). Peer review is to review EPA's studies to see whether they are scientifically credible. Six independent subject matters from the US, Canada, Sweden, and Germany made up the international panel reviewed these reports and their responsiveness summaries. The peer reviewers supported the findings of the reports. Mr. Tomchuk stated he was happy to say that the findings of the peer review were that the reports were "Acceptable with Minor Revisions." Reviewers agreed on the following key items:

- There is not widespread burial of PCBs within the Thompson Island Pool (TIP);
- There are losses [of PCBs] from the sediment in the TIP and below to some degree; and
- The data set used and the analyses done were comprehensive and that EPA has enough information to move forward with its studies.

Peer reviewers suggested that, given the wide range of loss calculations, EPA should express PCB loss by a qualitative statement that loss occurred or a range of percent loss rather than a quantitative quotation of numeric percentages. Peer reviewers also cautioned against use of 1977 data, used mainly for below the Thompson Island Dam. Finally, they did not find enough sufficient evidence to support EPA's finding of a dechlorination threshold of 30 ppm. EPA says there is unpredictable dechlorination below 30 ppm. The peer review report is released to the public [and will be in the repositories] in approximately six weeks.

NYS Thruway Authority. The Canal Corporation of the NYS Thruway Authority has filed a general permit application to do dredging within the Champlain Canal, including some portions of the mainstem

Hudson. The process is being managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers and EPA has not commented as yet. Mr. Tomchuk clarified that EPA Superfund is not trying to be involved in the regulation of the river; there are areas under the jurisdiction of the Corps.

Upcoming Items.

- The Human Health Risk Assessment Scope of Work Responsiveness Summary will be released at the end of April 1999.
- On May 5, 1999 from 1 to 5 PM at the Albany Marriott on Wolf Road, EPA will hold a public forum with GE to discuss GE's report on the TIP [PCB] sources.
- The Baseline Modeling Report will be released in May (target date is May 18, 1999). There will be a Joint Liaison Group meeting on the report that night, also at the Albany Marriott.
- The Ecological Risk Assessment and Feasibility Study scopes of work Responsiveness Summaries will be released by June 30, 1999.
- The Human Health Risk Assessment and Ecological Risk Assessment reports will be published in August 1999.

Mr. Tomchuk introduced Alison Hess as the project manager taking the lead on the risk assessments.

Mr. Santacrose asked Mr. Tomchuk what would have been the basis for an early action. Mr. Tomchuk stated that EPA was assessing whether there was any quick solution to what had been identified as [PCB] losses from the TIP. It was found that any of the alternatives that would substantially reduce those losses were multi-year projects; therefore EPA deferred until the reassessment decision is made.

Ms. Trieste asked whether the peer reviewers found that sediments were traveling down the river, in contrast to the GE presentation at the last meeting indicating sediments are being buried. Mr. Tomchuk stated the peer reviewers agreed with EPA's finding that there are losses occurring from the TIP, not widespread burial. Mr. Tomchuk clarified for Ms. DeGroot that reviewers were given GE's comments on the reports, and GE had sent them additional information.

The next agenda item was a commentary by Ms. Trieste, who took a few moments to introduce herself as a stakeholder who has been working with Superfund communities for over a decade. She feels residents who live near the river like herself are the primary stakeholders, set aside from EPA, DEC, and whatever polluting agency is involved. None of the area stakeholders wants a landfill in the area, and that is a driving consideration in the decision as to how the river is remediated.

Ms. Trieste suggested that landfilling seems to dominate discussions, and is certainly distasteful to all, but that there are alternatives to landfilling and the public should be educated as to what they are. She cited several specific technologies as alternatives to landfilling, and proposed several possible activities. First, she suggested a poll of area residents to find out if people would still object to dredging if there were an alternative to landfilling, among other things. Ms. Trieste also cited studies that the public should be made aware of that indicate the likelihood of non-carcinogenic impacts of PCBs, something the general public may not know. She felt this too justified putting more emphasis on letting people know there are remedial opportunities other than landfilling.

In response to Ms. DeGroot's caution about bias being "on both sides," and about ensuring that people get "both sets of information" so they can make a decision, Ms. Trieste "totally agreed," and said that is the reason for relying on science and on knowing what alternatives for action do exist. Ms. Schmidt-Dean said it is too premature to discuss alternatives until [EPA has] decided whether [to take action] or not. She objected to spending any money on surveys.

For clarification, Ms. Hess cited the Superfund process, in which risk assessment, both human health and ecological, plays an important part. The risk assessments inform the EPA about what kind of risks there may or may not exist at the site, which is a milestone in the process. The Feasibility Study follows, wherein all the possible available alternatives are assessed. Ms. Hess agreed with Ms. Trieste that there are more alternatives available now [in 1999]. Further, cancer and non-cancer PCB risk is on-going, and EPA looks at all the research. EPA uses a "weight of evidence" approach, so that all studies are considered, and that will all get funneled into the risk assessments. The two risk assessments will also be peer reviewed. The Feasibility Study is not peer reviewed, because it is an engineering evaluation, not new science.

Mr. Santacrose offered some personal comments. His understanding of the community involvement program is that it was intended to facilitate an exchange of information, suggestions, and ideas to help EPA in the process of developing the Phase III documents in order to make its decision. He challenged the people who have not been involved since the beginning of the project to go to the repositories and come up to speed on the project. Mr. Santacrose emphasized that the project "we are here for" is to address the PCBs in the sediments in the Hudson.

Mr. Santacrose further pointed out that the agency [EPA] undertook the opportunity to have an expanded community involvement program, identified the four liaison groups based on four "communities" [citizen, environmental, agricultural, and governmental], and charged the groups with taking project information and explaining it to their publics. Mr. Santacrose feels that if participants in the community involvement program feel the public isn't getting enough information, it is in part the fact that some of those groups "haven't been doing their job." He further observed that "all parties do not get the message straight to the press." Mr. Santacrose thinks the [community involvement] process as it stands is working, considering it is the largest geographical area of any Superfund site. He compared this community interaction process favorably with others he has seen under the NEPA process.

Mr. Santacrose indicated that, based on the Early Action Report, EPA has acknowledged that there are alternatives to landfilling, and feels that the final report will probably contain alternatives. He doesn't know what more can be done to educate and involve an apparently apathetic public. He said EPA has set up the mechanism for the public to participate. "Walk-ins in the fourth quarter" should be encouraged to participate, but if [people who have not been involved for any length of time] step up with suggestions, they should be asked if they have looked back at the record to see what has been done.

Mr. Santacrose also faulted environmental groups in general. As an example, he cited a letter put out in January 1996 or 1997 by several groups that said PCBs were dissipating from the river at such a rate that New Yorkers were being put at a severe health risk. That rate cited, if extrapolated to the present, would mean there are no PCBs left at all in the river. Yet those same environmental groups are now saying "we've got to do something about the PCBs in the river."

"I think the process is working," he said. "People here should have enough mental discipline to not pay attention to the press about this process. Pay attention to the EPA folks. GE is paying attention to the EPA folks, and they're making them stick to the process - and I think they [EPA] are." Mr. Santacrose said the end product will be a document that states what EPA intends to do regarding the remediation, and lists all alternatives. He recommended, in relation to a possible no action alternative, that there be a caveat to include continuing surveillance on technologies available or coming available on dealing with PCBs.

Mr. Santacrose said "this is about the most proactive public involvement program I've ever been involved with." EPA, rather than just publishing a document and asking for comments, announces that it is doing a certain document and provides the scope of work for it, providing for the public what he called a scoping opportunity that basically says "what things beyond what we have to do would you guys like to see?"

Mr. Santacrose then addressed the subject of the landfill siting study, saying this is a prudent part of an analysis of any alternative that may involve dredging. "That became 'the secret siting study.' There was nothing secret about it. Anyone could have 'guestimated' that that was going to be part of the process to develop that Phase 3 document. But the 'secret siting study' that gets to the press becomes 'this thing' that makes EPA look like they are doing something predetermined. The public is only hearing from the press; they haven't gone to EPA. Ask Ann how many calls she has gotten from citizens."

Ms. Dean: "To give 13 million people [in the watershed] the benefit of the doubt, I think they do have opinions because they have been listening to it for 20 years." Mr. Santacrose asked "But what are their opinions based on? Have they come to the table to find the real information?" and Ms. Dean said that despite her own complaints, she thinks they get "a pretty good idea to form their own information."

Ms. Rychlenski commented that from telephone calls and the fact that her name is on the website, as far as people who have been involved even peripherally in the process, there is a better understanding of what is going on, but on the whole, she cannot believe some of the questions she has gotten. Many questions indicate that the understanding of the questioners is equivalent to information available in the 1970s and 1980s.

Mr. Santacrose discussed the human health risk aspect of the PCB issue. He said that EPA has determined that PCBs are a probable carcinogen, and contends that it is not part of this Superfund project to try to change or go beyond this determination. If someone wants to "go higher" to classify PCBs as a "known" carcinogen [the next highest and ultimate classification of a contaminant], one must go to Washington. Therefore, that discussion is a non-issue here, wasting a lot of energy. All work must be based on PCBs as a probable carcinogen, plus, Mr. Tomchuk added, probable non-carcinogenic impacts.

Mr. Tomchuk added that the cancer slope factor was just changed in 1996, based on new information from the rat study paid for by GE and a reread of old tissue slides. That is a process that has to go through headquarters. The non-cancer reference doses are under review; Mr. Tomchuk thinks the time frame for new reference doses is around 2001.

Mr. Santacrose suggested that EPA make a statement that landfilling is not going to be done, that if dredging is required, [contaminated sediments] would be transported elsewhere. He proposed that such a statement would remove one of the areas of polarization between the "upriver" and "downriver" project participants.

Mr. Tomchuk addressed the process. In September EPA announced the scope of work for the Feasibility Study, outlining how EPA would be evaluating factors other than the human health issues. The FS evaluates statutory requirements and assesses whether there is something feasible that can be done. Alternative technologies will be evaluated. With regard to the suggestion that "we" should look at alternative technologies a little earlier than within the FS, Mr. Tomchuk said this is something EPA would have to discuss and consider.

He said we "are close to the end and can see it, but there is another big step that we [EPA] have to do yet... We're not there yet, and are going to go through that study first. The FS will answer all these questions. There are six different alternatives. It runs the full gamut at this time. Some things [technologies] we have looked at are just not there yet." Mr. Santacrose pointed out that this information is in the early action report.

Ms. Trieste added additional comments, beginning with "the process," which she termed "intense." Ms. Trieste said she had not seen anything like it on any other site, and congratulated the agency on "opening its doors and trying to compensate all the stakes in this. Ms. Trieste said she didn't believe any Superfund site has more than a handful of people working on it; people in general are not going to go to repositories and read available literature. We can't expect them to do that. That is why "this group" is important; they are "in it for the long haul," and so are residents. Politicians come and go.

Ms. Trieste clarified her earlier statement by saying that given this, we should be talking about other ways of talking about the river and possible alternatives, because for the most part, people hear about landfilling PCBs. Her position was that if other alternatives than landfilling were publicized, people would not be scared as much - because landfilling scares people. People who have been directly involved in the project for ten years, like Mr. Santacrose, need to guide newer participants on how to be better informed.

Mr. Decker, Chairperson of the Governmental Liaison Group, agreed that the issue for the public is "dredge and landfill or do nothing." He said it would be nice if there were some means to get the understanding of the six or eight remedial alternatives - only two of which involve dredging - out to the public. He said, "education isn't going to hurt the process." With reference to the prior discussion regarding levels of participation and varying levels of understanding of the project, Mr. Decker said "there is no group that is more likely to start talking about solutions without having any facts than the Governmental Liaison Group." He added that "there are people in government today already talking about solutions that are not acceptable without ever hearing what the alternatives are. It is discouraging and frustrating, having been involved in the process for ten years. I can count on far less than one hand the number of government officials that have ever called and asked for information." Mr. Decker suggested that a handout regarding alternatives might be made available at the proposed EPA/GE forum under discussion.

Bill Ports, DEC representative, mentioned that the public comment period for the GE Ft. Edward Proposed Plan (PRAP) has been extended to April 26, 1999, and distributed fact sheets on the PRAP.

Paul McDowell of the New York Farm Bureau and a member of the Agricultural Liaison Group, spoke next representing Tom Borden, Chairperson of the Agricultural Liaison Group. Mr. McDowell said Tom were "delighted" about DEC's recent report about the reductions of PCBs in fish, and were glad to see the discussion in the press covering possibilities that include restoration of commercial fisheries for striped bass below Poughkeepsie, sports fishing only, or a variation. The Ag Liaison Group has not met since the last Steering Committee meeting.

Mr. Santacrose announced that as of June 30, 1999 he will not be representing New York Audubon on any matters, but that as of March 19, 1999 he became the representative of the Albany County Water Quality Coordinating Committee (on the mailing list for the Hudson River PCBs Reassessment RI/FS since 1991). Mr. Santacrose read a resolution that authorizes him to represent that committee on the Superfund project. The committee itself has not taken a position on the project; rather it resolves to "facilitate the exchange of information."

Katie DeGroot asked whether any new reports on non-carcinogenic health risks are expected. Ms. Hess indicated that there is on-going research on such effects; in 1996 EPA reassessed its cancer slope factor and is now undertaking a reassessment of the reference dose for non-cancerous effects.

John Haggard of GE mentioned the proposed EPA/GE forum, and offered that if there are any requests of topics to be covered, items to be included in the presentation, or format suggestions, to call him and he will work with EPA. Mr. Tomchuk clarified that the topic for the forum was discussion of the GE report on the Thompson Island sources and the response to it; it is not an open forum for any discussion. Further, Mr. Tomchuk reminded Mr. Haggard that it has been agreed that the forum would be based on information in every party's hands, so EPA is not asked to respond to data the agency has not seen. Mr. Haggard said GE may bring a compilation of data they collect on a weekly basis, so "there may be some new data in that respect." Mr. Tomchuk took issue, because EPA has not done thorough reviews of that data. He said this would have to be discussed further. Mr. Haggard said GE is viewing this as a forum for interested people to ask them questions rather than having a presentation. He assured Mr. Tomchuk that GE and EPA would work out what they could agree on as an agenda, but that GE's focus is on "trying to make sure the interested community gets what they want."

Mr. Foster of the Arbor Hill Environmental Justice Corporation and member of the Environmental Liaison Group, attempted to compare the Hudson River PCBs RRI/FS Community Interaction Program to other roundtables and discussion groups he has participated in that were sponsored by the state government, specifically with reference to brownfields and other, more finitely-defined projects. Although he said the process "isn't really terrible," he feels that in terms of production and time this process is probably "far worse." The examples he used in the comparison were related to brownfields projects or urban Superfund sites of nine-month or, as he said if "they were lucky," nine-week duration, however. "The product here is the process; the product is not inclusive because the process is not inclusive. You are not looking at alternatives within your process; you cannot expect your product to be an alternative that is well-thought-out."

Using as an example an urban brownfields site where the community had asked for relaxed standards for groundwater contamination to hasten cleanup and redevelopment, Mr. Foster contended that "if we had meaningful communities in the Hudson Valley "would come back to GE" and suggest a lesser degree of cleanup [of the Hudson]. Mr. Foster said "people don't like to be at a table with a stacked deck," and feels there is "a reluctance and pessimism built into the process."

As part of another project, Mr. Foster will be attending a conference in Toronto on alternatives for cleanup. He offered to bring people into that discussion, get questions answered, and bring a report back to this committee. He recommended setting up specific tasks for things to be done by each liaison group, with milestones. Mr. Foster further cited brownfields discussions where community activists sat "toe-to-toe with commissioners at DEC and engineers implementing technologies in the field... all discussing the same thing on the same level. That is something that needs to occur more often here. If anyone is interested in having something meaningful being derived from this process...we can task ourselves in getting a real conversation going before August about feasibility."

There being no further comment, Ms. Rychlenski adjourned the meeting.

Soil samples were collected from borings and soil piles and were found to contain VOCs, kerosene, and CBs.

Groundwater samples were collected from 108 on-site monitoring wells, 22 off-site wells, and 4 off-site springs. Samples from shallow groundwater were found to contain VOCs and PCBs.

Below some portions of the site, shallow groundwater is contaminated above Class GA groundwater standards or guidance values for numerous chemicals, including VOCs and PCBs. As with the on-site areas, off-site wells and springs were contaminated with chlorinated VOCs and PCBs. Shallow and intermediate bedrock groundwater had several low detections of VOCs. The deep bedrock wells were not contaminated above groundwater standards for VOCs or PCBs.

The Proposed Remedial Action Plan (OU3)

Based on the results of the RI/FS for the plant portion of the site, the NYSDEC in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) is proposing for Operable Unit 03 of the GE Fort Edward site that contaminated groundwater be collected through a series of extraction wells and treated at the facility's existing treatment plant to remove the contaminants. An expanded PCB oil recovery system will be installed to address dense phase non-aqueous liquid under the employee parking lot. Treated groundwater would be discharged to the Hudson River through the existing permitted outfall. Separate phase oils will be collected and properly disposed in accordance with RCRA/TSCA regulations. This remedy is proposed to address the threat to human health and the environment created by the presence of VOCs and PCBs in groundwater above groundwater standards.

OU4 - Former 004 Outfall Area

Findings of the OU4 RI

As described in the RI reports, soil, sediment and surface water samples were collected at this OU to characterize the nature and extent of contamination.

Soil samples were collected from borings at selected locations and found to predominantly contain PCBs with some additional volatile and semivolatile organic compounds. The PCB contaminated soils were found on and along the banks of the River.

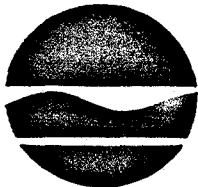
Almost two hundred soil and sediment samples were collected from locations along and below the shoreline and below the surface of the Hudson River North and South of the former 004 discharge pipe. Soils immediately downstream from the former outfall contain very high concentrations of PCB; concentrations diminish with distance from the outfall. A considerable volume of contaminated soil exists in the river along the eastern shoreline.

Surface water sampling results from upstream and downstream of the 004 outfall area indicate that the site is an ongoing source of PCB to the Hudson River.

The Proposed Remedial Action Plan (OU4)

The NYSDEC in consultation with NYSDOH is proposing removal and offsite disposal of all PCB contaminated material from along the shoreline of the Hudson River in the vicinity of the former 004 outfall area.

NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION

**PUBLIC AVAILABILITY
SESSION**

Wednesday, March 10, 1999
3 - 5 P.M.

Washington Co. Offices
Bldg. B, Large Conf. Room
383 Upper Broadway
Fort Edward, NY 12828

Public Meeting:

Wednesday, March 10, 1999
7 - 9 P.M.

Washington Co. Offices
Bldg. B, Large Conf. Room
383 Upper Broadway
Fort Edward, NY 12828

**PUBLIC COMMENT
PERIOD EXTENDED**

February 23 thru
April 26, 1999

ATTACHMENT 3

1-2
General Electric - Fort Edward,
Washington County
March 1999

Fact Sheet

Public Comment Period Extended on Remedial Action Plan for GE Fort Edward Plant Site

Remedial investigations and feasibility studies have been completed for Operable Units 3 and 4 for the General Electric Fort Edward Plant (see page 2 for description of Operable Units). A Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) has been prepared for public review and comment. This Fact sheet provides site background information, a summary of the site conditions, a summary of the proposed remedies from the PRAP, and information on how you can participate in the remedy selection process. Comments on the PRAP will now be received through April 26, 1999.

Citizen Participation

A Public Availability Session and Public Meeting have been held (as detailed in the sidebar at left) as part of the citizen participation program for this site. The Public Availability Session provided an opportunity for you to learn more about the site and the PRAP directly from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) staff who will answer your questions. During the public meeting, the NYSDEC presented the proposed site remedies as contained in the PRAP, answered questions, and accepted public comments.

NYSDEC will accept written public comments during the period commencing on February 22, 1999 and ending on April 26, 1999. Comments should be sent to the Project Manager whose address is provided below. A "Responsiveness Summary" will be prepared that describes public comments received and how the NYSDEC will address the concerns raised.

Document Repositories. Two locations provide you access to project information:

Washington County Clerk's Office
383 Upper Broadway
Fort Edward, NY 12828

Adrian Public Library
93 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

For More Information. Call or write the following staff for more information:
About Remedial Programs at
the Fort Edward GE Plant

Kevin Farrar, Project Manager
Div. of Hazardous Waste Remediation
NYSDEC, 50 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12233-7010
(518) 457-5637

Or call NYSDEC's Hazardous Waste
Site Toll-Free Information Number:
1-800-342-9296

10.10163

PCB REMEDIATION PROJECTS: UPDATE

GE Fort Edward Plant Site

Site Background

GE's Fort Edward plant is located on a 32-acre tract along Route 4 in the Town of Fort Edward extending from the Hudson River to Upper Broadway, just south of the Washington County Office building complex. General Electric has manufactured capacitors at this location since the late 1940s. PCBs were used in capacitor manufacture until 1976. Other chemicals used on the site include solvents such as trichloroethane and kerosene.

GE has been conducting extensive on-site and off-site remedial investigation and monitoring activities. For management purposes the site has been divided into four parts called operable units as follows:

- Operable Unit 1 (OU1) consists of off-site overburden contaminated groundwater. In accordance with a 1984 Order on Consent, GE established an off-site groundwater recovery system and conducts monitoring. This effort is complete and successful. GE will continue to provide operation and maintenance.
- Operable Unit 2 (OU2) consists of on-site contaminated soil and groundwater. The Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) conducted from 1984 to 1990 concluded that an expansion of the overburden groundwater recovery system was needed on-site; PCB recovery from the bedrock beneath the site was also needed and provided

for thru the use of two recovery wells with off-site disposal of recovered product. PCB-contaminated soils from the railroad off-loading area were also removed and properly disposed off-site.

OU 1 and OU2 have been addressed by previous studies and have been the subject of remedial programs since 1989-90. GE has recently completed a RI/FS for Operable Unit 3 (OU3) and a focused feasibility study for Operable Unit 4 (OU4). These latest studies supplement the RI/FS done in 1984-90. The need for supplemental investigation arose from a 1994 five-year review of the OU1 and OU2 selected remedies, which identified data that suggested additional remedial work may be necessary.

- Operable Unit 3 (OU3) consists of the main portion of the site, including the contaminated groundwater and soil beneath the facility.

- Operable Unit 4 (OU4) consists of contaminated soil along the riverbank adjacent to the former 004 outfall on the east shore of the Hudson River.

Interim Remedial Measures

Interim Remedial Measures (IRMs) are conducted at sites when a source of contamination or exposure pathway can be effectively addressed before completion of the RI/FS. The following OU3 and OU4 IRMs have been completed at the site.

1985 - Two production wells were temporarily sealed to prevent migration of contaminants into the deep bedrock aquifer (OU3). These wells were permanently sealed in 1996.

1994 - A temporary diversion for the plant outfall was installed. The outfall originally flowed through contaminated soils of OU4. The permanent diversion was completed in 1996.

1994 - Shoreline protection measures were installed to reduce the potential for scouring of the riverbank during high flow events in the Hudson River.

1996 - The PCB contaminated former outfall pipeline and pipe bedding were removed from the OU4 area.

OU3 - Site Groundwater and Soil

Findings of the OU3 RI

The RI was conducted in two phases. The first phase was conducted between July 1995 and March 1996 and the second phase between April 1996 and January 1997. A report entitled "Fort Edward Remedial Investigation Report - January 20, 1997" has been prepared describing the field activities and findings of the RI in detail.

The site is contaminated with several types of compounds, including PCBs and volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

As described in the RI report, numerous soil gas, soil, and groundwater samples were collected at the site to characterize the nature and extent of contamination.

Soil gas samples were collected and analyzed for VOCs. Elevated levels of VOCs were found in the soil gas a portions of the site.

**US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
HUDSON RIVER PCBs REASSESSMENT
REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDY**

**Community Interaction Program
Steering Committee Meeting
Saratoga Springs, NY
April 12, 1999**

NAME	ADDRESS	AFFILIATION/TELEPHONE
John Santacrose	Po Box 3705 Albany, NY 12203	Environmental Liaison Group HSA + ACW 1220
Marim Trieste	463 RT32 Schuylerville NY 12871	Trieste Assoc., Inc.
Dan L. Decker	6 North Park St. Cambridge, NY 12816	Government Liaison Group
Lyle Foster	Arbor Hill Ed 200 Henry Johnson Blvd Albany, NY	Arbor Hill Environmental Justice Corp.

**US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
HUDSON RIVER PCBs REASSESSMENT
REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDY**

**Community Interaction Program
Steering Committee Meeting
Saratoga Springs, NY
April 12, 1999**

NAME	ADDRESS	AFFILIATION/TELEPHONE
William Ports	50 Wolf Rd Albany NY 12233	NYSDEC
Paul M. Dorell	Glenmont NY	NYFD
Mark Berman	Glen Falls NY	GE
Mel Schweiger	Albany, NY	GE
Judy Schuchman	Schuyler	Let Go Center
Lee Coleman	376 Broadway Saratoga Spring	Daily Gazette reporter
Rich Schuch	9 Nassau St POK, 12601	Scenic Hudson
Kathleen DeGroot	15 DeGroot Rd St Edward NY	Citizen Group
Baret Rhyon	Sierra Club 85 Washington St. Saratoga Springs NY	Sierra Club



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REGION 2
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ATTACHMENT 1

Hudson River PCBs Reassessment Community Interaction Program

Steering Committee Meeting

Monday, April 12, 1999

7:30 p.m.

The Inn at Saratoga, Saratoga Springs, NY

A G E N D A

Welcome & Introduction

Ann Rychlenski, Steering Committee Chair
U.S. EPA

Peer Review Update & Upcoming
Project Milestones

Doug Tomchuk, Project Manager
U.S. EPA

Presentation on PCB Technologies

Marion Trieste, Co-Chair
Environmental Liaison Group

Liaison Group Updates

Liaison Group Officers

General Discussion - Audience Questions

10.10167