Superfund Construction Project – Funding Pending

Eighteenmile Creek Superfund Site
Niagara County, New York

Site Description

The Eighteenmile Creek site, in Niagara County, New York, consists of contaminated sediments, soil and groundwater. Eighteen Mile Creek flows north from the New York Barge Canal for approximately 15 miles and discharges to Lake Ontario in Olcott, New York. The main contaminants of concern are lead and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). EPA added the site to the National Priorities List in 2012.

Site Status and Cleanup Actions to Date

- In 2013, EPA issued a record of decision (ROD) for risks associated with residential soil contamination at nine residential properties on Water Street as well as deteriorating buildings at the part of the site known as the Flintkote property. The selected remedy entailed residents' permanent relocation due to the creek's recurring flooding of PCB-contaminated water and sediments. Following the relocation using Superfund removal authorities, the residential structures were demolished as well as the buildings at the Flintkote property.

- EPA issued a second ROD in 2017; this selected remedy includes bank-to-bank excavation of contaminated sediment in what is known as the Creek Corridor and a combination of soil excavation and capping at the upland properties. The selected remedy includes soil excavation at the nine Water Street residential structures to prevent the residential properties' recontamination. The implementation of this remedy is currently in the design phase.

- In September 2018, EPA issued a ROD to address lead-contaminated soil at certain residential properties on Mill Street and several other adjoining residential streets. The 2018 selected remedy for the contaminated soil at the residential properties included the excavation and off-site disposal of approximately 14,000 cubic yards (cy) of lead-contaminated soil from 28 properties. Additional sampling of nearby properties will be conducted during the selected remedy's design and/or implementation; the sampling may identify additional properties needing remediation as part of this remedy.

- A remedial investigation/feasibility study for the Creek Corridor groundwater as well as contaminated creek sediments not addressed by the 2017 selected remedy is underway.

- In 2019, EPA initiated the remedial design for the 2018 selected remedy to address lead-contaminated soil on Mill Street and several other adjoining residential streets. Twenty-six additional residential properties were sampled through October 2019; EPA anticipates sampling additional properties.

Project Pending Funding, as of the end of Fiscal Year 2019

This project consists of the excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil at the Mill Street and adjoining residential properties. While awaiting funding, EPA has offered to meet individually with each homeowner on current sampling results and has provided information on ways to reduce potential exposure to contamination in soil prior to remediation.

Funding Through Fiscal Year 2019

EPA has provided approximately $10 million for cleanup activities at the site.