

OTTATI AND GOSS SPEECH FOR 9/9/99

GOOD EVENING LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME YOU TO THE INFORMATIONAL PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE OTTATI AND GOSS / KINGSTON STEEL DRUM SUPERFUND SITE. MY NAME IS RICHARD GOEHLERT AND I AM THE EPA REMEDIAL PROJECT MANAGER FOR THIS SITE. MY OFFICE IS LOCATED IN BOSTON AND I HAVE ENJOYED TRAVELING TO KINGSTON MEETING PEOPLE HERE THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS AND HOPE THE NEXT FEW YEARS WILL BRING SOME CLOSURE TO THIS SITE. BEFORE I INTRODUCE THE PEOPLE HERE TONIGHT IS THERE ANY BODY WHO WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE FACT SHEET?

THERE ARE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NHDES HERE TONIGHT. CARL BAXTER CHIEF OF THE HAZARDOUS WASTE REMEDIATION BUREAU ALSO MY COUNTERPART PAUL LINCOLN OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES. PAUL AND CARL PROBABLY HAVE BEEN WITH THE SITE THE LONGEST AND KNOW THE MOST ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE SITE. THERE ARE ALSO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE US ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS, TIM BEAUCHEMEN, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM METCALF AND EDDY OUR CONSULTING FIRM WHO HAS ASSISTED US IN COMPLETING STUDIES AND IS HELPING US HERE TONIGHT WITH THE SIGN IN AND TAKING NOTES.

AND MICHELLE'S BROTHER

WE HAVE SEVERAL OTHER PEOPLE HERE THAT I WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE.

SELECTMEN MARK HEITZ, STAMATIOS YIOKARINIS KEVIN BURKE
CHIEF BRIGGS

CONSERVATION COMMISSION DIANE EADIE, DAVE INGALLS

THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING IS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION AND ALLOW PUBLIC COMMENTS TO BE MADE PART OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD CONCERNING THE EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES THAT EPA ANTICIPATES ISSUING AT

4705

THE END OF THIS MONTH. THE COMMENT PERIOD STARTED ON AUGUST 17 WITH A PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE AVAILABILITY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD FOR THE ESD. A FACT SHEET WAS MAILED TO PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS KNOWN TO BE INTERESTED IN THE SITE AS WELL AS PRESS RELEASES CONCERNING THIS MEETING WERE SENT TO THE NEWSPAPERS IN THE AREA. THE COMMENT PERIOD WILL CLOSE ON SEPTEMBER 16, 1999. AFTER THE COMMENT PERIOD CLOSSES THE ESD WILL BE REVISED TO REFLECT THE COMMENTS, AND A FINAL EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES WILL BE SIGNED BY THE DIVISION DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SITE REMEDIATION AND RESTORATION. THE ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD WILL BE REVISED TO INCLUDE WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMENTS SUBMITTED IN THIS MEETING AND THE FINAL ESD.

THE MEETING AGENDA WILL BE AS FOLLOWS. I WILL PRESENT A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SITE AND DISCUSS THE EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES, I WILL ADDRESS SOME OF THE ISSUES AND CONCERNS THAT WERE IDENTIFIED IN PREVIOUS MEETINGS WITH THE SELECTMEN AND OTHER PEOPLE IN THE TOWN. AFTER THAT THE MEETING WILL BE OPENED TO ALL FOR QUESTIONS AND EXPLANATIONS. ALSO AFTER THE MEETING THERE WILL BE TIME AVAILABLE FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSION.

THE SITE HAS TWO AREAS OF CONTAMINATION. ONE (HERE) IDENTIFIED AS THE OTTATI AND GOSS SITE AND THE OTHER (HERE) KNOWN AS THE KINGSTON STEEL DRUM SITE. THIS PROPERTY IS OWNED BY THE GREAT LAKES CONTAINER CORPORATION. THE COMPANY WAS DISOLVED IN 1991. THE AREA ACROSS THE ROAD IS CALLED THE WETLAND OR MARSH AND THIS IS CONSIDERED PART OF THE SITE.

THIS SITE HAS HAD A LONG HISTORY OF REMEDIATION, LEGAL ISSUES, AND

COURT PROCEEDINGS. THERE ARE THREE MAJOR CLEAN UP ACTIVITIES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED OVER THE YEARS TO BRING THE SITE TO ITS CURRENT CONDITION. ONE, THERE WAS REMOVAL OF THOUSANDS OF BARRELS (use picture) AND A LOT OF SOILS THAT WAS CONTAMINATED IN THE FORMER LAGOON AREAS AND ~~ON~~ THE ADJACENT AREA. TWO, THE O AND G PART OF THE SITE WAS REMEDIATED FOR SOURCE CONTROL DURING 1988-89. THREE, THE BUILDING AND MANY UNDERGROUND TANKS AND BURIED BARRELS WERE REMOVED FROM THE SITE DURING 1993-94.

THE REQUIREMENTS OF CERCLA INCLUDE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN REMEDY SELECTION AND REMEDY MODIFICATION. THE RECORD OF DECISION FOR THIS SITE WAS SIGNED IN 1987. IT SET FORTH A DESCRIPTION OF THE CLEAN UP AND SET CLEAN UP LEVELS. THERE ARE TWO DIVISIONS OF THE REMEDY WHICH REFLECT THE MEDIA THAT BEING ADDRESSED. CLEAN UP OF THE SOILS AND SEDIMENT IS CALLED SOURCE CONTROL REMEDY. CLEAN UP OF THE GROUNDWATER IS CALLED MANAGEMENT OF MIGRATION REMEDY. THE ESD ONLY MODIFIES THE SOURCE CONTROL REMEDY DESCRIBED IN THE 1987 ROD. THE SOURCE CONTROL WORK DESCRIBED IN THE 1987 RECORD OF DECISION INCLUDED EXCAVATION AND TREATMENT OF SOILS IN THE O AND G PORTION OF THE SITE, THE KSD PORTION OF THE SITE AND THE ENTRANCE AND EXIT TO THE CULVERT THAT CARRIES SOUTH BROOK UNDER ROUTE 125. THIS MAP (FIGURE 2) SHOWS THESE AREAS. THE CLEAN UP LEVELS WHICH WERE SET AT 20 PPM FOR PCBS AND 1 PPM FOR VOCs. THE ESD DOES NOT CHANGE THESE CLEAN UP LEVELS.

THE CHANGES THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED TO IMPLEMENT THE RECORD OF DECISION ARE: CHANGE IN THE VOLUME OF MATERIAL TO BE REMEDIATED, CHANGE IN THE TECHNOLOGY, AND CHANGE IN INSTITUTIONAL CONTROLS.

VOLUME CHANGE

THE TABLE SHOWS THE VOLUMES FROM EACH AREA. THE LARGEST CHANGE IS IN THE WETLAND. THE CHANGES IN VOLUMES ARE DUE TO BETTER CHARACTERIZATION OF THE EXTENT OF CONTAMINATION. THE VOLUME CHANGE IN THE WETLAND IS ALSO RELATED TO THE FINDINGS OF A SITE SPECIFIC ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT. THE ASSESSMENT CONCLUDED THAT REMOVING CONTAMINATION THAT IS 10 PPM PCBs AND ABOVE WILL REDUCE THE ECOLOGICAL RISK BY ABOUT 70 PER CENT AND RESULT IN A HAZARD QUOTIENT OF 1.5 THROUGHOUT THE MARSH.

TECHNOLOGY CHANGE

THE CHANGE FROM INCINERATION TO THERMAL DESORPTION IS ACTUALLY NOT THAT GREAT. BOTH TECHNOLOGIES USE TEMPERATURE TO REMOVE THE CONTAMINATION FROM THE SOIL. EXCAVATION AND MATERIAL HANDLING AND PLACEMENT OF SOILS BACK ON THE SITE ARE THE SAME UNDER BOTH TECHNOLOGIES. THE DIFFERENCE IS THAT INCINERATION WOULD USE A HIGH ENOUGH TEMPERATURE, ABOUT 2000 DEGREE FAHRENHEIT, TO DESTROY THE CONTAMINATION. THERMAL DESORPTION USES INDIRECT HEAT TO BOIL THE CONTAMINATION FROM THE SOILS TURNING THE CONTAMINATION INTO VAPORS. THE VAPORS ARE CONDENSED AND THE WASTE IS SEPARATED FROM THE CONDENSATE AND AIR STREAM, THE CONTAMINANTS ARE CAPTURED NOT DESTROYED.

TO SUMMARIZE, INCINERATION REMOVES THE CONTAMINATION BY HEATING AND DESTROYS THE CONTAMINATION BY BURNING THEM, THERMAL DESORPTION REMOVES THE CONTAMINATION BY HEATING AND CAPTURING THE CONTAMINATION FOR LATER DISPOSAL. I WILL COME BACK TO THE TECHNOLOGY IN JUST A MINUTE TO BETTER DESCRIBE THE PROCESS.

CHANGE IN INSTITUTIONAL CONTROLS.

THE THIRD CHANGE IS THAT INSTITUTIONAL CONTROLS WILL BE PUT IN PLACE THAT WILL RESTRICT THE USE OF THE GLCC PROPERTY TO NON RESIDENTIAL USE IN THE FUTURE. THESE CONTROLS WILL BE IN THE FORM OF DEED RESTRICTIONS THAT WILL RUN WITH THE PROPERTY. CHILD CARE FACILITIES WILL ALSO NOT BE ALLOWED. THE CHANGE HERE WILL INSURE THAT THE CLEAN UP LEVEL OF 20 PPM FOR PCBs IS PROTECTIVE OF HUMAN HEALTH. AS PART OF IMPLEMENTING THIS, THE PROPERTY WILL BE TAKEN THROUGH THE EMINENT DOMAIN PROCESS. THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE HAS BEGUN THIS PROCESS AND A PUBLIC MEETING WAS HELD HERE IN THIS ROOM ON MARCH 24 EARLIER THIS YEAR. THERE WAS NO OBJECTION TO THE STATE TAKING THE PROPERTY

I WOULD LIKE TO RETURN TO DISCUSSING THE OPERATIONS INVOLVED IN THE CLEAN UP. THIS CHART SHOWS THE BASIC PROCESS THAT WILL BE INVOLVED. EXCAVATION WILL TAKE PLACE AT TWO LOCATIONS, KSD AND THE MARSH. EXCAVATION AT KSD WILL BE DONE USING NORMAL CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT SUCH AS YOU WOULD FIND AT ANY CONSTRUCTION SITE SUCH AS BACK HOE, BULLDOZER, EXCAVATOR, AND TRUCKS. THERE WILL BE EQUIPMENT TO SEPARATE BY THE SOILS BY SIZE AND POSSIBLY EQUIPMENT TO CRUSH ROCKS TO A SMALLER SIZE. THE EXCAVATION IN THE MARSH IS MORE DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF ITS LOCATION IN RELATION TO THE ROAD AND THE ORGANIC MATERIAL WHICH VARIES IN DEPTH FROM A FEW FEET TO OVER TWENTY FEET DOES NOT PRESENT A WORKING CONDITIONS. BECAUSE THE CONTAMINATION WAS SPREAD BY SURFACE WATER THAT CAME THROUGH THE CULVERT UNDER ROUTE 125 ONLY THE TOP OF THE WETLAND NEEDS TO BE REMOVED. NEAR THE CULVERT THE DEPTH OF REMOVAL IS ABOUT 2 AND ½ FEET. SEVERAL HUNDRED FEET AWAY FROM THE CULVER ONLY THE TOP SIX INCHES NEED TO BE REMOVED. GRAVEL ACCESS ROADS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED FROM ROUTE 125 DOWN TO THE WETLAND. THE PERIMETER OF THE

WORK AREAS WILL BE CLEARED AND HIGH STRENGTH GEOTEXTILE MATERIAL OVERLAIN WITH 12 TO 18 INCHES OF GRAVEL WILL BE USED TO CONSTRUCT ACCESS ROADS INTO THE WETLAND. THE CONTAMINATED SEDIMENT AND ORGANIC MATERIAL WILL BE EXCAVATED USING A TRACK MOUNTED EXCAVATOR WORKING FROM THE ACCESS ROADS AND THE SEDIMENT PLACED IN TRUCKS AND TRANSPORTED ACROSS RTE 125 TO BE STOCKPILED IN THE KSD AREA. THE SEDIMENT AND ORGANIC MATERIAL WILL BE DEWATERED AND MIXED OR BLENDED WITH THE SANDS AND GRAVELS FROM THE KSD PORTION OF THE SITE. THE RESULTANT MIX WILL BE TREATED USING A THERMAL DESORPTION UNIT. ALL TREATED MATERIAL WILL BE PLACED BACK ON THE KSD PORTION OF THE SITE. UNDER THE PRESENT ASSUMPTIONS, IF MATERIAL IS NEEDED FOR RESTORATION OF THE WETLAND NEW MATERIAL WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE WETLAND FOR THAT PURPOSE.

THE DESORPTION PROCESS WAS EARLIER DESCRIBED AS BOILING OFF THE CONTAMINANTS. THE SOIL IS HEATED, THE WATER IN THE SOILS BOILS, NATURAL ORGANICS DECOMPOSE, CONTAMINANTS VAPORIZE. THIS ALL HAPPENS IN A CONTROLLED CONFINED VESSEL AND THE TEMPERATURE IS MONITORED TO INSURE ADEQUATE CONTAMINANT REMOVAL. THE SOILS AND THE CONTAMINANTS ARE THEN SEPARATE. THE SOILS COME OUT OF THE PROCESS VERY HOT AND WATER IS USED TO COOL THE SOILS. ONCE THE CONTAMINATION IS IN THE VAPOR PHASE, THE REMAINING TREATMENT CONSISTS OF HANDLING THE WATER VAPOR AND AIR STREAM SEPARATE FROM THE SOILS. THE WATER IS CONDENSED. WATER IS TREATED TO BE USED TO COOL THE SOIL, THE CONTAMINANTS ARE CAPTURED AND STORED UNTIL DISPOSAL OFF SITE. THE AIR HAS DUST REMOVED FROM IT AND IS TREATED GENERALLY USING ACTIVATED CARBON.

AFTER ALL THE AREAS ARE CLEANED UP THE KSD AREA WILL BE GRADED, LOAMED

AND SEEDED. THE WETLAND WILL HAVE THE ACCESS ROADS REMOVED AFTER WORK IS COMPLETED TO PROVIDE CONDITIONS FOR RESTORATION OF THE WETLAND. EVENTUALLY OVER SEVERAL DECADES AS TREES AND VEGETATION REESTABLISH THEMSELVES THE WETLAND WILL LOOK AS IT DOES NOW, SOME PLANTING WILL OCCUR TO INITIATE THIS PROCESS. THE PROPERTY AND MARSH WILL REMAIN FENCED.

ISSUES AND QUESTIONS

TRAFFIC - THE MOVEMENT OF WETLAND MATERIAL ACROSS THE HIGHWAY WILL BE DONE USING TRUCKS. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE ISSUE WITH THE KINGSTON POLICE AND THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. THE WINTER IS THE TIME OF THE YEAR THAT HAS THE LEAST TRAFFIC VOLUME AND IF POSSIBLE MARSH EXCAVATION WILL BEST BE DONE DURING THAT PERIOD. HOWEVER, DEFINITE COMMITMENTS THAT ONLY WINTER WORK IN THE WETLAND WILL DONE CAN NOT BE MADE. THE VOLUME OF TRAFFIC ON A DAILY BASIS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AND THERE WILL BE RESTRICTIONS ON THE HOURS WHEN TRUCKS WILL BE ALLOWED TO CROSS RTE 125. TRAFFIC CONTROLS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED THAT INCLUDES POLICE AT LOCATIONS NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE SITE, PROPER SIGNAGE WILL BE INSTALLED TO WARN MOTORISTS OF THE POTENTIAL FOR STOPS AND TRUCK ENTERING. ~~TRUCKS ENTERING AND LEAVING THE WETLAND WILL BE RESTRICTED TO NON-COMMUTING HOURS.~~

NOISE - NOISE SOURCES INCLUDE THE TRUCKS, EXCAVATION EQUIPMENT, AND THE TREATMENT FACILITY. 24 HOUR OPERATION OF THE TREATMENT FACILITY MAY BE DESIRED BY THE CONTRACTOR THAT IS SELECTED. THESE ISSUES MUST BE ADDRESSED ONCE A CONTRACTOR IS SELECTED AND A PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTED. THE DECISION TO ALLOW 24 HOUR OPERATION WILL BE MADE WITH CONSULTATION OF THE STATE AND THE TOWN.

ODORS AND DUST - THERE WILL BE AN ODOR OF BURNT DIRT BUT IT IS NOT EXPECTED TO BE A PROBLEM TO NEARBY RESIDENCES OR PASSING MOTORISTS. THE FACILITY WILL BE LOCATED TO THE REAR OF THE SITE AWAY FORM THE ROAD. DUST WILL BE A PROBLEM FROM THE EXCAVATIONS AND THE TREATED DIRT. EPA REQUIRES THAT A HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN BE DEVELOPED TO ADDRESS ISSUES OF WORK SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN HEALTH ON AND NEAR THE SITE. AN AIR QUALITY MONITORING SYSTEM WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR DUST AND VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS THAT CAN GET INTO THE AIR FROM THE CONSTRUCTION AND FACILITY OPERATIONS. THERE SHOULD NOT BE EMISSION OF ANY CONTAMINANTS FROM THE THERMAL DESORPTION UNIT EXCEPT CLEAN OFF GAS WHICH WILL CONTAIN A HIGH AMOUNT OF MOISTURE AND THUS CREATE A CONDENSATION PLUME AT THE STACK. SHOULD THE LIMITS FOR THE CONTROL OF THESE POTENTIAL HAZARDS BE EXCEED MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN TO STOP WORK AND NOT RESUME UNTIL WORK CAN BE DONE WITH CONFIDENCE THAT IT IS SAFE TO PROCEED. DURING ALL OPERATIONS OF EXCAVATION AND TRANSPORT THERE WILL BE MEASURES TO MONITOR AND CONTROL DUST AND OTHER RELEASES AND OTHER SAFETY ISSUES.

TIME OF REMEDIATION

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE REMEDIATION OF THE SOILS INCLUDING THE WETLAND WILL TAKE ABOUT 2 AND ½ YEARS.

LASTLY I WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE OF GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION. THE RECORD OF DECISION CALLED FOR PUMPING AND TREATING THE GROUNDWATER. WE HAVE AN EXTRACTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM DESIGNED BUT HAVE DECIDED TO HOLD OFF ON CONSTRUCTING IT. THIS DECISION WAS MADE ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM MONITORING THE WELLS AT THE SITE. SINCE THE O AND G PORTION OF THE SITE WAS REMEDIATED

CONTAMINANT CONCENTRATIONS AT THE UP GRADIENT AREAS HAVE DECREASED DRAMATICALLY. WE HAVE EXAMINED THIS INFORMATION AND HAVE DECIDED TO POSTPONE IMPLEMENTING THE GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION. WE BELIEVE THAT ONCE THE REMAINING CONTAMINATION IN THE SOILS IS REMOVED THAT IS CAUSING THE GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION, THE CONCENTRATIONS OF CONTAMINATION IN THE GROUNDWATER WILL DECREASE OVER TIME TO LEVELS ACCEPTABLE TO USE THE GROUNDWATER AS A DRINKING WATER SOURCE. WE THINK THIS TIME FRAME WILL BE ABOUT TEN YEARS. THIS WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF STUDIES FOR TWO YEARS AFTER THE SOILS CLEANUP IS COMPLETE AND THEN A FINAL DECISION WILL BE MADE AS TO WHETHER TO IMPLEMENT THE PUMP AND TREAT SYSTEM OR LET THE CONCENTRATIONS NATURALLY ATTENUATE. I HAVE A MAP THAT DATA UP TO 1996 AND IT ILLUSTRATES THE DECLINES IN CONCENTRATIONS IN THE GROUNDWATER OVER TIME. IF ANY OF YOU WOULD LIKE TO EXAMINE IT AFTER THE MEETING I WILL BE GLAD TO MAKE IT AVAILABLE.

THIS COMPLETES MY PRESENTATION AND IT IS NOW TIME TO ALLOW QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED. AS OF TODAY WE HAVE RECEIVED NO WRITTEN COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS AT OUR OFFICE IN BOSTON.