

Marjol Site Remediation Update

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Ongoing Construction Activities...p. 1

Community Relations Activities...p. 1

Long Term Project Schedule...p. 2

Dust Control and Air Monitoring...p. 2

Notes for Residents...p. 2

Notes on Construction Activities...p. 3

Summary of Annual Blood Lead Screening Program...p. 3

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ONGOING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

As discussed in the last update, construction of the Final Remedy at the Marjol Battery Site (Site) began on May 12, 2008. Construction activities are expected to take 2 construction seasons (until November 2009). Over these past four months, quite a bit of activity has been taking place at the Site. The site preparation activities have been completed including construction of a new sedimentation basin along the Lackawanna River side of the Site. Large-scale tree clearing is complete and, as you may have noticed, the view of the hillside has changed. The excavation in this area has not yet taken place and when it does, the hillside will look more disturbed. These areas will be seeded as part of the remediation process, so they will eventually be grassed.

Excavation and consolidation of contaminated areas into the Containment (Cap) Area has begun including the movement of the high-hazard soil stockpile into the Containment (Cap) Area. In October, the North Woods excavations will take place. Some additional excavations on-site will also occur before the winter shut-down. A table with the Long-Term Project Schedule can be found on Page 2. As of September 18, 2008, construction activities are approximately four weeks behind the original schedule. The contractor, SCE Environmental Group, Inc. (SCE) expects to be able to make up this time as they move into the next excavation phases. Please note that safety and quality of work will not be compromised at any time in order to meet a contract deadline.

View of Location Where the High-Hazard Soil Stockpile Used To Be—8/27/08



COMMUNITY RELATIONS ACTIVITIES

Meetings — Advanced GeoServices Corp. (AGC), on behalf of Gould continues to attend the Throop Borough Council Work Sessions on a regular basis to provide updates to Throop Borough Council.

Borough Liaison—Throop Borough has hired Cocciardi & Associates, Inc. as a compliance liaison for the Borough to be present at the Site on a regular basis and to participate in meetings related to the Site.

We encourage everyone to log onto our web site at www.marjolicleanup.com for the most recent information regarding the Marjol site.

- *Provide us with your e-mail address and we will notify you whenever the web site is updated.*

**Long-Term Project Schedule & Remediation Activities
Last Updated: September 15, 2008**

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Progress</u>
2008 CONSTRUCTION SEASON		
Off-Site Verification Sampling (Pre-Construction)	5/5/08	Completed.
Site Preparation	5/12/08	Completed.
Containment Area Construction	6/2/08	In progress
New Basin Construction/Decommissioning of Old Basin	6/10/08	Completed.
Excavation, Confirmatory Sampling, and Backfilling of On-Site Areas.	Second Half of July 2008	In progress
Movement of Hi-Haz stockpile into Containment Area	8/13/08	Completed
North Woods Excavations, Confirmatory Sampling, and Backfilling	October 2008	
Winterization/ Winter Shut-Down	12/10/08	

Note: A weekly schedule as well as a list of completed activities is posted on the Marjol web site, www.marjolecleanup.com, on Friday afternoons. A photo gallery has also been added to the web site.



New Sedimentation Basin

DUST CONTROL AND AIR MONITORING

During construction activities, and in particular during soil disturbance activities, we have continued to adhere to a "No Visible Dust" rule. During both working and non-working hours, we continuously run Real-Time (Dust) Air Monitors at the Site.

Dust monitoring provides immediate information on the amount of dust (not just lead) being generated.

We have had some challenges with the dust monitors. The action levels when working in battery casing material are extremely stringent. When working with such low action levels, we have found that factors other than dust which can affect the readings on the monitors (i.e., outside temperature) can cause our readings to be above the action levels even when our work area is wet and there is no visible dust. Consequently, Gould has chosen to do additional lead dust sampling outside of what is required by the 100% Design Plan. Thus if there is a dust action level exceedance we can find out definitively how much lead, if any, was in the dust. To date all of the lead dust results, even during periods when the dust action levels on our real-time monitors have been above the action level, have been well below the National Ambient Air Quality standard of 1.5 ug/m³. In other words, occasionally we have had visible dust, and sometimes we have had a reading on our monitors above the action level even without visible dust – but we have never yet had an instance of lead in the dust above the action level.

Additional high volume air sampling—on the weekends, Gould has also elected to run the perimeter high-volume samplers so that they too could provide actual lead data in the event that an exceedance of the action level occurs at one of the dust monitors.

NOTE: Perimeter, real-time, and co-located air data is being provided and updated on the Marjol web site as it is available. Please go to www.marjolecleanup.com for the most recent data.

NOTES FOR RESIDENTS

- 1) **Truck Traffic on Delaware Street**—Earlier this month SCE began importing clean (non-contaminated) fill material for berm and drainage channel construction. Importing of this material significantly increased the number of trucks on Delaware Street. When more than 12 trucks per hour are running on Delaware Street, flagmen are being used to direct traffic. AGC has been in contact with residents on Delaware Street and they have been very cooperative. We appreciate everyone's patience throughout this process.
- 2) **Using the "Dust Boss"** - SCE is using a "Dust Boss" (a piece of equipment that is similar to snow making equipment at a ski area) to mist water into the air during excavations and possibly during non-working hours. The Dust Boss is working very well, but we want residents to know they may see a white cloud at the Site when the "Dust Boss" is operating; this is a water mist and not dust.

NOTES ON CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

Incidents During Construction Activities— While much progress has been made, we acknowledge that there have unfortunately been a few incidents over the past few months that we wish had not occurred:

- 1) On July 28, 2008, there were miscommunications and a discharge of muddy water from the new basin (which is only collecting water from areas of the Site that are not contaminated) into Sulphur Creek. A report was filed with PADEP and a fine was issued by PADEP. Sampling was conducted by both AGC and Throop Borough in Sulphur Creek and the Lackawanna river. The sample results confirmed that no contaminated material had been released.
- 2) On August 4, 2008, a second miscommunication occurred and an activity began before all of the air monitoring equipment was fully set up.

These two incidents are described in more detail on the web site, www.marjolicleanup.com under the community relations section. As a result of these incidents, along with taking other actions such as personnel changes and doing test runs, we have worked very hard to increase the communications between all parties. Daily operations meetings are now held. At these meetings representatives from all parties including Throop Borough discuss the activities for the next day. We have found these daily meetings to be very helpful.

- 3) On September 12, 2008, the water line that runs through the Site was pierced. The depth of the water line was shallower than the contractor expected based on the design plans from when the water line was installed. This water line was relocated in 1998 so that it runs outside the area of contamination. The area where the line was pierced was a clean (non-contaminated) area, so there was no threat of a release of contaminated material at any time. Pennsylvania American Water Company (PAWC) was on-site and repaired the line. PAWC was able to reroute water flow so that residents were not without water.
- 4) On September 17, 2008, one of our air (dust) monitors stopped running overnight. Due to human error, the monitor was not plugged into AC power correctly, so the monitor was running on its back up batteries until they ran out. We are now running two monitors each night in the downwind location: one runs primarily on a lead acid battery, the other runs primarily on AC power, both have back-up batteries. As was the case on September 17th, we also continue to run lead samples at the same time as the air (dust) monitors. The results for the air lead samples collected overnight on September 17th were all below the action level.

2008 ANNUAL BLOOD LEAD SCREENING PROGRAM

The annual blood lead screening was conducted in three parts. Clinical Laboratories from Throop conducted the door-to-door screening on July 14, 2008. On July 16th and 19th, blood lead screening was conducted in the Throop Borough Civic Center. This year, participants were also able to go to directly to Clinical Labs in Throop from July 14th through July 30th for the blood lead screening.

1) How was participation in the 2008 screening?

Overall, a total of 36 individuals were tested: 17 from the door-to-door screening, 16 at the Civic Center, and 3 directly at Clinical Labs. Of the 36 tested, 1 individual (3%) was a child 12 or younger. See the table below for a summary of participation over the past few years.

Summary of Participation in Annual Blood Lead Screening Program (2004—2008)

Year	No. of Participants	No. (%) Participants Children 12 yrs. and younger
2004	36	7 (19%)
2005	24	3 (13%)
2006	35	4 (11%)
2007	32	2(6%)
2008	36	1 (3%)

2) What does my blood lead result mean?

The blood lead reports sent by Clinical Laboratories indicate the following blood lead reference numbers: "In general, for an adult (or older child), a blood lead level under 25 is considered within the reference range. For a child, a blood lead level under 10 is considered within the reference range. The OSHA regulatory level for workplace exposure is under 40 ug/dL."

This year, and every year since 1997, there has been no child (aged 12 and under) tested with a result above 5 ug/dL. For the past 7 years, no adult has tested above 10 ug/dL.

3) What was the average blood lead level for those tested this year?

The overall average blood lead level this year was 2 ug/dL. The blood lead level for the child tested was 1 ug/dL. Of the other individuals tested (age 13 and older), none tested above 7 ug/dL.

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Repository Location

Marjol Battery Site Repository

The repository is located at the Throop Borough Municipal Building, 436 Sanderson Street, Throop, PA and is open Monday through Friday 9 am to 4 pm.

Do you want to be added to our lists?

If you would like to be added to the Marjol Battery site newsletter mailing list or the website changes list, please contact Lisa Ayers via e-mail, telephone, or fax or you can submit your address information on our web site at <http://www.marjolcleanup.com>.

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