



New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation
FACT SHEET

**PROPOSED PLAN FOR OPERABLE UNIT 1 OF
THE GEDDES BROOK/NINEMILE CREEK SITE
ONONDAGA LAKE SUPERFUND SITE**

Onondaga County - November 2008

Dear Interested Citizen:

This fact sheet provides a summary of the Proposed Plan for Operable Unit 1 (OU1) of the Geddes Brook/Ninemile Creek site. The Geddes Brook/Ninemile Creek site is part of the Onondaga Lake Superfund Site.

The Proposed Plan, as well as other relevant documents, are available at the repositories noted below.

If you have any questions or would like more information about this project, please contact:

Mr. Timothy Larson, P.E.
Project Manager
NYSDEC

625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, New York 12233-7013
(518) 402-9676

E-mail: tjlarson@gw.dec.state.ny.us

For site-related health questions, contact the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) at the following:

Mr. Mark Sergott
Project Manager
NYSDOH

547 River Street
Troy, New York 12180-2216
(800) 458-1158, Ext. 27860

E-mail: beei@health.state.ny.us

Introduction

The Proposed Plan describes the remedial alternatives considered for OU1 of the Geddes Brook/Ninemile Creek Site (see Figure 1-1), which has been a source of contamination to Onondaga Lake. It identifies the preferred remedy as well as the rationale for proposing this remedy. The Proposed Plan was developed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in consultation with the NYSDOH.

The Proposed Plan is being provided as a supplement to the Geddes Brook/Ninemile Creek Remedial Investigation (RI) report, human health and ecological risk assessment reports, Feasibility Study (FS) report, and Supplemental FS report to inform the public of NYSDEC and EPA's preferred remedy and to solicit public comments pertaining to all of the remedial alternatives (including the preferred remedy) evaluated in this Proposed Plan, as well as the RI, FS, and Supplemental FS reports.

NYSDEC and EPA's preferred remedy for OU1 includes the dredging/excavation and removal of an estimated 59,000 cubic yards of contaminated channel sediments and floodplain soils/sediments over approximately 15 acres. As part of the preferred remedy, clean materials would be placed throughout OU1. These materials would consist of one or more of the following layers, from the surface down: habitat layer, backfill, and, where needed, an isolation cap. An erosion protection layer would be placed above the isolation cap, where needed.

As part of the preferred remedy, contaminated sediments and soils removed from the creek and floodplains would be disposed of at Honeywell's LCP Bridge Street Subsite containment system, which was designed and constructed, and is being monitored.

Restoration of the stream bed and banks, wetlands, and habitats would be performed following sediment and soil removal and placement of an isolation cap or backfill, where needed. This would include placement of a habitat layer with appropriate substrate types and thickness as well as plantings of appropriate species of wetlands and uplands vegetation. The details of habitat restoration would be developed during remedial design.

It is estimated that the dredging/excavating, capping, backfilling, and habitat layer placement components of the preferred remedy, along with dewatering, water treatment, and transport/disposal of sediments and soils at the LCP Bridge Street Subsite, would take two years to implement and would cost approximately \$20.2 million.

The preferred remedy would address all of the preliminary remediation goals with a combination of removal, capping, backfilling, and habitat layer placement technologies. The preferred remedy would be protective of human health since the completion of the remedial activities would minimize direct contact to contaminated sediment/soil. The preferred remedy would result in a long-term reduction in the toxicity, mobility, and volume of the contaminants of concern in Ninemile Creek, including: mercury, arsenic, lead, hexachlorobenzene, phenol, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, PCBs, and polychlorinated dibenzo-*p*-dioxins/polychlorinated dibenzofurans.

Changes to the preferred remedy, or a change from the preferred remedy to another remedy, may be made if public comments or additional data indicate that such a change would result in a more appropriate remedial action, pursuant to applicable environmental laws. The final decision regarding the selected remedy will be made after consideration of all public comments. NYSDEC and EPA are soliciting public comments on this Proposed Plan and the RI, FS, and Supplemental FS reports because NYSDEC and EPA may select a remedy other than the preferred remedy contained within this Proposed Plan.

Public Comment

The Geddes Brook/Ninemile Creek RI/FS reports and the Proposed Plan have been made available to the community for a public comment period which concludes on January 2, 2009. Comments should be sent to the NYSDEC Project Manager whose address is provided above. **On December 10, 2008, NYSDEC and EPA will hold a public meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Martha Eddy Room in the Art and Home Center at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse, New York.** The meeting will be held to present the conclusions of the RI/FS, to elaborate further on the reasons for recommending the preferred remedy, to answer questions regarding the proposed cleanup plan, and to receive public comments. Comments received at the public meeting, as well as written comments, will be documented in the "Responsiveness Summary" section of the Record of Decision (ROD), the document which formalizes the selection of the remedy.

Document Repositories

NYSDEC, Region 7

615 Erie Blvd. West
Syracuse, NY 13204-2400

Phone: (315) 426-7400

Hours: M - Fri, 8:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Please call for an appointment

NYSDEC, DER

625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7013

Phone: (518) 402-9676

Hours: M - Fri, 8:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Please call for an appointment

Onondaga County Public Library

Syracuse Branch at the Galleries

447 South Salina Street

Syracuse, NY 13202

Phone: (315) 435-1800

Hours: M, Th, Fri, Sat, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.;

Tu, W, 9:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Atlantic States Legal Foundation

658 West Onondaga Street

Syracuse, NY 13204

Phone: (315) 475-1170

Please call for hours of availability