

## **Mill River Cleanup Project Update**

### **June 2015**

### **Update No. 6**

The following is a monthly project update for the cleanup of lead impacted sediment by hydraulic dredging in the Mill River. We are currently in the process of dredging, dewatering the sediment, treating the filtrate water from the dewatering process, and discharging treated water back to the Mill River. All of the sediment dewatering and water treatment work is occurring at the facility on Exide's property at 2190 Post Road in Fairfield. TRC is the firm conducting the cleanup work for Exide.

#### **What Has Happened in May**

During May you may have noticed the following activities:

- Dredging continued in Area III - the portion of the Mill River between the Post Road bridge and Tide Mill Dam.
- In consideration of the cold winter and late spring, which has both delayed the start of dredging in 2015 and the start of the shellfish spawning period, we worked with CT DEEP and the CT Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Aquaculture who approved extending the date by when dredging in Area III could be performed to May 16.
- Dredging in Area III was successfully completed on May 15.
- Dredging began in Area I – the portion of the Mill River between the Interstate 95 bridge and the Metro North railroad bridge, on May 16.
- A second dredge was mobilized to the site so dredging could occur in Area I without interruption and minimal disturbance to the community. The first dredge remains in Area III as it is not possible to move it under the Post Road bridge due to water levels, and this equipment will be needed again in several months to facilitate dredging in Area IV. It is also possible that after final sediment verification sampling occurs in Area III, that additional “polishing” dredging may be required. Exide has applied for a Certificate of Permission with DEEP to temporarily position this dredge in an alcove near the Post Road bridge.
- The turbidity meters (yellow buoys with solar panels), turbidity curtains (floating yellow items), and the large orange pipeline (that conveys sediment to Exide's property) were moved periodically, as dredging progressed in Areas III and I.
- Dewatering of sediment and treatment of filtrate at Exide's property is ongoing. The filtrate (i.e., water) treatment process has been very effective. For example, since the filtrate treatment system began operation in October 2014, the average concentration of lead in water discharged through May is very low, 3.05 ug/L (i.e., parts per billion) which is approximately 2% of the DEEP permitted discharge limit of 150 ug/L.
- Monitoring and sampling, as required by CT DEEP is being conducted, and permit limits are being met.

#### **What to Expect in June**

In June, we will conduct the following activities:

- Continue dredging in Area I. Once this Area is complete, dredging will begin in Area II – the portion of the Mill River between the Metro North railroad bridge and Post Road bridge. The earliest dredging is anticipated to begin in Area II is during the last week of June.

- The turbidity meters (yellow buoys with solar panels), turbidity curtains (floating yellow items), and the large orange pipeline that conveys sediment to the Exide property will be moved as dredging progresses.
- Dewatering of sediment and treatment of filtrate will continue at Exide's property.
- Monitoring and sampling will continue, as required by CT DEEP.

**For More Information**

If you have any questions or comments, or would like to be added to our distribution list for future project updates, please contact Exide's environmental consultant CCA, LLC as follows: Richard R. Chandler L.E.P., C.P.G. (203) 815-3141 [richardchandler@ccaengineering.com](mailto:richardchandler@ccaengineering.com)

The CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has project information on its website: [http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2719&q=517076&depNav\\_GID=1654](http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2719&q=517076&depNav_GID=1654), including a fact sheet: [http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/water/tmdl/millriver/deepmillriver\\_factsheet\\_9\\_14.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/water/tmdl/millriver/deepmillriver_factsheet_9_14.pdf)