

Mill River Cleanup Project Update

November 2015

Update No. 11

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 October

During October you may have noticed the following activities:

- Relocated the dredge, turbidity curtains and turbidity monitors from Area II (between the Metro North railroad bridge and the Post Road bridge) to Area IV (south of Harbor Road). Waited for the storms associated with hurricane Joaquin to pass and the shellfish spawning restriction period to end on October 1st. Moved the dredge into Area IV. Moved the second dredge located in Area III (between Post Road bridge and Harbor Road) to the middle of Area III to assist in dredging activities in Area IV.
- Began dredging in Area IV. Area IV is the last of the five Areas to be dredged.
- 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 Area IV.
- Completed dredging in Area IV.
- Collected final sediment verification samples at Areas I, II, III, IV, and V after dredging was completed in Area IV. The results will be used to evaluate sediment remediation activities in the five Areas against the approved clean-up criteria.
- Based on the final sediment verification sample results, polishing dredging was needed in Areas II and III.
- Relocated the turbidity curtains and turbidity monitors from Area IV to Area III. Moved the second dredge in Area IV to Area II.
- Mobilized to begin polishing dredging in Area III.
- 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 plant (WTP) began operation in October 2014, the average concentration of lead in water discharged through October 19, 2015, is very low, 13.23 ug/L (i.e., parts per billion). This is approximately 9% of the CT 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 November

In November, we will conduct the following activities:

- Begin polishing dredging in Area III, and then in Area II. Once dredging is completed in Area III, the dredge will remain in Area III until mid-December at which time the dredge will be removed from the Mill River and demobilized from the site. The dredge currently located in Area II will also remain in the river until mid-December and will be removed and demobilized around the same time.
- 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 polishing dredging progresses in Areas II and III.

- Collect additional final sediment verification samples after polishing dredging is completed in Areas II and III. The results will be used to evaluate sediment remediation activities against the approved clean-up criteria. A memorandum summarizing the final sediment verification sample results and comparison to the clean-up criteria will be submitted to CT DEEP for review and approval with copies to the Town and FairPLAN per the Communication Plan.
- Upon CT DEEP approval of the final verification sample results, TRC will commence demobilizing marine equipment from the Site. Demobilization will include removal of the two dredges, support barge and excavator, four turbidity meters, turbidity curtains, and orange discharge pipeline. Demobilized equipment removed from the Mill River will be shipped off-site.
- Dewatering of sediment and treatment of filtrate will continue at Exide's property.
- Monitoring and sampling will continue, as required by CT DEEP. The WTP will remain at the Exide property, and continue to treat filtrate as the sediment dewaterers. The WTP is expected to remain in operation until the dewatered sediment is removed from the Exide property, currently scheduled to begin sometime between February and April of 2016. This will include the WTP discharge manifold located in the river in Area II. Discharge monitoring will be intermittent during this period reflecting the infrequent generation of treated water.

A Public Information Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, December 7, 2015, at 7 pm to present the results of dredging activities completed in 2015. The meeting will be held at the Board of Education Conference Room, 2nd floor at 501 Kings Hwy East.

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

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, including a fact sheet: http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/water/tmdl/millriver/deepmillriver_factsheet_9_14.pdf