

Mill River Cleanup Project Update

October 2016

Update No. 23

The following is a monthly project update for the cleanup of lead impacted sediment by hydraulic dredging in the Mill River. As noted in previous updates, we have completed the sediment dredging portion of the project and are currently in the on-going process of dewatering the sediment, treating the filtrate water from the dewatering process, discharging treated water back to the Mill River, and disposing of the dewatered sediment to an off-site/out-of-state disposal facility(ies). 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 September

The following activities occurred in September:

- Dewatering of sediment located on Exide's property is ongoing. With active dredging completed, the water treatment plant (WTP) is now operated periodically, as necessary. During September, the WTP discharged treated filtrate (i.e., water) one day. The water treatment process has been very effective. Since the WTP began operation in October 2014, the average concentration of lead in water discharged through September 2016 is very low, 12.36 ug/L (i.e., parts per billion). This is 8% of the CT DEEP permitted discharge limit of 150 ug/L. Other constituents of concern were also below limits or below detectable levels.
- Monitoring and sampling as required by CT DEEP is being conducted, and permit limits are being met.
- Loadout of the dewatered sediment for disposal at off-site facilities continued.
- Through the end of September, approximately 21 of the 39 geo-textile bags containing sediment have been removed from the site, including the bag containing elevated concentrations of PCBs.

What to Expect in October

In October, we will continue to conduct the following activities:

- Dewatering of sediment and treatment of filtrate will continue at Exide's property. Monitoring and sampling will continue, as required by CT DEEP. Discharge monitoring will be intermittent during this period reflecting the infrequent generation of treated water.
- The WTP will remain active at the Exide property, and continue to treat filtrate as the sediment continues to dewater. The WTP is expected to remain in operation until all of the dewatered sediment is removed from the Exide property and the basin is empty.
- Load-out of dewatered sediment will continue. In general, load-out consists of 20 to 30 trucks per day transporting sediment off-site five days per week, with work also occurring on Saturday to prepare for the following week.
- As the dewatered sediment is loaded and removed, the following practices will be used:

- A proactive odor control plan is in-place that is being implemented to minimize odors. These natural odors are related to decaying organic material dredged from the river and may smell like “low tide.”
- A proactive dust control plan is in-place that will be implemented to control potential dust from the on-site gravel haul road. This dust is not from the sediment. A water truck is maintained on-site and the haul road will be sprayed with potable water, as needed to minimize potential dust.
- The odor control and dust control plans are available on the Town of Fairfield’s website.

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: Ralph A. Klass P.E., L.E.P. (203) 598-5595 ralphklass@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