

Fact Sheet

NYSDEC Project ID: 851046

Corning, New York

October 2014

An availability session and public meeting will be held at the Radisson Hotel Corning on October 30, 2014 to provide the public an update on the results of the soil sampling in the Study Area that has been completed in the City of Corning Rights of Way in the Residential Area, City of Corning Houghton Park, City of Corning Memorial Stadium, City of Corning Firehouse Frontage Property, Corning-Painted Post High School, Corning Christian Academy and Little Lambs Preschool, and the Residential Area at the East End of Corning Boulevard. The availability session will be held from 3:00-5:00 pm in the Carder Room and the public meeting will be held from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Ballroom.

Introduction

Corning Incorporated, together with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), is providing this update about soil sampling completed in July and August 2014 in several parts of the Study Area. The soil sampling was performed in accordance with the NYSDEC-approved Study Area Characterization Work Plan that was presented to the community in July 2014 public meetings. The work included collecting and analyzing soil samples from several areas. This fact sheet provides supplemental information about the sample results that are being provided to the owners of property where soil sampling was completed in July and August 2014.

Background

On June 27, 2014, Corning Incorporated and NYSDEC entered into an Order on Consent (Order) to conduct an environmental study to determine whether fill materials that the Corning Painted-Post School District described as containing ash, brick, and/or glass pieces encountered during the recent Corning High School expansion are present in the Study Area and to understand the nature and extent of these materials.

Characterization Study Update

Sample results have been provided to the following individual property owners: City of Corning (Rights of Way in the Residential Area, Houghton Park, Memorial Stadium and Firehouse Frontage); Corning-Painted Post School District (Corning Painted Post High School); Corning Christian Academy and Little Lambs Preschool, and the Residential Area at the East End of Corning Boulevard. Maps of these areas are contained in the Study Area Characterization Work Plan.

After soil samples were collected from each property, from locations approved by NYSDEC, they were shipped to a NYSDOH Environmental Laboratory Approval Program (ELAP) -certified laboratory where they were analyzed for substances specified in the Study Area Work Plan. The laboratory also ran several quality control analyses.

Figure 1- Study Area Location



The laboratory then provided a report of the sampling data, and data validation was performed. Data validation is the checking of data for correctness, or the determination of compliance with applicable standards, rules and conventions.¹ The NYSDEC has criteria that the data must meet before it can be used for decision-making purposes.

Once the data were validated, Data Usability Summary Reports (DUSRs) were prepared and submitted to the NYSDEC and NYSDOH for review. After a thorough review of the data and DUSRs, the results were approved for release and provided to the respective property owners.

Each property owner has received a letter containing the data for the soil samples collected on their property.

In addition to receiving validated sample results, the property owner will be advised of plans for any additional characterization work that NYSDEC may request.

A majority of sampling results met New York State residential screening criteria.

A brief summary of results for the areas for which sample collection, analysis and validation of data has been completed follows.

City of Corning Rights of Way in the Residential Area

In the City of Corning residential rights of way, 22 of the 24 soil borings met New York State residential screening criteria. Only one soil boring contained fill material containing ash, brick, and/or glass pieces. At the request of NYSDEC, Corning has submitted a work plan addressing additional characterization activities around two soil borings located in the northwest corner of the Study Area.

City of Corning Houghton Park

Each of the 12 soil samples taken in Houghton Park met the New York State residential screening criteria.

Corning-Painted Post School District

The results of soil sampling completed under the Study Area Characterization Work Plan are as follows.

No fill material containing ash, brick, and/or glass pieces was identified in the immediate vicinity of the school buildings that exceeded the New York State restricted residential screening criteria.

- Fill material containing ash, brick, and/or glass pieces was identified underneath the new athletic fields which exceeded the New York State restricted residential screening criteria. This fill material was identified at deeper depths and is

currently covered by the soils used to construct the athletic fields, which limit potential exposure.

- The School District has been contacted regarding areas near the tennis courts and along Corning Boulevard which lack sufficient cover.
- Corning Incorporated is working collaboratively with the NYSDEC, NYSDOH and the School District to develop a plan to complete additional characterization of the School District property.

Corning Christian Academy and Little Lambs Preschool

Of 32 soil samples collected at the Corning Christian Academy and Little Lambs Preschool only one did not meet New York State residential screening criteria. At the request of NYSDEC, Corning has submitted a work plan to further characterize the soils in the vicinity of that one soil sample. All samples in the playground area met the New York State residential screening criteria.

City of Corning Memorial Stadium

The soil sampling at the Memorial Stadium confirmed the presence of fill material containing ash, brick, and/or glass pieces that did not meet New York State residential screening criteria. Corning Incorporated is working collaboratively with the NYSDEC, NYSDOH and the City of Corning to develop a plan to complete additional characterization of the Memorial Stadium property.

City of Corning Firehouse Frontage

Soil sampling confirmed the presence of fill materials containing ash, brick, and/or glass pieces in the western portion of the property that did not meet New York State residential screening criteria, and sampling of shallow soils also did not meet New York State residential screening criteria. Corning and NYSDEC are discussing the need for any further work.

Eastern End of Corning Boulevard Properties

Soil sampling confirmed the presence of fill materials containing ash, brick, and/or glass pieces at properties located on the eastern end of Corning Boulevard that did not meet New York State residential screening criteria. At the request of NYSDEC, Corning has submitted a work plan outlining additional characterization activities. Corning has also submitted a plan for a temporary measure to limit potential exposure to address areas specified by NYSDEC and NYSDOH where a potential exposure pathway exists.

Residential Area Sampling

The first round of surface soil sampling at individual Residential Area properties, consisting of four surface soil samples taken at more than 150 homes, concluded in early October 2014. Samples are currently being analyzed by a state ELAP-certified laboratory. The analytical results will be validated and are anticipated to be

¹ Data qualification is an integral component of data review and validation. During data review, the results are either accepted or rejected. Accepted data may be reported with or without data qualifiers or flags. Data that meet all quality control acceptance limits are accepted and are not qualified. Data that fail one or more minor quality control

criteria are qualified as estimated (with the J flag.) This often occurs when the concentration of a substance is close to the detection limit of the instrument. Occasionally, data may fail a significant quality criterion, such that the data cannot be considered reliable or useable in any way; these data are rejected (with the R flag).

available to property owners in late January of 2015 after they have been provided to and reviewed by NYSDEC.

Corning Incorporated will begin a second round of surface soil sampling for residences in mid-November 2014. Anyone within the Study Area who has not signed an access agreement, but would like to be included, should return their access agreement to Corning by Nov. 7. Another copy of the access agreement can be requested by contacting the Study Area toll-free number: (866) 256-1902.

Groundwater Sampling

Groundwater sampling required under the Study Area Characterization Work Plan will begin in mid-November 2014. NYSDEC is reviewing Corning's proposal for location of groundwater sampling wells within the Study Area. Once Corning's proposal is approved it will be available in the two document repositories for the Study Area as well as www.postcreekstudyarea.com for review by the public.

Once characterization work within the Study Area is complete, Corning will evaluate validated data and discuss any further action that may be warranted with NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

Where can I get more information?

We are committed to providing opportunities for citizen participation in the process, and to developing an open and ongoing dialog with the community throughout the study. We have developed a comprehensive communication and participation plan to guide the process, called the Citizen Participation Plan.

An availability session and public meeting will be held at the Radisson Hotel Corning on October 30, 2014. The NYSDEC and NYSDOH will present the results of the soil sampling and explain what the community can expect next. Corning and its technical consultants will also participate and be available to answer questions from the public.

We have established two document repositories for the Study Area, where the community can access technical and other documents. These repositories are located at the Southeast Steuben County Library, 300 Nasser Civic Center Plaza, Corning, N.Y.; and the NYSDEC Region 8 Office, 6274 Avon-Lima Road, Avon, N.Y.

We have also established a special website to keep you informed (www.postcreekstudyarea.com). If you have further questions about the process or the additional characterization activities, we invite you to contact our toll free telephone number or transmit a comment in writing to our email address:

(Toll free) (866) 256-1902

studyarea@corning.com

The NYSDEC and NYSDOH are also available to answer questions you may have.

Technical Information

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CORNING

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