

GENERAL SITE INFORMATION, CHARACTERISTICS, AND STATUS

Project Name	<u>YORK OIL</u>	ProjectID: 02-19
Last Updated:	08/29/02	
City:	Moira	
County:	Franklin	
State:	NY	
Country:	USA	
Bodies of Water:	Western, Northwest, and Southern Wetlands; Lawrence Brook	
US EPA Region:	II	
Status (Active, Complete, or Monitoring Only):	Complete	
Date On NPL:	1983	
ROD/ESD Date:	1998 (OU-2)	
Operable Unit:	OU-2	
Areas of Concern (length or acres):	150 acres of Western, Northwest, and Southern Wetlands.	
Other Characteristics of Water Body:	The Western Wetland consists of over 17 acres of ponds, cattails, shrubs, seedlings, and several varieties of trees. The Southern Wetland is over 82 acres of mixed forest and ponded surface water. The 50-acre Northwest Wetland includes a five- to six-acre pond formed by a beaver dam.	
Contaminants of Concern:	PCBs, heavy metals	
Source of Contamination:	Recycled waste oils, which were stored or processed in above-ground storage tanks and lagoons. The lagoons reportedly overflowed from time-to-time into the adjacent wetlands.	
Contaminated Area Physical Characteristics:	The 17-acre Site Proper includes a fenced-in portion of land. The Western wetland consists of 17.2 acres of intermittent ponds, cattails, shrubs, seedlings, and a variety of larger trees connected by a west-northwesterly flowing, poorly-defined drainage channel. The 82.4-acre Southern Wetland consists of mixed forest and ponded surface water resulting from beaver dams. The Southern Wetland drains both to the east toward Lawrence Brook and to the northwest through a culvert, which allows water to flow from the Southern Wetland to the Western Wetland. The 50-acre Northwest Wetland is controlled by a well-established beaver dam that has caused the formation of a five- to six-acre pond. An emergent marsh community with seasonally saturated soil extends from this large, standing water area. The Site is located within the Lawrence Brook watershed. Two major tributaries, Alburg Brook and Joy Brook, flow north and merge to form Lawrence Brook.	
Type of Regulatory Action:	Superfund. Final.	
Overall Status Summary:	The public comment period for a Proposed Plan ended in late July 1998. A ROD (OU-2) was issued at the end of September 1998. The cleanup was performed by Alcoa. Four federal agencies and 21 companies and/or municipalities provided funds to assist in the cleanup. Contractor bids for the work were submitted on April 1, 1999. Cleanup of soils and wetlands began in Summer 1999 and was completed in Spring 2001. The \$3.2 million remedy involved removal of 11,000 cy of sediments exceeding 1 ppm PCBs and 31 ppm lead from the 17-acre Western Wetland. Removed sediments were dewatered, solidified/stabilized, and disposed under a cap on the plant site in conjunction with the remedy for OU-1 (the Site Proper). Damaged wetlands were mitigated. The remedy also included toxicity testing of sediments and surface water in the Northwest Wetland. No unacceptable toxicity results were obtained, therefore removal and solidification/stabilization of sediments from the 50-acre Northwest Wetland was not required. Sediments in the Western Wetland exhibited upwards of 212 ppm	

GENERAL SITE INFORMATION, CHARACTERISTICS, AND STATUS

Project Name

YORK OIL

ProjectID: 02-19

Last Updated:

08/29/02

PCBs. Only one sample from the Northwest Wetland exceeded 1 ppm PCBs.

Remedial Action Planned:



Risk Assessment:



Remedial Action Implemented:



Status of Dredging



PRPs:



Contacts:



References:



Modeling:



Fishing Advisory:



Key Conditions:

dedicated landfill or CDF, more-harm-than-good, wetlands

REMEDIAL ACTION PLANNED

Project Name	<u>YORK OIL</u>	ProjectID: 02-19
Last Updated:	11/09/98	
Target Sediment Cleanup Standards (TSCS):	1 ppm for PCBs	
How TSCS Established:	US EPA has consistently used 1 ppm PCBs as a cleanup objective for sediment at NYS Superfund sites.	
Target Bank and Floodplain Cleanup Levels (if applicable):		
Other Target:		
Environmental Sample Data References:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sediment:• Water:• Fish:	
Estimated Target Volume:	Approximately 11,000 cy from the Western Wetland. The target volume could increase if unacceptable toxicity results are documented for the Northwest Wetlands.	
Planned Disposal Method:	On-site disposal following solidification/stabilization.	
Estimated Calendar Time to Implement Remedy:		
Estimated Time to Implement Remedy:		
Estimated Cost to Implement Remedy:	Capital = \$3,170,000; monitoring = \$57,600; present worth = \$3,890,000	
Stated Remedial Action Objectives (and Source):	RAOs as outlined in 1998 ROD: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• mitigate the migration of contaminated groundwater;• restore groundwater quality underlying the Southern Wetland to levels which meet state and federal standards;• prevent future human contact with contaminated groundwater underlying the Southern Wetland; and• minimize exposure of fish and wildlife to contaminated sediments in the Western and Northwestern Wetlands.	
Measures of Success to be Used:		
Planned Monitoring and Restoration:	Long-term groundwater monitoring; long-term wetland sediment toxicity monitoring.	
Agency Position on Sediment Removal (and Source):	(Source: 1998 ROD): "Alternative SED-1 would not be protective of ecological receptors over time. Although	

REMEDIAL ACTION PLANNED

Project Name

YORK OIL

ProjectID: 02-19

Last Updated:

11/09/98

Alternatives SED-2 (removal of Western Wetland sediments) and SED-3 (removal of Western Wetland and Northwestern Wetland sediments) would provide lower residual risks to the environment relative to the no-action alternative, the implementation of these activities would result in adverse impacts to the wetlands' habitats and biota. Further, it would take a considerable time before a diverse and fully functioning plant community would be reestablished. Alternative SED-2 would address the areas which present the highest level of potential ecological risk, while resulting in less wetland disturbance than Alternative SED-3. Removal of the additional contaminated sediments under Alternative SED-3 would provide the greatest protection from potential risk, but with an increased temporary loss of wetland value." (Note: SED-2 is the selected remedy.)

"Although Alternatives SED-2 and SED-3 would provide lower residual risks to the environment relative to the no-action alternative, they would disturb wetland habitats. In addition, under these alternatives, additional areas of upland habitats for staging areas, access roads, and other support facilities would be disturbed." (Note: SED-2 is the selected remedy.)

"Under Alternative SED-2, the potential impacts of excavating approximately 8 acres of contaminated sediments from the predominantly open water Western Wetland would not be significant and the ability to restore the Western Wetland habitats would be readily achievable. However, excavating approximately 5 acres of contaminated sediments from the Northwestern Wetland (under Alternative SED-3) would damage the productive and diverse ecological community that currently exists in this area, resulting in a temporary loss of habitats. In addition, it is expected that it would be considerably more difficult to appropriately restore the forested habitats in the Northwestern Wetland."

From Description of the Selected Remedy: "In the Western Wetland, the most significant potential ecological risk is associated with the elevated lead and PCB concentrations in the sediments located immediately to the west and northwest of the Site Proper Western Drainage Area and in the drainage channel leading to North Lawrence Road. These sediments, which contain approximately 96% of the PCBs in the Western Wetland, will be completely removed. Excavation and/or dredging of sediments in the "remaining areas" of the Western Wetland will be contingent upon the results of design-phase sediment sampling to more accurately define the extent of contamination and the existence of any "channelized" contaminants, and design-phase studies to determine whether lead and/or PCBs in these sediments pose an ecological threat. Those sediments which exceed 1 mg/kg PCBs would be removed; those sediments which are otherwise determined to pose a significant ecological threat would also be removed."

RISK ASSESSMENT

Project Name **YORK OIL**

ProjectID: 02-19

Last Updated: 11/09/98

RA Type: Human Health and Ecological

RA Status: Complete

RA Objectives: "Based on the results of the supplemental RI, a baseline risk assessment (BRA) was conducted to estimate risks associated with current and future site conditions." (1998 ROD)

***Company
Performing RA:***

RA Reference Report:

***RA Summary and
Conclusions:*** (Source: 1998 ROD):

"It has been concluded that:

- (1) The levels of lead and PCBs in the Western Wetland sediments pose the greatest ecological threat in that wetland;
- (2) The levels of lead present in Northwestern Wetland sediments exceed NYSDEC's sediment screening values and, therefore, may pose an ecological risk;
- (3) The groundwater in the vicinity of the Southern Wetland presents an unacceptable human risk under the future-use scenario;
- (4) The levels of contaminants present in sediments in the depositional areas of the Southern Wetland do not pose a significant human health or ecological risk;
- (5) The levels of contaminants that are present in the sediments in the Western Wetland and the Northwestern Wetland do not pose a significant human health risk; and
- (6) The levels of contaminants that are present in the surface waters do not pose a significant human health or ecological risk."

"Based upon the human health and ecological risk assessments, EPA has determined that actual or threatened releases of hazardous substances from the Site, if not addressed by the selected alternative or one of the other active measures considered, may present a current or potential threat to public health, welfare, or the environment."

The following Comment and EPA Response appears in the Responsiveness Summary in the ROD:

"Comment No. 10: The conservative approach taken in the risk assessment resulted in calculated potential ecological risks to a wide variety of biota. It should be noted that the ecological risk assessment procedure used by EPA is intentionally conservative and tends to overestimate risk rather than underestimate risk to receptor species. Notwithstanding the fact that the risk assessment concluded that the levels of PCBs and lead in the Western Wetland sediments pose an ecological threat in that wetland and that the levels of lead present in Northwestern Wetland sediments exceed NYSDEC's screening values and, therefore, may pose an ecological risk, the RI concluded that these two wetlands appear to be healthy, functioning ecosystems with active wildlife populations."

"Response No. 10: The conclusion in the RI report that the wetlands appear to be healthy and functioning and contain active wildlife populations is based on just that, their appearance. Outward appearances,

RISK ASSESSMENT

Project Name **YORK OIL**

ProjectID: 02-19

Last Updated: 11/09/98

may, however, be misleading. The flora and fauna may appear healthy, but they or the animals that prey on them could very likely be adversely impacted by the contamination. For example, a fish would not necessarily demonstrate any visible indications that it is accumulating PCBs, yet there could be a bioaccumulative impact on a predator. This is why EPA intentionally uses conservative assumptions in its risk assessments which tend to overestimate the risk to the receptor species."

POTENTIALLY RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

Project Name **YORK OIL**

ProjectID: 02-19

PRP Name: PRP INFORMATION NOT RELEASED

PRPID:

Street Address:

City:

State:

KEY CONTACTS

Project Name **YORK OIL**

ProjectID: 02-19

Last Name: KEY CONTACT INFORMATION NOT RELEASED

Contact ID:

First Name:

Title:

Company:

Address:

City:

State:

Postal Code:

Work Phone # :

Other Phone #:

Fax # :

Email Address:

REFERENCES

Project Name YORK OIL

ProjectID: 02-19

Reference Type: A

ReferenceID: 303

Title: *Summary Report of RI Results and Baseline Risk Assessment:
York Oil Superfund Site (selected pages)*

Location: AEM

Category: Contaminated Sediments: Investigation/Delineation

Prepared by/Author: Blasland, Bouck & Lee, Inc.

**Preparer/Author
Address:** 6723 Towpath Road
P.O. Box 66
Syracuse, NY 13214

Prepared For: US EPA

Date Published: April 1996

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: A

ReferenceID: 369

Title: *Record of Decision: York Oil Site*

Location: AEM

Category: ROD/Proposed Plan/Action Memo/Decision Document

Prepared by/Author: US EPA Region II

**Preparer/Author
Address:** New York, NY

Prepared For: General Public

Date Published: September 1998

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: B

ReferenceID: 275

Title: *Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Report*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For:

Date Published: April 1998

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

REFERENCES

Project Name **YORK OIL**

ProjectID: 02-19

Reference Type:

B

ReferenceID: 346

Title:

York Oil Company Fact Sheet

Location:

AEM

Category:

Site Update

Prepared by/Author:

US EPA Region II

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/site_sum/0201644c.htm

Prepared For:

General Public

Date Published:

April 1998

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type:

B

ReferenceID: 454

Title:

***Cleanup of Contaminated Sediments at Superfund Site in Moira
Proceeds as US Announces Proposed Agreement with Responsible
Parties***

Location:

AEM

Category:

Site Update

Prepared by/Author:

US EPA Region II

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For:

General Public

Date Published:

September 19, 2000

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type:

C

ReferenceID: 175

Title:

***Four Contractors Vying for York Oil; PRPs Agree to Begin Work
in Spring***

Location:

AEM

Category:

Site Update

Prepared by/Author:

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For:

Superfund Week

Date Published:

April 2, 1999

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

REFERENCES

Project Name **YORK OIL**

ProjectID: 02-19

Reference Type: C

ReferenceID: 293

Title: **York Oil pre-design near in New York**

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author:

Preparer/Author

Address:

Prepared For: Superfund Week

Date Published: July 12, 1996

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: C

ReferenceID: 294

Title: **PRPs doing York Oil solidification studies**

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author:

Preparer/Author

Address:

Prepared For: Superfund Week

Date Published: January 10, 1997

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: C

ReferenceID: 295

Title: **EPA Proposes Dredging, Solidifying Sediments at York Oil for
\$3.1 Million**

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author:

Preparer/Author

Address:

Prepared For: Superfund Week

Date Published: June 26, 1998

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

REFERENCES

Project Name YORK OIL

ProjectID: 02-19

Reference Type: C

ReferenceID: 296

Title: *EPA Eyes \$4 Million Plan to Treat Groundwater, Sediment at York Oil*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author:

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: Superfund Week

Date Published: July 17, 1998

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: C

ReferenceID: 327

Title: *EPA Chooses Excavation for York Oil Sediment, Groundwater*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: US EPA Region II

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: Superfund Week

Date Published: October 9, 1998

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: C

ReferenceID: 617

Title: *EPA Nears Settlement with 25 PRPs for Cleanup of York Oil Lead, PCBs*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author:

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: Superfund Week

Date Published: October 27, 2000

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

REFERENCES

Project Name **YORK OIL**

ProjectID: 02-19

Reference Type:

D

ReferenceID: 68

Title:

***Alcoa to Carry Out EPA's Order and Expand Cleanup at
Superfund Site in Moira, New York to Contaminated Wetlands
Sediments***

Location:

AEM

Category:

Site Update

Prepared by/Author:

US EPA Region II

***Preparer/Author
Address:***

New York, NY

Prepared For:

General Public

Date Published:

February 25, 1999

***Key Words and
Phrases:***
