

GENERAL SITE INFORMATION, CHARACTERISTICS, AND STATUS

Project Name	<u>CIBA-GEIGY</u>	ProjectID: 02-24
Last Updated:	02/06/04	
City:	Queensbury	
County:	Warren	
State:	NY	
Country:	USA	
Bodies of Water:	Hudson River	
US EPA Region:	II	
Status (Active, Complete, or Monitoring Only):	Complete	
Date On NPL:	N/A	
ROD/ESD Date:	N/A	
Operable Unit:	N/A	
Areas of Concern (length or acres):	3,800 lineal feet of the Hudson River and northern river bank; also, an 11 acre former Hudson River bed channel containing two ponds.	
Other Characteristics of Water Body:	The Hudson River is 500-1,000 feet wide, and a maximum of 20 feet deep, opposite the Ciba-Geigy plant site. Water releases from an upstream dam are regulated; removal activities were timed as much as practical to occur during periods of low flow.	
Contaminants of Concern:	heavy metals	
Source of Contamination:	Primarily from wastes generated from the manufacture of paint pigments, over the period 1907-1989.	
Contaminated Area Physical Characteristics:	The Ciba-Geigy site is located in Queensbury, NY, a little more than one mile upstream from the Bakers Falls Bridge, which is in Hudson Falls. One area targeted for sediment removal extended for about 3,800 lineal feet of the Hudson River, beginning adjacent to the Ciba-Geigy site and ending downstream of the property's boundary. The maximum water depth in the targeted area was eight feet. The second area targeted was a former Hudson River bed channel downstream from the Ciba-Geigy site known as the Poned Backwater Area. This area contained two ponds contaminated with heavy metals.	
Type of Regulatory Action:	NYS RCRA. Final.	
Overall Status Summary:	As described in Reference D-508: <p>“Manufacturing activities at the site date back to 1901 with the production of wallpaper. In 1907, operations were expanded to include the production of inorganic pigments which eventually became the primary product line at the facility. Hercules Incorporated purchased the site in 1960 and subsequently sold it to Ciba-Geigy in 1979. Ciba-Geigy ceased production of pigments in 1989 and demolished the buildings on the site leaving intact a warehouse and numerous concrete building slabs. Stained or contaminated debris was transported off-site for disposal as hazardous waste.”</p> <p>“On September 9, 1996, ownership of the main plant site was transferred from Ciba-Geigy Corporation to Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corporation. Hercules and Ciba have entered into a cooperative agreement under which Hercules is managing the corrective measures while Ciba retains ownership of the site.”</p> <p>Three sediment areas were targeted for remediation, described as follows in Reference D-508:</p>	

GENERAL SITE INFORMATION, CHARACTERISTICS, AND STATUS

Project Name

CIBA-GEIGY

ProjectID: 02-24

Last Updated:

02/06/04

- “In two off-site ponds owned by the Glens Falls Lehigh Cement company, bottom sediment contaminated with heavy metals from plant erosion will be remediated by insitu covering of the sediment with clean gravel fill. The deposition of clean sediment is expected to naturally restore the ponds.”
- “Approximately 12,000 cubic yards of sediment and debris contaminated with heavy metals will be removed from the Hudson River and the adjacent river bank and deposited in the on-site Corrective Action Management Unit (CAMU). The removal will extend over 3,800 lineal feet of the Hudson River, beginning adjacent to the site and ending shortly downstream of the property's boundary.” (The CAMU is an approximately 5-acre former lagoon.)
- “Another segment of the RCRA corrective action project will be addressed in a post-closure permit modification. The proposed modification includes plans to remediate a former Hudson River bed channel downstream from the main plant site known as the Poned Backwater Area. The 11-acre area containing two ponds is contaminated with heavy metals. The proposal calls for removing 15,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil, restoring the excavated area with clean fill and vegetation and extending the wetland area.”

The first bulleted item (above) was accomplished in 2003. The sediment removal activities (second and third bulleted items, above) were accomplished during the period 2000-2001. Sediment and river bank removal was by a combination of wet and dry excavation, using long-reach excavators situated on existing land or on make-shift roads built into the river using ballast materials. Confirmation of removal of targeted material was by visual observation and by probing.

A total of 27,000 cy of material was removed and was disposed in the onsite CAMU.

Remedial Action Planned: ☐

Risk Assessment: ☐

Remedial Action Implemented: ☒

Status of Dredging ☐

PRPs: ☒

Contacts: ☒

References: ☒

Modeling: ☐

Fishing Advisory: ☐

Key Conditions: capping; dedicated landfill or CDF; wetlands

REMEDIAL ACTION IMPLEMENTED

Project Name:	<u>CIBA-GEIGY</u>	ProjectID: 02-24
Last Updated:	02/06/04	
Physical Target:	3,800 lineal feet of the Hudson River and northern river bank; also, an 11 acre former Hudson River bed channel containing two ponds.	
Goals:	Not identified	
Primary Contractor:	Brown and Caldwell	
Other Contractors:		
Generic Remediation Method:	Wet and dry excavation	
Equipment:	Long-reach excavators; silt curtains in the river	
Material Handling:	Removal was by a combination of wet and dry excavation using long-reach excavators. Make-shift roads were built out into the river, using ballast materials, to access the sediment farthest from the banks (a maximum distance out of about 50 feet). The ballast material was then removed as the operations worked from areas farthest from the river banks back toward the banks.	
Volume Removed:	27,000 cy	
Calendar Time:	2000-2001 for removal projects	
Time To Implement:	About one calendar year.	
Total Cost:	Not identified	
Dredging Cost:	N/A	
Disposal of Sediment:	Into an onsite Corrective Action Management Unit (CAMU)	
Volume of Water:	Not identified	
Method of Water Treatment:	Not identified	
Water Discharge Limit:	Not identified	
Air Monitoring During Remediation:	Not identified	
Water Monitoring During Remediation:	Not identified	
Outcome:	The sediment removal activities were accomplished during the period 2000-2001. A total of 27,000 cy of material was removed and was disposed in the onsite CAMU. Sediment and river bank removal was by a combination of wet and dry excavation, using long-reach excavators situated on existing land or on make-shift roads built into the river using ballast materials. Confirmation of removal of targeted material was by visual observation and by probing. This confirmation approach was agreed to by NYSDEC after the PRP performed pre-remediation biological testing and demonstrated that only areas of "heavy" contamination (i.e., where deposited material was visible) were potentially detrimental to biota and water quality.	
Restoration and Post-Monitoring:	Not identified	

REMEDIAL ACTION IMPLEMENTED

Project Name: **CIBA-GEIGY**

ProjectID: 02-24

Last Updated: 02/06/04

Site-Specific Difficulties:

Monitoring Data

References:

- **Sediment**
- **Water:**
- **Fish:**

POTENTIALLY RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

Project Name **CIBA-GEIGY**

ProjectID: 02-24

PRP Name: PRP INFORMATION NOT RELEASED

PRPID:

Street Address:

City:

State:

KEY CONTACTS

Project Name **CIBA-GEIGY**

ProjectID: 02-24

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 **CIBA-GEIGY**

ProjectID: 02-24

Reference Type: A

ReferenceID: 888

Title: ***Ciba Geigy Main Plant/Pretreatment Plant (NYS Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Report) - April 2000***

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: General Public

Date Published: April 1, 2000

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: A

ReferenceID: 889

Title: ***Ciba Geigy Main Plant/Pretreatment Plant (NYS Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Report) - April 1998***

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: General Public

Date Published: April 1, 1998

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: A

ReferenceID: 1043

Title: ***Fact Sheet: Ciba Geigy - Hercules Plant Site***

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: USEPA Region II

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: General Public

Date Published: December 4, 2003

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

REFERENCES

Project Name **CIBA-GEIGY**

ProjectID: 02-24

Reference Type: D

ReferenceID: 508

Title: **DEC: Cleanup of Former Hercules/CIBA-GEIGY Plant to Begin**

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: NYSDEC

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: News Release

Date Published: June 9, 2000

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: L

ReferenceID: 199

Title: ***e-mail re: FW: Link***

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: AEM, Inc.

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: File

Date Published: June 25, 2002

**Key Words and
Phrases:** Ciba-Geigy project summary

Reference Type: L

ReferenceID: 200

Title: ***e-mail re: Ciba-Geigy and Terry Creek Sites***

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: AEM, Inc.

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: File

Date Published: November 17, 1998

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

REFERENCES

Project Name **CIBA-GEIGY**

ProjectID: 02-24

Reference Type: N

ReferenceID: 7

Title: *Notes of Phone Conversation with Outside Counsel*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: AEM, Inc.

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: File

Date Published: November 12, 1998

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: N

ReferenceID: 8

Title: *Notes of Conversation with Brown and Caldwell Project Manager
(with attached Brown and Caldwell article re: Cutting Sediment
Remediation Costs, Protecting River Water Quality in New York
State)*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: AEM, Inc.

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: File

Date Published: June 20, 2002

**Key Words and
Phrases:**
