



COMMUNITY RELATIONS TEAM

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Issue 8
May, 2004

The Diamond Shamrock Community Relations Team is a responsive community team dedicated to communicating information and addressing public concerns regarding the investigation of the Diamond Shamrock Painesville Works Site.

Proposed Release of Parcel 7A1(Map Ref. 1)

Ohio EPA has proposed the release of property located on the southeastern portion of the Site (Parcel 7A1). The Agency is recommending that the property be released from the Diamond Shamrock Painesville Works Site with no further action required. Copies of the Agency's Preferred Plan for this parcel have been placed in the document repositories at Morley Library in Painesville and the Fairport Public Library in Fairport Harbor.

Environmental sampling and subsequent risk assessments did not reveal unacceptable risk to either human health or the environment by soils or ground water on the property. A brief presentation of the results of sampling activities on this parcel will take place during the 6:30 p.m., June 9, 2004, public hearing at the Painesville Township Hall for the release of the property. Public comment on the proposed release will be accepted at that time. In addition, written comments may be provided to Ohio EPA until June 16, 2004. Comments should be addressed to Teri Phillips, Site Coordinator, Ohio EPA Northeast District Office, 2110 East Aurora Road, Twinsburg, Ohio 44087 or sent via e-mail to teri.phillips@epa.state.oh.us. Ohio EPA will respond to all comments received within the public comment period.

Site Work Beginning at First Clean Ohio Funded Piece (OU15) (Map Ref. 2)

The Clean Ohio program awards money on a competitive basis to promote reuse of former industrial facilities. This encourages reuse of former facilities which might otherwise lie fallow, providing money to improve the property beyond any cleanup level which might be required to maintain an inactive status. Clean Ohio is providing \$3,000,000 toward the cost of demolition, remediation and infrastructure improvements at the Diamond Shamrock Painesville Works Site Parcels 1B1, 1B2 and 5B1. The Clean Ohio funds are being matched by \$1,000,000 in funds from the Painesville PRP Group, the Village of Fairport Harbor and the Lake County Commissioners.

Demolition work is anticipated to be completed by mid-summer. In addition, the Lake County Commissioners and Hemisphere anticipate the start of remediation activities at this 102-acre portion of the Diamond Shamrock Painesville Works Site this summer as well. This remedial work will be implemented as a Voluntary Interim Action under the existing Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study orders upon approval of the remedial plan by Ohio EPA.

Although the County and Hemisphere were successful in the first round of the Clean Ohio program, a second application for demolition and cleanup at Parcels 1C3 and 1C4 was not selected for funding. Other funding for these parcels is being pursued. A possible third application for another portion of the site is being evaluated.

Remedial Investigation Feasibility Study Progress Update

The Remedial Investigation (RI) phase of the environmental study of the former Diamond Shamrock Painesville Works Site is fundamentally complete. The field work, gathering Site soil and water samples, has been completed in accordance with the work plans approved by Ohio EPA. This data was compiled in the Phase 1 and Phase 2 RI reports, which have been approved by Ohio EPA. Both of these reports are available for review in the document repositories in Painesville's Morley Library and the Fairport Harbor Public Library. The RI data is now being used in the Feasibility Study (FS) phase of the environmental study to characterize the Site. This characterization will evaluate Site areas through Risk Assessments (RAs) for human health and the ecology, eventually covering all areas of the entire Site. The FS reports will develop and review environmental cleanup alternatives for Ohio EPA approval. Some additional field work may be required to provide additional environmental data to help evaluate specific remedial alternatives, or to address Ohio EPA concerns about particular Site locations, but those work plans will be developed for Ohio EPA approval as required.

Once Ohio EPA approves an FS report, Ohio EPA will develop a Preferred Plan describing Ohio EPA's proposed environmental action regarding that part of the Site, and a public hearing will be held to receive comments on Ohio EPA's proposal. Once an Ohio EPA Preferred Plan is finalized, the parties concerned with that part of the Site will be responsible for implementing Ohio EPA's plan.

Hexavalent Chromium Release (Map Ref. 3)

Uniroyal Chemical Company, Inc. and Tierra Solutions Inc., notified Ohio EPA on March 30, 2004, that liquid containing hexavalent chromium, from a capped lagoon on the former Diamond Shamrock property, migrated off site through a drainage swale which discharges directly into the Grand River. On March 31, 2004, a response action was implemented to reduce the toxicity of the contaminated liquid before it entered the Grand River. That action was not completely successful. Ohio EPA subsequently required Tierra Solutions to immediately take additional steps to stop all release of the contaminated liquid from the former lagoon.

On April 16, 2004, Tierra Solutions began installation of an interceptor trench system to collect contaminated liquid for treatment and off-property disposal. Ohio EPA is monitoring the company's progress toward eliminating this discharge. Once it is determined that the interceptor trench has been effective in halting the release of the contaminated liquid, additional sampling will be performed within the drainage swale and the Grand River.

Although concentrations of hexavalent chromium exceeded State of Ohio Water Quality Standards within the drainage swale on April 12, 2004, no apparent impact to the Grand River has been observed. Ohio EPA expects dilution from the river to minimize impacts to the environment.

Status of Enforcement Case

In January 2002, Ohio EPA filed a case in U.S. District Court against the signatories to the 1995 Director's Final Findings and Orders for failure to perform required work. The parties have been working to negotiate a settlement to the enforcement case and it is hoped that all of the issues can be resolved prior to the court-scheduled trial date in November.

Coke Plant (OU 6) Risk Assessments (Map Ref. 4)

The Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments for the former coke plant (OU 6) were submitted to Ohio EPA by the Painesville PRP Group on December 24, 2003 and January 9, 2004, respectively. Results from these assessments indicate that unacceptable risk exists to both human health and the environment from contamination on this portion of the Diamond Shamrock Painesville Works Site. Potential remedial actions for the property will be evaluated as part of the Feasibility Study for OU 6. Ohio EPA has provided comments on both risk assessments to the Painesville PRP Group and the documents are expected to be revised and resubmitted to the Agency within the next month.

Uniroyal Waste Pit Location (Map Ref. 5)

Last year, historical documents came to light which indicated that former Uniroyal operations on the Uniroyal/Dartron parcel 1C5 had resulted in process waste material which was buried on Site property formerly owned by Uniroyal. The property on which this burial was to have taken place is located just North of the existing Uniroyal/Dartron parcel 1C5. Ohio EPA then required that this area be investigated to locate and evaluate this process waste. Two separate rounds of soil borings were completed in accordance with work plans approved by Ohio EPA, and observed by Ohio EPA in the field. None of these soil borings found process waste in that area. Ohio EPA approved the first soil boring report, is reviewing the second report, and may require additional exploration work.

Diamond Shamrock Painesville Works Site Background

The Diamond Shamrock Painesville Works Site is an approximately 1100-acre property located in northern Lake County, within the boundaries of the Village of Fairport Harbor, Painesville Township and the City of Painesville. The property was operated as a manufacturing facility by Diamond Alkali, and later Diamond Shamrock, from 1912 through 1977. A number of chemicals were produced on the facility including soda ash, baking soda, hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, chlorinated wax, chromium compounds, coke, coal tar derivatives and carbon tetrachloride. A cement plant and electric plant were also located on the property. A number of former waste disposal impoundments and landfills exist within the site boundaries.

In 1995 Ohio EPA and the Painesville PRP Group, among others, signed Director's Final Findings and Orders to perform a remedial investigation and feasibility study of the property. The purpose of this Order is to identify the types and quantities of contamination on the property, determine where the contamination is located and how to best clean it up, if necessary. To date, the majority of site investigation work has been completed and the Painesville PRP Group has begun to submit documents evaluating potential clean-up options for different portions of the Site.

The public is invited to review information pertaining to the investigation and remediation of the Diamond Shamrock Painesville Works Site. The complete record of site activities is located at the Ohio EPA Northeast District Office in Twinsburg, Ohio. In addition, copies of final documents have also been placed in the document repositories at the Morley Library in Painesville and the Fairport Public Library in Fairport Harbor.

DSCRT Meeting Dates 2004

The two DSCRT meetings now scheduled in 2004 are:

- Wednesday, June 9th, 3:30 p.m., Painesville Township Hall, 55 Nye Road, Painesville Township
- Wednesday, Sept. 15th, 2:00 p.m., Lake County Health District meeting room, 33 Mill Street, Painesville

