



Facility Siting Update: Selected Sites

Public Forums:

Fort Edward, New York, January 11, 2005

Bethlehem, New York, January 19, 2005



Overview

- Facility Siting Process
- Final Evaluation Process
- Selected / Eliminated Sites
- What is a Dewatering Facility?
- Minimizing Impacts
- Community Outreach
- Next Steps
- Q & A

The Facility Siting Process

December 2002 ~ January 2005

- **December 2002**
 - Identify Study Area / 2,400 Candidate Sites
- **December 2002 to June 2003**
 - Apply Engineering Criteria
- **May 2003**
 - Announce 24 Sites
- **June 2003 to September 2003**
 - Evaluate 24 Sites using Engineering and Additional Considerations criteria

The Facility Siting Process

December 2002 ~ January 2005

- **September 2003**
 - Announce 7 Sites
- **November 2003 to April 2004**
 - Conduct Field Investigations, Identify Site-Specific Criteria, Evaluate 7 Sites
- **April 2004**
 - Announce 3 Recommended Sites and 2 Back-up Sites
- **July 2004 to January 2005**
 - Final Evaluation of 3 Sites, Select 2 Sites

Facility Siting Process: Involving Communities

- 14 Public Sessions
- 3 Major Technical Documents
- 12 Fact Sheets
- 2,350 comment letters on the *Draft Facility Siting Report*
- Individual response to comments
- *Summary of Public Comments and Responses*

Final Evaluation Process

What happened since April 2004?

- Design Team Review and Input (GE and EPA)
- Public Review and Input
- Additional Information and Investigations
 - Cultural Resource / Archaeological Investigations
 - Transportation and Disposal Logistics
 - Continued Site-Specific Evaluations
- Selection of Sites by EPA

Selected Sites

“Energy Park”

Town of Fort Edward
Washington County, New York

“OG Real Estate”

Town of Bethlehem
Albany County, New York

Selected Site – Energy Park

- Located close to River Section 1, where approximately 60% of the dredging is expected to occur;
- Sufficient usable space to construct and operate dewatering and rail yard facilities with adequate buffer;
- Offers direct access to an active Canadian Pacific rail line and the existing Fort Edward Rail Yard is adjacent to the site;

Selected Site – Energy Park (Cont.)

- Located outside the 100-year floodplain;
- Interested landowner owns the site; and
- No cultural/archaeological resources found on-site.

Selected Site – OG Real Estate

- Located directly on the Hudson River with adequate river frontage for site access;
- Sufficient usable space to construct and operate dewatering and rail yard facilities with adequate buffer;
- Direct access to two active rail lines (CSX and Canadian Pacific) providing additional transportation flexibility to and from the site;

Selected Site – OG Real Estate (Cont.)

- Located south of the Federal Dam at Troy where the navigational channel is deeper and can accommodate deep-water barges; and
- No cultural / archaeological resources found on-site.

Eliminated Sites

“Bruno”

Town of Schaghticoke
Rensselaer County, New York

“Old Moreau”

Town of Moreau
Saratoga County, New York

“Canal Corp.”

Town of Halfmoon
Saratoga County, New York

What is a Dewatering Facility?

New Bedford Site

Filter Press



Water Treatment

Storage Areas



Rail Spurs

Treatment Facility and Bulkhead



Facility Features: What May Be On Site

- **Buildings/Structures**
 - Offices / Trailers
- **Parking Lot**
- **Rail Yard**
 - Rail Cars
- **Access Roads**
- **Waterfront**
 - Wharf/Bulkhead Area
 - Boat Launches
 - Barge Turning Basin
(EP Site Only)
 - Barges, Boats
- **Equipment**
 - Dredging Equipment
 - Filter Presses/Centrifuges
 - Holding Chambers/Tanks
 - Hydrocyclones
 - Water Treatment
Tanks/Vessels
- **Sediment/Backfill Staging Areas**
- **Buffer Zones (trees, berms etc.)**
- **Monitoring Stations**
- **Pipelines**

Potential Site Operations

- Sediment Processing and Water Treatment
and/or
- Sediment Transfer (Pipeline, Rail and/or Barge)

Minimizing Impacts: Quality of Life Performance Standards

- Air Quality
- Odor
- Noise
- Lighting
- Navigation



Minimizing Impacts:

Compliance with the Performance Standards

- Monitoring
- Responding to Complaints
- Taking Action as Necessary
- Reporting and Notification



Site Monitoring

Examples:

- PCB Air Emissions
- Noise Levels
- Odor Control
- Worker Protection (On-Site Health and Safety Plan aka HASP)
- Community Protection (Community Health and Safety Plan aka CHASP)

Community Health and Safety Plan

Purpose:

- Identify potential hazards
- Control of potential hazards
- Protection of drinking water supplies
- Emergency response plans
- Community notification
- Complaint resolution
- Identification of project safety personnel /
emergency contacts

Future Community Outreach: Dewatering Facilities

- **EPA will work with Fort Edward to create a dewatering facility committee**
- **The committee will be made up of residents and town officials and will meet monthly**
- **Facility design features will be reviewed with the committee and the community**
- **The community will also be asked to provide input on the Community Health and Safety Plan (CHASP)**

Future Community Outreach: CHASP

- **Educational workshop on CHASP (Spring/Summer 2005)**
- **EPA and GE will seek community input during the development of the draft CHASP**
- **Public comment period on draft CHASP with public meetings**
- **CHASP scheduled for release Spring 2006**

Potential Future Site Uses

- Recreational, Industrial, and Commercial
- Bulkhead, buildings, infrastructure, rail spurs and utilities may be beneficial to the future use of the property

Next Steps

Present - 2006

- **Spring 2005** – Determine specific uses for each selected site (dewatering, rail, transfer, etc.)
- **Spring 2005** – Dredge Area Delineation (DAD) Report identifying Phase 1 dredging areas
- **Summer/Fall 2005** – Release of Intermediate Design that identifies dewatering facility design, dredging methods, and transportation methods and routes to the disposal sites
- **Winter 2005/2006** – Final Design for Phase 1

Next Steps

Present - 2006

- **Winter 2006** - Community Health & Safety Plan (CHASP) released for public review
- **Winter/Spring 2006** - Construction of Dewatering Facilities
- **Summer/Fall 2006** - Phase 1 Dredging

For More Information

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Facility Features: What May Be On Site

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- **Monitoring Stations**
- **Pipelines**

Discussion



Selected Site – Energy Park



Selected Site – OG Real Estate



Eliminated Site – Old Moreau

Potential Limitations/Additional Design Considerations

Insufficient usable space to construct and operate onsite rail yard and dewatering facilities;

Environmental concerns from previous dumping and disposal activities would affect site layout and usable acreage;

Presence of cultural resources onsite affects site layout, usable acreage, and increases complexity of waterfront access;

Eliminated Site – Old Moreau

Potential Limitations/Additional Design Considerations

Dredge spoils and fill material present geotechnical concerns regarding support of foundations;

Site waterfront is within depositional area and may require periodic navigational dredging; and

Limitations due to topography along existing rail frontage and waterfront.

Eliminated Site – Bruno

Potential Limitations/Additional Design Considerations

Traffic and Transportation Issues

- Site is bisected by public road requiring operations to account for moving up, over, or underneath the road;
- Local congestion associated with nearby river crossing, potential for road closures due to rail crossing;
- Emergency vehicle access and local bus route issues;

Cultural Resource Concerns

- Onsite archaeological discoveries;
- Mechanicville Golf Course.

Eliminated Site – Bruno *(cont)*

Potential Limitations/Additional Design Considerations

Topography

- Onsite terrain increases the complexity of designing rail access, rail yard, and the transfer of materials across the site.

Rail Service

- Evaluations by GE indicated limited track and infrastructure for this project within project area.

Eliminated Site – Bruno *(cont)*

Potential Limitations/Additional Design Considerations

Waterfront Depth

- Waterfront would require dredging to create river access, and likely would also require routine dredging to maintain necessary depths for barges and tugs.

Pool Management and Clearance Under Nearby Rail Bridge

- River depths in pool are actively managed. Rail bridge just upstream of site has low vertical clearance over river. Water level adjustments within pool would increase complexity of design and operations.

Eliminated Site – Bruno *(cont)*

Potential Limitations/Additional Design Considerations

Lock Adjacent to Site

- Proximity to Lock 3 could create vessel congestion.

Proximity to Dredge Material

- Located in River Section (RS) 3 where approximately 19% of material to be dredged is located; would restrict potential use of hydraulic dredging in RS 1 and complicates transportation logistics.

Eliminated Site – Canal Corp.

Potential Limitations/Additional Design Considerations

Crossing US Highway 4 / NYS Route 32 presents design considerations, possibly requiring the construction of a conveyor system

Shallow river areas close to the site may require extensive and periodic navigational dredging

Topography may limit the waterfront area that could be used for the processing facility

Proximity to a known wintering area for the bald eagle

Presence of multiple wetland areas along rail frontage

