## Powerhouse Deconstruction – Background Hudson Falls Powerhouse and Allen Mill Site



- The Powerhouse was built in 1907 and is located adjacent to the GE Hudson Falls Plant Site (a NYSDEC cleanup site)
  - GE Hudson Falls contamination has migrated to the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC) property
  - Disturbance during deconstruction and further building deterioration have potential to cause a release to the river
- EPA reached a legal agreement with NMPC and GE in July 2022 to oversee the deconstruction of the Powerhouse and Allen Mill
- EPA is the lead agency and is coordinating closely with other agencies (DEC and DOH)
- Extensive environmental monitoring and protective measures required during deconstruction work
- Project challenges
  - Deteriorated Powerhouse condition
  - Project schedule (weather and river flow conditions)
  - Limited access and work area (34 kV overhead electric lines)
  - Working from heights and on/near water
  - Environmental conditions (asbestos-containing material in roof flashing, Hudson Falls Plant site contamination)







View of the Powerhouse and Allen Mill from across the Hudson River (October 2022)



THE DECONSTRUCTION OF THE POWERHOUSE BEGAN IN OCTOBER 2022 AND IS ALMOST COMPLETE

Penstock openings have been filled to restrict groundwater flow

South

Wall

## **Deconstruction Work Remaining**

- Site restoration
- Floor slab drainage assessment
- Additional removal/ stabilization of remnant building structures
- Installation of groundwater well(s) adjacent to Powerhouse
- Ongoing monitoring, as needed, based on site activities

North Wall

East Wall

Foundation

The Powerhouse foundation, Eastern concrete gravity wall and portions of the North and South walls are expected to remain. Additional removal and/or stabilization measures are needed for remnant building structures to ensure safe access to the floor slab for future environmental work.

**Current Powerhouse Deconstruction Status (April 26, 2023)** 

## **Powerhouse Deconstruction Summary**



- Environmental monitoring data collected to date indicates that a release to the river has been successfully prevented during the work
  - Community Air Monitoring (continuous monitoring for dust, volatile organic compounds and PCBs around site perimeter)
  - Water Monitoring (Extensive PCB water sampling program implemented downstream of the Powerhouse)
  - Groundwater Monitoring (Expanded groundwater/DNAPL monitoring; expanded DNAPL removal near Powerhouse; continued implementation of the Hudson Falls Site remedy, including tunnel drain collection system)
- Remaining Powerhouse Work
  - Site restoration work
  - Floor slab drainage assessment
  - Additional removal and stabilization measures are needed for remnant building structures to ensure safe access to the floor slab for future environmental work
  - Installation of additional groundwater well(s) adjacent to the Powerhouse
  - Ongoing environmental monitoring, as needed, based on site activities
- Deconstruction of the Allen Mill is scheduled to begin in 2024 after further planning and investigation work



## **Powerhouse Deconstruction Site**



Index Number: CERCLA-02-2022-2016 Hudson Falls, New York



To Obtain Site Information, Contact: USEPA On-Scene Coordinator: David Rosoff 908-420-4465

or USEPA Community Involvement Coordinator, Hudson River Field Office: 518-407-0400

To Report Criminal or Suspicious Activity, Contact 911

EPA Project Website: <a href="https://response.epa.gov/HudsonFalls">https://response.epa.gov/HudsonFalls</a>