



NVF Yorklyn Site Cleanup Yorklyn, New Castle County, Delaware



–No. 1 Mill Demolition to Begin –

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY - REGION 3

COMMUNITY UPDATE

OCTOBER 2007

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is overseeing ongoing cleanup activities at the NVF Yorklyn Site, located near Wilmington, Delaware. The purpose of this fact sheet is to provide the community with an update on the cleanup progress.

Demolition To Begin...

As part of the ongoing cleanup at the NVF Yorklyn Site, EPA will oversee the demolition of nine of the 16 buildings that make up the No. 1 Mill. Work is expected to begin by early November 2007.

A crew of four to six workers will use bulldozer equipment to demolish the already partially collapsed and structurally unsound buildings. The buildings designated for demolition are small, one or two story structures. The work should take approximately two weeks to complete, depending on weather.

Next Steps...

Once the deteriorated roof and walls of the buildings are safely down, workers will remove and properly dispose of:

- ✓ demolition debris,
- ✓ abandoned interior equipment,
- ✓ remaining processing liquids or supplies,
- ✓ excavated potentially contaminated soils located under the previous building sites.

Work Done to Date...

The NVF Company continues to work at their Yorklyn facility to prevent the migration of zinc and mercury from the No. 1 Mill area into the Red Clay Creek. Removal activities include:

- ✓ stopping all active wet operations in the No. 1 Mill,
- ✓ removing zinc solutions from about 33 process vats,
- ✓ treating zinc-contaminated groundwater,
- ✓ replacing leaky underground piping,
- ✓ removing about 150 bottles of chemicals.

Site Held Possible Historical Interest...

Initial demolition plans were delayed when it was determined that some of the No. 1 Mill buildings held possible historic interest. EPA, NVF Company, and state and local preservation societies worked together to ensure that the proper steps be taken prior to further work.

After consideration, NVF Company and the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs concluded that, due to the poor structural and unsafe condition of the buildings, the cleanup efforts should continue as planned. It was also determined that efforts be made to safely salvage any historically significant equipment, if possible.

Background...

Since 1904, the NVF Company has been manufacturing vulcanized fiber products. The facility is located at Route 82 and Yorklyn Road in Yorklyn, Delaware. The Red Clay Creek borders the site on the north, east, and south. In 1998, EPA and NVF Company entered into an Administrative Order by Consent (AOC) determining that cleanup actions be conducted by NVF Company with EPA oversight.

Contaminants of Concern...

In sediment samples collected from Red Clay Creek, zinc and mercury have been detected at levels considered to present a potential risk to aquatic organisms, by the National Ocean Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC).



Photo: Front view of the No. 1 Mill, circa 2002
Front building will remain onsite.

For Online Information, go to...

- ▶ www.epaosc.net/NVYorklyn
- ▶ www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/sites/DE0002337806/index.htm

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EPA Update for the NVF Yorklyn Site Cleanup

October 2007



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