

## Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

# Chemtura Corp (Formerly: General Electric Company)

**Morgantown Industrial Park North and South**

**Morgantown, WV 26505**

**Congressional District 1**

**EPA ID #: WVD980552384 (North Plant)**

**WVD061776977 (South Plant)**

**Last Updated: 12/18/2008**

## Current Progress at the Facility

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GE submits bimonthly reports documenting its progress.

2008:

GE completed field work associated with its Workplan, evaluated the generated data, and implemented studies at their Niskayuna, New York laboratory to treat 1,2 dichloroethane.

In an April 17, 2008 conference call, GE provided interim results of its laboratory studies.

In June, GE placed clean fill and revegetated an area where coal tar contaminated media was excavated in 2000.

On September 23, GE observed and documented the current condition of vegetation at SWMU 2.9.

On October 1, GE submitted a SWMU 2.9 Backfill and Revegetation Report.

In November, GE submitted a response to EPA's March 2007 comments.

GE is preparing to submit by the end of January, 2009:

1. Data presented in GIS format to support the Response to Comments and
2. An Interim Measure Report that will

A. Contain:

- i) A summary of data and results from the recent investigations and laboratory studies,
- ii) Prospective remedial objectives,
- iii) Selected interim measures for each area, and
- vi) Schedules for submitting interim measure design documents and

B. Address the groundwater environmental indicator for the North Plant.

2007:

On March 15, EPA transmitted comments to GE on outstanding data gaps.

On May 18, EPA and GE met to discuss the data gaps - WVDEP participated via conference call. During the meeting, GE presented a Conceptual Site Model (CSM) based on data gathered in investigations at the Facility and at the surrounding Superfund Morgantown Ordnance Works Removal Action Site (OU-2). GE agreed to conduct investigations of specified contaminants in generally identified areas and evaluate interim corrective measures to address specified contaminants in generally identified areas. In addition, GE agreed to incorporate institutional controls into its final remedy, where appropriate.

In July, GE submitted an Interim Measures Workplan to evaluate organic contamination at the North Plant and organic and PAH contamination at the South Plant and complete an offsite evaluation of in-situ biological treatments of 1,2 dichloroethane found at the North Plant.

In August, EPA approved the Workplan. Thereafter, GE finalized contracts and implemented the Workplan.

2006:

EPA transmitted comments to GE on the human health risk assessment and the ecological risk assessment and GE responded to the comments. GE agreed to address outstanding data gaps in the next round of sampling.

2005:

GE submitted a Draft Bedrock and Overburden Investigation Report.

EPA transmitted comments to GE on the Draft Bedrock and Overburden Investigation Report. GE agreed to complete further investigation once it received all comments on the Draft Phase II Report.

On October 3, 2005, EPA determined that migration of contaminated groundwater at the South Plant (including the former Laboratory) is under control. In its decision, EPA identified the need for additional monitoring to confirm and sustain the groundwater determination finding.

2004:

GE submitted a Draft Phase II RFI Report that included ecological and human health risk assessments.

GE submitted a Draft Environmental Assessment for the Former Ammonia Storage Sphere Structures.

At the request of the EPA, GE conducted a radiation survey at the North and South Plants and the former Laboratory. The investigation yielded no evidence of radiological contamination.

Chemtura evaluated the potential for airborne releases from the waste water plant operations to impact human health. The evaluation indicates that there is no unacceptable human health impact resulting from contaminants known or estimated to be released to outdoor air from the waste water treatment plant operations.

Chemtura removed contaminated soil that it had excavated and stored on site in late 2003.

On September 30, 2004, EPA determined that current human exposures at the North and South Plants of the Facility are under control.

2003:

GE conducted a Phase II investigation that further evaluated soil and groundwater contamination at the North Plant, South Plant, and the former Laboratory and implemented the dichloroethane investigation proposed in 1996.

Crompton/Chemtura conducted a site wide investigation to determine baseline contamination conditions prior to their purchase of the Facility.

2002:

EPA transmitted comments to GE on the Draft RFI that identified different conclusions and additional data gaps.

2000: GE removed surficial coal tars from the area of the former coal tar storage tanks.

On December 19, 2000, the State of West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection Office of Waste Management issued a Hazardous Waste Management Permit for the operation of one (1) container storage area and two (2) storage tanks for ten years.

1996 through 2002:

An EPA contractor completed an initial review of the Draft Report. A detailed review was delayed due to the knowledge of no imminent risks and the need to prioritize reviews.

1996:

GE submitted a Draft Report that consolidated and summarized all investigation results and Interim Measures Workplans to

(1) Investigate dichloroethane in groundwater at the North Plant, and

(2) Stabilize (via removal) surficial coal tars by the location of former coal tar storage tanks in the South Plant.

1995:

GE collected soil samples from locations at the North and South Plant facilities and at the former Laboratory.

1992:

The General Electric Company (“GE”) installed monitoring wells at the North and South Plant facilities, analyzed soil samples collected from the well borings, and implemented a groundwater monitoring program. In addition, GE collected seep, sediment and surface water samples from locations at the North Plant and on property adjacent to the Morgantown Facility. Results were submitted to EPA in bimonthly progress reports.

## **Facility Description**

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The Facility consists of three non-contiguous properties within the Morgantown Industrial Park, an industrial complex located along the west bank of the Monongehela River in Morgantown, WV. The three properties are the North Plant, a South Plant, and a former and currently inactive Laboratory located on property between the North and South Plants. The RCRA identification numbers for the North Plant and the South Plant are WVD980552384 and WVD061776977, respectively. The North and South Plants are each located on approximately 30 acres while the former Laboratory is located on approximately 3/4 of an acre.

From 1940 to 1958, successive owners and operators, including the U.S. Government, Dupont Corporation, Sharon Steel, Heyden Chemical (Tenneco) and Matheson Chemical (Olin) used coal to produce coke, ammonia, methanol, formaldehyde, and hexamine at the Facility. From 1943 to 1945, heavy water (deuterium) was manufactured at the Facility to support the Manhattan Project. Disposal of fly ash, coal ash, cinders, excess coal, and coal tar wastes occurred throughout the property during the nearly 20 years of coal-related processing operations associated with the Facility. The Facility was inactive from 1958 to 1962 when a specialty chemical business began to be operated at the Facility by Weston Chemical/Borg-Warner. GE purchased the Weston/Borg-Warner property in 1988. Currently, antioxidants, hydrochloric acid, and organophosphorous polymer additive stabilizers are manufactured at the North Plant and alkyl phenols, hydrochloric acid, and organophosphorous polymer additive stabilizers are manufactured at the South Plant.

The Facility is located within a Superfund Site commonly referred to as the Morgantown Ordnance Works, where surface soils containing elevated levels of PAHs, PCBs, mercury and arsenic were removed. Acid mine drainage impacts surface water and groundwater at the Facility.

The City of Morgantown is located across the river and to the north of the Facility. The drinking water intake for the City of Morgantown is located directly across the river from the North Plant.

## **Facility Responsibility**

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RCRA Corrective Action activities at this Facility are being conducted under the direction of EPA Region 3 in consultation with the State.

In 1990, EPA issued a RCRA Corrective Action (investigative) Consent Order to GE Specialty Chemicals, Inc. In 2003, in response to a request from GE, EPA revised the order recipient to General Electric Company; and GE sold the Facility to Crompton Corporation. As a result of the sale, GE retained responsibility for addressing most of the requirements of the Consent Order and Crompton Corporation took on responsibilities of the Order related to current operations and any new releases. In 2005, the name of the owner of the Facility changed from Crompton Corporation to Chemtura Corporation.

## **Contaminants**

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The contaminants identified in the 1990 Consent Order included benzene and toluene in groundwater at the North Plant and toluene in groundwater at the South Plant at concentrations exceeding the drinking water standard. Contaminants identified in subsequent Facility wide investigations include 1,2-dichloroethane, trichloroethane, trichloroethene, perchloroethylene and arsenic at the North Plant and perchloroethylene and trichloroethene, and their breakdown products, and polyaromatic hydrocarbon compounds at the South Plant.

## **Community Interaction**

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The Facility has a community relations plan in place to keep the community informed about the status of corrective action. The Facility informs the community about progress on the investigations through occasional meetings with the community and occasional newsletters. On July 21, 2000, GE issued a fact sheet announcing remediation of the coal tar tanks.

## **Institutional Controls**

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GE will incorporate Institutional Controls into the final decision for this Facility.

## **Government Contacts**

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EPA Project Manager:  
Ms. Diane Schott - 3LC20  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029  
Phone: (215) 814-3430  
Email: schott.diane@epa.gov

WVDEP Project Manager:  
Mr. Keith Stuart  
West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection  
601 57th Street  
Charleston, WV 25304  
Phone: (304) 926-0499  
Email: Keith.W.Stuart@wv.gov

For more information about EPA's corrective action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our website at: [www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm](http://www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm)

## **Facility Contact**

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GE Project Coordinator  
Ms. Lisa Hamilton

Manager, MidAtlantic/Southeast/Western Regions  
General Electric Company  
640 Freedom Business Center  
King of Prussia, PA 19406  
Phone Number: 610-992-7885  
E-mail address: Lisa.Hamilton@corporate.ge.com

Chemtura Project Coordinator  
Mr. Paul Meyer, Manager  
Environmental Remediation  
Chemtura Corporation  
199 Benson Road, Mail Stop 2-4  
Middlebury, Connecticut 06749  
Phone number: (203) 573-3545  
E-mail address: paul.meyer@chemtura.com