

## **NPDC Remediation Project Update from Montgomery Township**

It has been another busy summer at the Skillman Village site. Below is the most recent update regarding all aspects of the project.

Road Reopening: Main Blvd. and the roads with access to the VES building are open. Other portions of the site remain closed to the public.

Steam Pipe Removal: As of August 29<sup>nd</sup>, Weston had removed approximately 12,900 linear feet of steam pipes. All of the work in the so-called "spaghetti" area has been completed. The remaining pipe removal work is taking place on western and southwestern portions of the Skillman Village property, well away from the Village School (see location details below), and is expected to be completed during the week of September 8<sup>th</sup>. Restoration of the steam pipe work areas (grading and seeding) will continue for several weeks afterwards.

The areas where work remains as of September 3 include the Power House, a small road crossing near the Strecker Building (near the lake) and one or two road crossings on southern Larocque Circle. These last few areas represent a very small part of the project in terms of total footage; however, these are areas of utility crossings where work is more difficult and slow. For example, where the contractor normally can remove 104 linear feet of pipe in one day, it will take one or two days to remove the approximately 40 feet of piping at the Strecker crossing.

Sylvan Lake: As of August 29<sup>nd</sup>, the contractor has removed approximately 33,430 cubic yards of dredge spoils from Sylvan Lake. Sediment removal work is expected to be completed by the end of September. There have been no odor or noise issues to date.

Dam Restoration: The final permit is now in place. Work started on August 28<sup>th</sup> and will continue for two to three months.

Soil Remediation: Weston continues its site remediation efforts with only a few areas of concern (AOC's) remaining: the former gas dispenser area, stained soil and transformer storage areas at the Firehouse; the 5,000 gallon AST and piping areas, and the coal bin debris pit at the Power House; and the sludge/sand beds at the wastewater treatment plant (located east of the site across Burnt Hill Road). A total of eight separate AOC's have been successfully remediated to date. Work continues as scheduled and is expected to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

Coal Ash: In accordance with the NJDEP approved Remedial Action Work Plan, Weston began excavation work in late August, and has stockpiled the excavated material in a parking lot area behind the old hospital building between Main Blvd. and Sylvan Lake (the same area where concrete rubble from demolition had been stockpiled). The portion of the asphalt area to be used has been sealed, and a six-foot high containment wall has been constructed around that area and lined with plastic sheeting. Upon completion of the work, the ash will be covered by a tarpaulin and anchored with sandbags outside the containment wall in order to prevent rainwater from infiltrating the ash. As of this date approximately 85% of the coal ash has been removed and stockpiled.

During the excavation, Weston found foreign materials within the ash. The materials include ceramic tiles, broken toilets, metal parts, hoses, glass, construction and demolition (C&D) debris, garbage, trash, metal drums with unidentified contents and asbestos material. The Township has asked Weston

to confirm that the debris in the ash will not preclude the Township from being able to re-use the ash onsite for roadbed material. We are currently awaiting Weston's response. Pending resolution of this issue, further stockpiling has been suspended.

The stockpile and the area where the remaining coal ash is located have been temporarily secured. Air quality has been monitored continuously during site excavation activities and there have been no air releases to date. As we obtain additional information from Weston, we will provide the community with updates. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our Township Engineer, Gail Smith, at (908) 359-8211.