Region 2: NJ, NY, PR, VI • 290 Broadway, New York, NY 10007

Facility Siting Process Update

Energy Park/Longe/New York State Canal Corporation

RECOMMENDED SITE

April 2004

Highlights

This fact sheet provides an update on EPA's evaluation of the Energy Park/Longe/New York State Canal Corporation site ("**Energy Park**") for use as a sediment processing/transfer (dewatering) facility needed for the cleanup of the Hudson River PCBs Superfund Site.

The Energy Park site has been identified as one of five suitable sites and is one of three sites EPA is recommending to be carried forward in the design process.

Detailed information about the Energy Park site and other sites that were evaluated by EPA, and the facility siting process, can be found in the *Draft Facility Siting Report*, which is being released for public review and a 60-day comment period. The public comment period on the *Draft Facility Siting Report* begins on May 3, 2004, and ends on July 1, 2004.

Public Forum

EPA will host a public forum to provide an update on the process and discuss the *Draft Facility Siting Report*. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 11, 2004, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Fort Edward Fire House, 116 Broadway, Fort Edward, New York.

The Energy Park site is located in both the Town and Village of Fort Edward, Washington County (see Figure 1). The site is classified as vacant industrial property. It is located on the Champlain Canal, adjacent to an active rail line, and close to River Section 1 (and the Thompson Island Pool), where a majority of the material to be dredged is located.

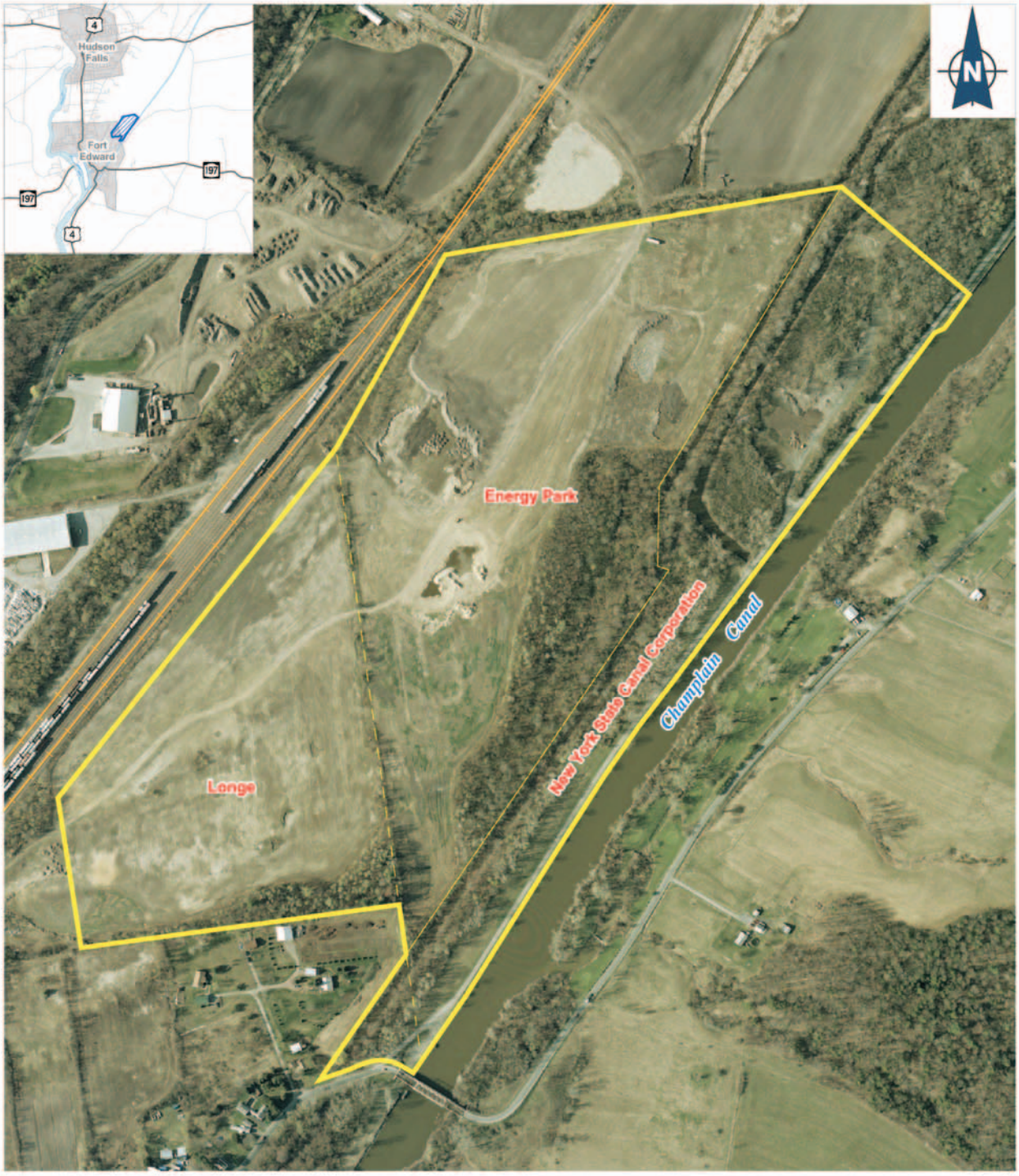
The Energy Park site has a number of benefits, some limitations, and additional design considerations, such as movement of barges through the Champlain Canal, which are factors that could affect the ease of design. EPA believes that these issues can be addressed during the design of the site and do not preclude its use as a dewatering facility.

Benefits of the Energy Park Site

- 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.
- Direct access to an active Canadian Pacific rail line and the existing Fort Edward Rail Yard is adjacent to the site.
- Site is flat, making it easier to construct the facilities.
- Site is outside the 100-year floodplain.
- Utilities are readily available.
- An interested landowner owns the site.
- For hydraulic dredging operations, dredged sediment could be transferred to the site by pipeline along the canal on New York State Canal Corporation property, avoiding the need to navigate loaded barges through Lock 7.
- Backfill material is available on site and may provide backfill for dredged areas and/or other project-related construction needs.

While EPA plans to select one to three site(s) from the three recommended sites (Energy Park, Bruno, and/or OG Real Estate), the remaining two suitable sites (Old Moreau and Canal Corp.) may need to be reconsidered in the event a serious problem, such as an unforeseen design issue, arises at one of the recommended sites. EPA considers it very unlikely that the remaining suitable sites would be reconsidered.

SOURCE; ECOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT, INC. 2003;



LEGEND

- Approximate Site Boundary
- Tax Parcel Boundary
- Railroad

Hudson River
PCBs SUPERFUND SITE

Figure 1
Energy Park / Longe / New York State Canal Corporation

500 250 0 500 1,000
Feet

Limitations of the Energy Park Site

- Located on the Champlain Canal 1.4 miles north of Lock 7, where the canal is 150 feet wide, allowing only one barge to pass in one direction at a time near the site.
- Sub-surface conditions at the waterfront may include poor foundation material.

Additional Design Considerations at the Energy Park Site

- Development of waterfront facilities will require potential construction of a berthing area and turning basin for barges.
- Movement of mechanically dredged sediments will require navigating by barge through Lock 7.

Summary

Energy Park's size and proximity to active rail lines and the Thompson Island Pool, where most of the dredging will occur, provide substantial benefits over the site's limitations and design considerations. This means that the Energy Park site is suitable for use as a dewatering site, and it is one of three sites EPA is recommending be carried forward in the design process.

The *Draft Facility Siting Report* includes specific data about site conditions, sensitive resources, wetlands, potential contamination, floodplains, cultural resources, and other information that was used to identify suitable and recommended sites.

Background

In order to implement the cleanup of the PCB-contaminated sediments from the Upper Hudson River, EPA must locate and construct temporary facilities that will be used to dewater and transfer the dredged sediments. These facilities are an important part of the cleanup and will be selected, designed, and constructed to safely handle the dredged material. Four main operations will occur at these facilities:

- Transferring dredged sediments from barges or pipelines to the facility;
- Processing (dewatering) and stabilizing the sediments;
- Supporting an on-site water treatment facility to clean the water removed from the sediments (prior to discharge back to the river); and
- Transferring the stabilized sediments to rail and/or barge for disposal at an existing licensed landfill outside of the Hudson River Valley.

In September 2003, Energy Park was identified as one of seven Final Candidate Sites for the construction and operation of dewatering facilities. Following on-site investigations and technical evaluations, this site was identified as one of five suitable sites and is one of three sites that EPA is recommending be carried forward in the design process.

Public Review

The *Draft Facility Siting Report*, which describes the entire facility siting process and provides detailed site information on all the candidate sites, is available at the information repositories located in Glens Falls, Fort Edward (Hudson River Field Office), Ballston Spa, Albany, Poughkeepsie, New York City (EPA Region 2 Office), and Edgewater, New Jersey. The electronic version can be found on the EPA project Web site at **www.epa.gov/hudson**. Copies are also available on CD-ROM by calling the Hudson River Field Office. The public can submit comments in writing via hard copy or E-mail. All comments should be sent to:

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For More Information

Visit, call, or write to the Hudson River Field Office at the address below or log on to **www.epa.gov/hudson.**

EPA Contacts

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EPA Regional Public Liaison
EPA Region 2 has designated a public liaison as a point-of-contact for community concerns and questions about the federal Superfund program in New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. To support this effort, the Agency has established a 24-hour, toll-free number that the public can call to request information, express concerns, or register complaints about Superfund. The public liaison for EPA's Region 2 office is: George H. Zachos, U.S. EPA, Region 2, 2890 Woodbridge Avenue MS-211, Edison, New Jersey 08837, (732) 321-6621, toll-free (888) 283-7626.

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