

# MAX Env Tech Inc. (Formerly: Mill Service)

233 Max Lane  
Yukon, PA 15698  
Congressional District 20  
EPA ID #: PAD004835146  
Facility Property Area: 159 acres  
Last Updated: 03/26/2014

## Current Progress at the Site

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MAX Environmental Technologies Inc. (formerly Mill Service) continues to operate a pump and treat system to clean groundwater from the Pittsburgh mine pool which was found to be contaminated with chloride and nitrate from previous operations at the Facility. This system has been in operation since the mid-1980's, and monitoring data since that time clearly indicate improvement in the groundwater chemistry. No evidence has been found to date that MAX Environmental Technologies Inc. has impacted off-site water supplies, air or soil. MAX Environmental Technologies Inc. is expected to maintain the soil covers on the closed impoundments, to limit the amount of precipitation infiltration and further protect groundwater.

## Site Description

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Since approximately 1964, MAX Environmental Technologies Inc. has operated the Yukon Facility for the treatment, storage and disposal of industrial wastes from steel making and other industries in Western Pennsylvania and adjoining areas. These wastes included lime neutralized acids (waste pickle liquor), waste rolling mill oils and sludges containing aluminum, iron, copper, nickel, and zinc as well as additional nonhazardous metallics and salts. A hazardous waste storage and treatment permit was renewed on February 14, 2005.

From 1963 until 1974, the Facility operated 3 disposal lagoons to store wastes which were treated with lime neutralization prior to disposal. Located adjacent to each other near the center of the Facility property with a total area of approximately 8.5 acres, these lagoons were closed in the late 1970's with the placement of a 3-5 foot compacted cap on top of support material that covered all three impoundments, and drainage ditches and storm water piping to prevent run-on. Despite these closure measures, it was discovered in the mid 1980's that these lagoons were acting as a type of filter bed, keeping the solids in place, while letting the water leak out.

From the mid 1970's through the mid 1980's the Facility operated two additional impoundments. Impoundment No.4 operated as a lined leachate management and overflow containment structure for the Facility. In 1985, this impoundment was clean closed by removing all wastes and placing

them in Impoundment No. 5. Impoundment No.5 is a partially lined, 13.5 acre earthen impoundment that handled various industrial wastes. Closure of this impoundment was completed in 2002.

Currently, the Facility operates residual waste Impoundment No.6, which is permitted (originally in 1986) to receive liquid and waste disposal until a specified freeboard elevation is reached then solids disposal only, until final elevations are reached. This unit is a double lined structure with complete leachate collection and detection capabilities.

In December 2005, PADEP approved a plan and executed a COA to “re-close” the 3 pre-RCRA impoundments by rebuilding their grades with residual waste, then installing a low permability gas membrane cap on each structure to seal off precipitation infiltration. This work is to be completed in 5 yrs. In June 2006, MAX submitted an application to renew the Impoundment 6 Residual Waste Permit. In June 2007, DEP renewed this permit for one year pending review of plans to build a new leachate impoundment.

## **Site Responsibility**

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RCRA Corrective Action activities at the MAX Environmental Technologies Inc. facility are being conducted under the direction of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). The investigation and any necessary clean up activities are being implemented in accordance with a 1985 Consent Order with PADEP, as well as a June 6, 2000 closure plan approval, and 2005 COA.

## **Contaminants**

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Chloride and nitrate in the groundwater are the best indicators of impact MAX Environmental Technologies Inc. operations since they are the precipitated salts from pickle liquor treatment. Heavy metals detected in down gradient wells have been found at levels well below acceptable levels for cleanup and are not a concern at this time.

## **Community Interaction**

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The Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry conducted studies at PADEP’s and Yukon citizens requests, and have concluded that there are no adverse health effects from MAX Environmental Technologies Inc. operations. MAX Environmental Technologies Inc. continues to monitor off-site private wells on a periodic basis.

## **Institutional Controls**

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Institutional controls are not required at this time.

## **Government Contacts**

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

## **Facility Contact**

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