



**POMPTON LAKES WORKS SITE**  
Pompton Lakes, New Jersey

**POMPTON LAKE STUDY AREA**  
**UPLANDS SOIL EXCAVATION/LAKE DREDGING**

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**Community Update**

**April 2016**

**CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES**  
**POMPTON LAKES WORKS**

**QUESTIONS?**

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**Schedule Highlights**

**Uplands Soil Areas/Area A/  
Island Area - 2016**

**Lake Dredging—2017**

**Restoration/Long-Term Mon-  
itoring-2018**

**Introduction**

The U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is providing this update to inform you of the start of a major phase of construction associated with the Pompton Lakes Works Site environmental cleanup. The construction includes excavation of contaminated soil in the area of Rotary Park otherwise known as the Upland Soil Areas (Uplands), dredging the Acid Brook Delta (ABD) sediments, and dredging of approximately 3 acres of contaminated sediment in two areas of Pompton Lake. This first phase of cleanup activity related to the dredging of Pompton Lake includes the Uplands contaminated soil removal and dredging of approximately 3 acres of contaminated sediment in two areas of Pompton Lake.

This update discusses how potential issues related to security, traffic, noise, odors, air monitoring and the proximity of the work to the Lakeside Avenue School will be addressed by Chemours and EPA during construction.

**Environmental Cleanup Activities**

The areas subject to cleanup are within the Pompton Lake Study Area, which EPA has defined as the following:

- the ABD sediments;
- the portion of Pompton Lake (i.e. lake sediments) outside the ABD between the Lakeside Avenue Bridge and the Pompton Lake Dam; and
- the Uplands which are soils between Lakeside Avenue and the water's edge along the lake (including wetland areas).

The first phase of work involves cleanup of the Uplands and includes excavation/removal of approximately 3,160 cubic yards of impacted soil and then the dredging of sediments in Area A and the Island Area. Initial construction activities performed in advance of the excavation/removal include site preparation (e.g. clearing, access road construction in Rotary Park, staging of equipment, etc.). Sheet pile will be installed between the Uplands and the in-water ABD to mitigate infiltration of surface water from Pompton Lake into active excavation areas in the Uplands.

## Community Concerns

### Traffic

A Traffic Control Plan has been developed/reviewed with input from the community as well as local (i.e. Pompton Lake Police Department, Borough Engineer) and county officials (i.e. Pas-saic County Engineering Department). Important features of the Traffic Control Plan are:

- **Work Hours:** M—F Set-up 7am-8am/Work 8am-6pm/Clean-up 6pm-7pm  
Saturdays may be used as a “make-up” production day if there are delays associated with inclement weather, equipment malfunction or other production delays. Work hours would be the same as for weekdays. EPA will effort to notify residents in advance of any work scheduled on a Saturday.
- **Trucking Restrictions:** Restrictions are placed on the time periods when heavy vehicles may travel to and from the project site to coincide with heavy pedestrian/vehicular traffic associated with the start/dismissal times of school. Hauling of material to or from the project site will be prohibited from 7:45am-8:30am and 2:30pm-3:15pm. A 5 mph speed limit will be enforced within the project site including delivery and site vehicles. Flagmen will be utilized to control entry/exit to the work site.
- **Parking:** The Pompton Lakes Works Site on Cannonball Road will be used for employee parking and a shuttle bus will transport workers to the project site. There will be very limited parking at Rotary Park for project personnel. Lakeside Avenue from the work area to the Lakeside Avenue Bridge will need to remain free of parked vehicles for safety considerations for the duration of this work.
- **Heavy Vehicle Dispatch:** Due to the limited size of the work space, only a few trucks at a time can be on-site to receive loads for off-site transport. Trucks will be staged outside the Borough and dispatched as needed to minimize idling and a build-up of truck traffic.
- **Emergency Vehicles:** The movement of emergency vehicles will not be impeded by the construction work. There will be no full road closure of Lakeside Avenue with the exception of very brief times when larger trucks/equipment will enter/exit the site with the aid of flagmen. Single lane closure of Lakeside Avenue (subsequently discussed) will allow for the passage of emergency vehicles.

[http://www3.epa.gov/region02/waste/dupont\\_pompton/additionaldocs.html](http://www3.epa.gov/region02/waste/dupont_pompton/additionaldocs.html)

- Signage: There will be a temporary impact to existing pedestrian traffic during construction due to the location of the security fencing around the work site in relation to existing sidewalks. Advance signage will be erected on both sides of the closed section of sidewalk along the south side of Lakeside Avenue. Guide signs will be installed to direct pedestrians around the work area. Regarding signage related to the hauling of excavated soil/dredged sediment, please refer to the figure below (increasing the size of the figure will make the signage readable).

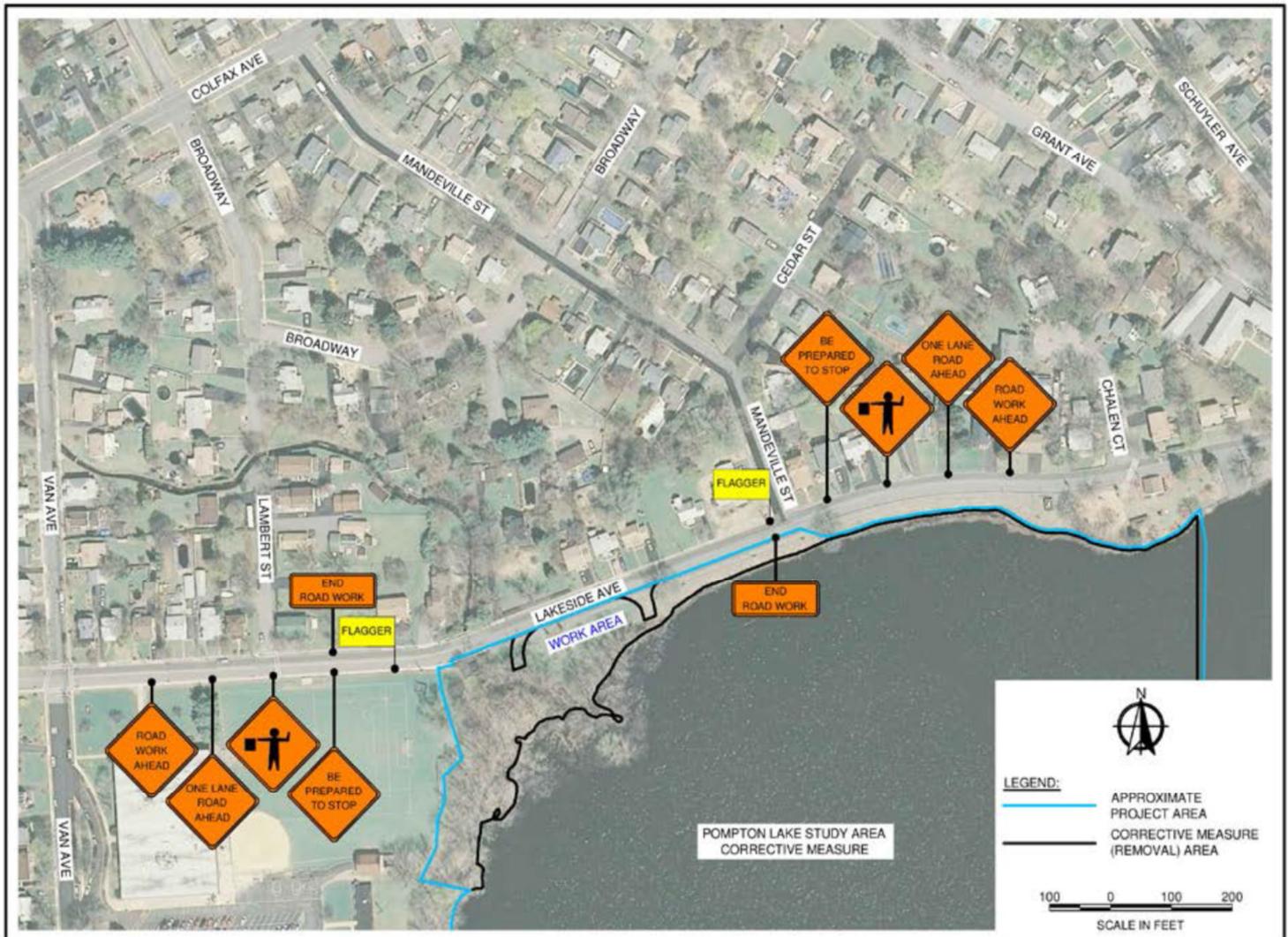


Figure 4. Sign Layout Map  
2 Lanes, Undivided, Lane Closing with Flagging

Signage will be in place for the duration of construction, and shrouded when it is not in use. Notification will be given to the Pompton Lakes Police Department prior to instances of lane closure, so that two officers can be dispatched to direct traffic at either end of Lakeside Ave.

- **Pedestrian Route:** There are two possible routes for pedestrians along Lakeside Avenue. The primary route crosses Lakeside Avenue at Mandeville Street where pedestrians can continue along the northern side of Lakeside Avenue using the existing sidewalk. An alternate route has pedestrians crossing Lakeside Avenue at Mandeville Street, continuing north/northwest

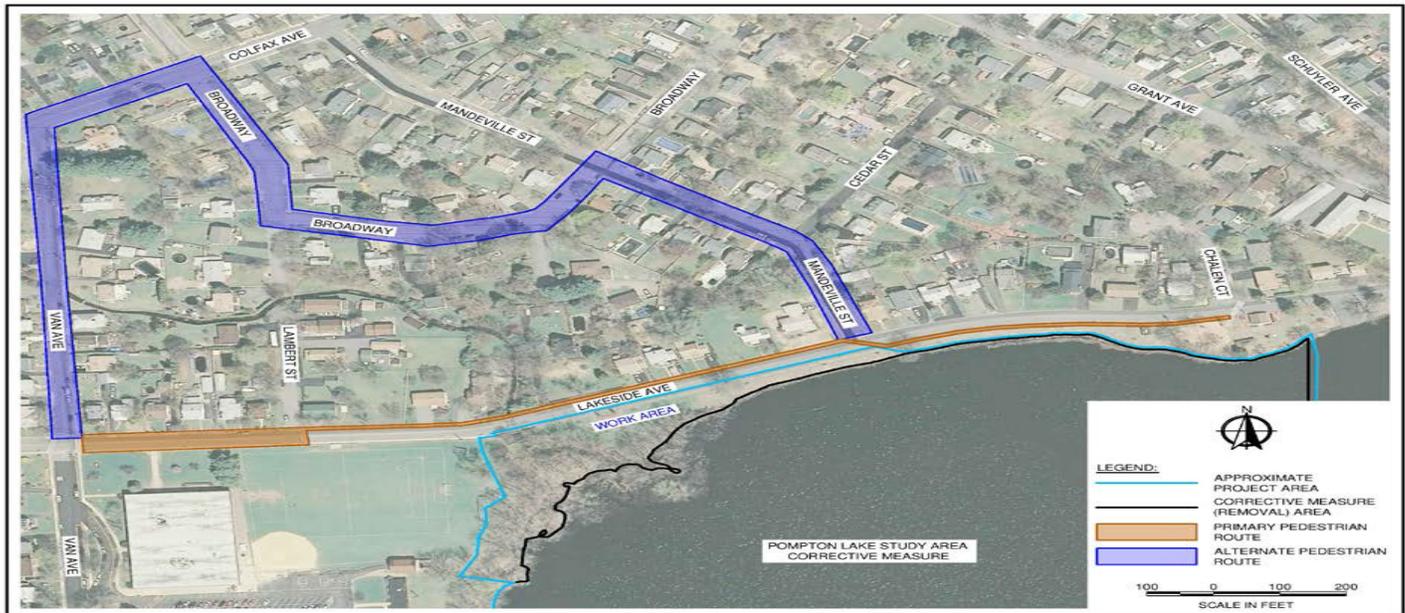


Figure 2. Primary and Alternate Pedestrian Route

on Mandeville Street to Broadway (continuing west/northwest), to Van Avenue and continuing south on Van Avenue to Lakeside Avenue (see figure above for both routes).

- **Haul Route:** The haul route summarized below and depicted in the subsequent figure is for delivery of materials, equipment and clean fill to the work site and the removal of remediated material from the site. The proposed outbound route (inbound route will be the reverse) is as follows:

- East on Lakeside Avenue to the stop at the bridge
- East on Lakeside Avenue over the bridge to Terhune Avenue (Route 202)
- South on Terhune Avenue (Route 202) to Paterson—Hamburg Turnpike
- North on Paterson—Hamburg Turnpike
- West on Paterson-Hamburg Turnpike to I-287 Interchange 53

The intersection of Lakeside Avenue and Terhune Drive (Route 202) presents challenges for heavy truck traffic (e.g. grade of road coupled with stop sign, traffic volume). At the Passaic County Engineer's recommendation, there will be coordination with Pompton Lakes/Wayne Police Departments and Passaic County to ensure proper oversight at this intersection during construction activities.

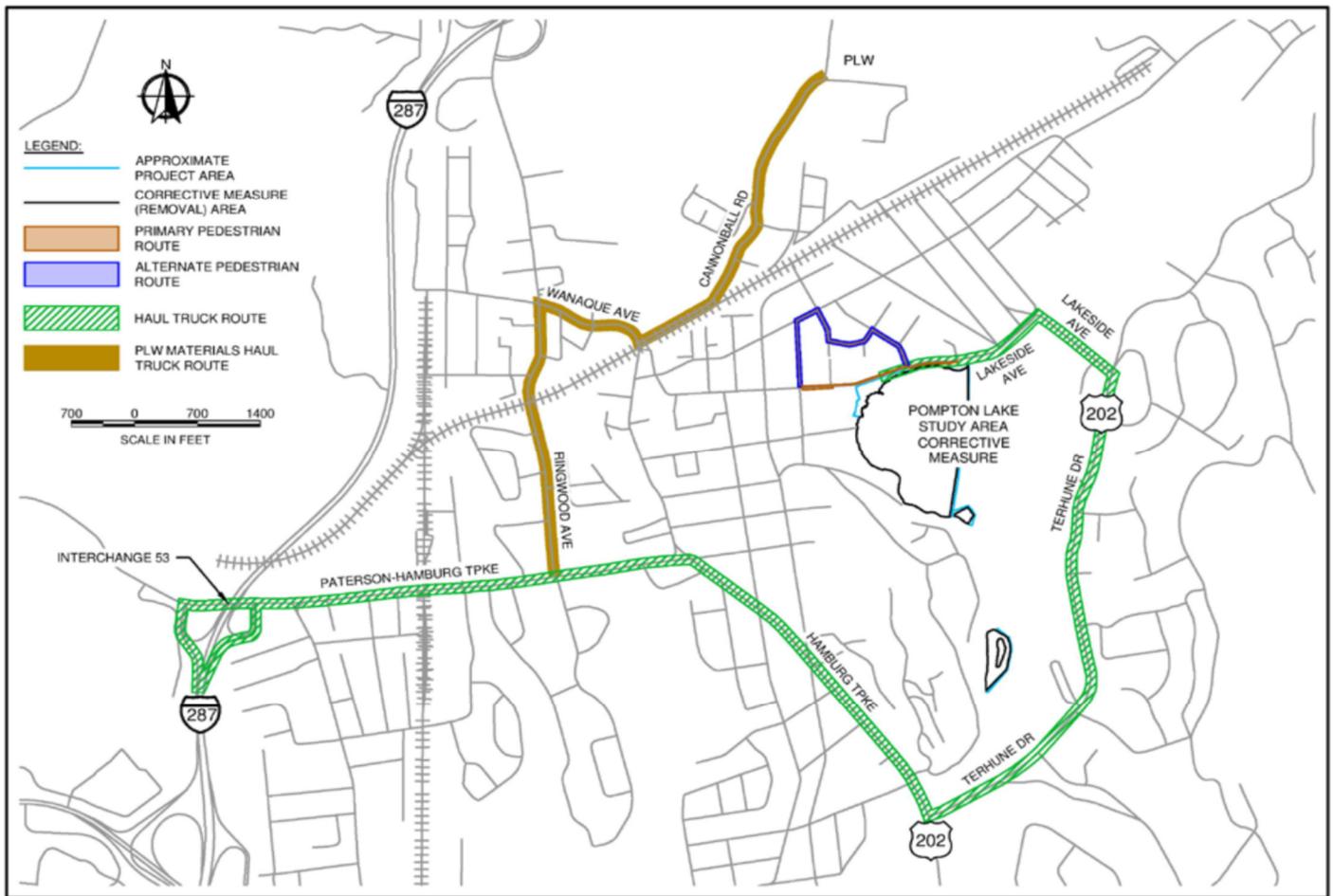


Figure 7. Haul Truck, PLW Materials Truck Route, and Pedestrian Routes

## Security

Security measures will be established during initial mobilization to the work area and maintained through construction until demobilization activities are complete. The security measures implemented restrict access to the work area and protect monitoring and construction equipment include:

- fence installation;
- signage indicating site access is restricted (e.g. No Trespassing);
- photographic surveillance;
- Remedial Action Contractor personnel being designated with the responsibility of site security during working hours;
- a firm retained by Chemours providing site security during non-working hours including nights and weekends ; and,
- periodic Borough of Pompton Lakes police patrol of the area at night/on weekends as part of their routine activities.

[http://www3.epa.gov/region02/waste/dupont\\_pompton/additionaldocs.html](http://www3.epa.gov/region02/waste/dupont_pompton/additionaldocs.html)

**Odor Monitoring/Control**

While nuisance odors associated with typical lake-bottom odors and naturally occurring organic decay processes can be expected during excavation/dredging activities, the constituents of concern within the project area soils/sediment (i.e. mercury, lead) are not expected to cause odors.

The on-site monitoring team will continually inspect the work area to identify odors as they occur. If odors are detected, the remedial action contractor will be instructed to employ mitigation strategies such as:

- minimizing the extent/duration of open excavations;
- installation of backfill as soon as soil excavations are complete;
- implementing dust control measures (e.g. water mist/spray);
- keeping stockpiles to a minimum;
- covering stockpiles, and
- maintaining enclosures over individual pieces of equipment.

If needed, additional engineering and operational controls, such as a foaming agent can be applied on an open material surface to provide a barrier to contain the odor. Odor neutralizers (which are not “deodorizers”) may be employed if foaming agents are not effective. EPA will review/approve the use of odor control products not already specified in the approved Work Plan.

**Noise Monitoring/Control**

Sound levels will be measured a minimum of twice a day at locations along the work perimeter nearest to the noise sources. Additional sound level measurements will be made when new noise sources begin, when noise sources create higher than normal noise, and when concerns are identified from the community. While the Borough of Pompton Lakes does not have a quantitative sound level limit, the State of New Jersey identifies 65 decibels (dBA) as a level that should not be exceeded for industrial, commercial, or community service facilities and limits daytime noise to 65dBA. Therefore, when the on-site monitoring team identifies sound levels consistently above 65 dBA, noise controls or modification of operational practices to reduce noise levels (e.g. installing mufflers on diesel or gasoline engines or turning off equipment when not in use) will be employed.

The remedial action contractor will also take proactive measures to minimize excessive noise from construction operations such as use of a vibratory method of driving sheetpile versus a drop hammer, ensuring insulation around the dredge engine is intact and new, maintaining trucks in good working order and reminding drivers to gently accelerate and not use engine breaks or unnecessarily slam tailgates and, reminding staff to keep conversations on the water to a normal conversation level.

### **Air Monitoring/Dust Control**

Air monitoring will be performed during soil excavation and dredged sediment handling and processing onshore at locations around the material handling/processing areas. The air monitoring will consist of continuous real-time monitoring for particulate matter (i.e. dust) and mercury vapor, verification sampling for particulate-containing mercury and continuous meteorological monitoring.

#### *Dust Monitoring/Verification*

Air monitoring activities will include continuous real-time monitoring for dust during soil excavation in the Uplands and sediment handling and processing. Dust monitoring will be conducted at four fixed locations. The dust monitoring system is configured to transmit alert notifications to designated site personnel based on established action levels. Early warning levels have been established and if exceeded at a monitoring station, require prompt evaluation of the cause of the exceedance. If it is attributable to work activities, then dust control measures (see below) will be implemented. Action levels have been established and if exceeded at a monitoring station, will prompt action to address the operations found to be attributable to the source of the dust, to be curtailed or modified until the dust level decreases below the action level. If four consecutive readings are above the action level and the source of the dust is attributable to the remediation processes, a sample will be collected for analysis of particulate mercury to determine if mercury is present and whether additional control measures are needed. Dust control measures include spraying water on identified sources, restricting vehicle speeds and covering excavation faces after excavation activities are completed for the day.

#### *Mercury Vapor Monitoring/Verification*

It is important to note that previous investigatory work indicates that mercury in its vapor phase is not expected to be released during sediment processing and handling. However, real-time monitoring for mercury vapor will be conducted using a portable mercury vapor detector with an accuracy to monitor mercury vapor concentrations to 0.1 micrograms/cubic meter and the capability to store test results.

Mercury monitoring will be performed when active remediation (e.g. excavation, dredging, material processing) is being conducted. Background levels of mercury vapor will be established prior to commencement of remedial activities. Downwind measurements will be collected in 15-minute intervals. During the Uplands excavation activity, real-time data will be collected in the area of the Lakeside Middle School athletic fields and parking areas.

If four consecutive readings above the background reading plus the EPA Regional Screening Level of 0.31 micrograms/cubic meter are observed, then an air sample for mercury will be collected for lab analysis. If the lab results indicate concentrations above the EPA Regional Screening Level, then further evaluation will be completed to identify the source of the mercury vapor using the portable mercury vapor analyzer. Potential mitigation measures for mercury vapor related to the remediation processes include, but are not limited to, vapor suppression using foaming agents similar to those proposed for odor control or modifying the sediment processing equipment (e.g. cover openings to prevent emissions).

**Proximity to Lakeside Middle School/Residents Along Lakeside Avenue**

This section summarizes additional information that may be of interest to parents, teachers, and staff of Lakeside Middle School; residents along Lakeside Avenue (particularly between the work area and Lakeside Avenue Bridge) as well as other interested parties within the Lakeside Middle School community.

Portions of the work (particularly the Uplands excavation as well as the processing/handling of dredged sediment) will be performed in proximity to the Lakeside Middle School. It is important to note that while there will be work performed on Board of Education property (i.e. the wooded area between Rotary Park and the Lakeside Middle School athletic fields), no site related cleanup activity will be performed on the actively used grounds of the school (e.g. athletic fields).

In addition to the information previously provided, regarding traffic control/security, note that fencing between the Uplands and the school will also have a visual screen installed. School personnel will monitor student activities during the school day in the area proximate to the Uplands to keep students away from the work area/fence. There will be no walking access on the side of Lakeside Avenue where the construction gate is located. The remedial action contractor will establish new crossing areas and maintain safe walking space along Lakeside Avenue. Flagmen, truck directors and other workers will be positioned at the construction entrance gate, thereby eliminating the opportunity for non-work personnel to gain access through the construction entrance. When school is opening and closing, transport of materials and other construction-related traffic during certain morning and afternoon hours will be suspended to minimize interference with school-related traffic.

Chemours will interface with the school prior to construction to establish a primary point of contact for notification in the unlikely event of an emergency requiring site evacuation. The school would be following their own established procedures in the event of an emergency.

Regarding air monitoring, a fixed air monitoring station will be located on the school property and a field technician will be monitoring for mercury vapor with the portable mercury vapor analyzer during the Uplands work.

**Monitoring Reporting**

Dust/mercury vapor measurements and mercury verification sample results will be presented graphically on a website for public access within 24 hours after each monitoring day or within 24 hours after receipt of lab data. Water quality sampling results will be posted on the website within 24 hours after receipt of laboratory data. Noise and odor monitoring results will also be posted to the website.

**EPA Oversight of Construction Activities**

EPA and/or NJDEP will be providing technical field oversight to ensure that the work is performed in accordance with the approved Work Plan. The specifics of the field oversight are to be determined. EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator and Project Manager will continue to have a routine presence in the community during the implementation of the work plan to answer questions/respond to concerns raised by the community.

EPA and/or NJDEP will have the ability to perform field inspections during all construction work activities. In addition, EPA and/or NJDEP will review technical deliverables submitted during the course of construction as well as participate in weekly project status update meetings held for the duration of construction.

**Anticipated Schedule**

The current duration for environmental clean-up activities associated with the Pompton Lake Study Area is from mid-2016 through 2018. Pre-construction activities (e.g. clearing, site preparation, haul road construction, mobilization of materials/equipment) is expected to begin in May 2016. Uplands excavation work would not begin until late June once the school year is complete. Area A and the Island Area (the two areas of Pompton Lake totaling 3 acres outside the ABD) will be dredged in late 2016. In 2017, dredging of Pompton Lake (36 acres) as required in the approved Work Plan would be implemented. In 2018, site restoration would be completed and initiation of a long-term monitoring plan would commence.

**Closing**

EPA has provided this Community Update to keep you informed of the planned environmental clean-up/restoration activities related to the Pompton Lake Works site. Please feel free to access the contact on the first page of this Community Update via email or phone if you have any concerns/questions as the construction work progresses.