



Callahan Mine Superfund Site Community Update

April 2005

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reached an agreement in principle with the State of Maine for the performance of the remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) at the Callahan Mine Superfund Site. On behalf of the State of Maine, MaineDOT will continue the work begun by EPA last fall. Environmental consultants working for MaineDOT will begin work at the Site this spring. EPA will continue to be the lead regulatory agency at the Site.

Site Update

This fact sheet provides an update of the activities at the Callahan Mine Superfund Site in Brooksville, Maine. Three major topics are covered:

- Introduction of MaineDOT to the project team
- A summary of the work completed by EPA in fall 2004
- A summary of activities that are expected to occur in April and May 2005

MaineDOT Joins Site Team

Why is MaineDOT getting involved in the remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) at the Callahan Mine Superfund Site?

Late last year, MaineDOT was directed by Governor Baldacci to act on behalf of the State to respond to EPA's notice identifying the State of Maine as one of the 'potentially responsible parties' for the Site. Without admitting any liability on the part of the State, and while reserving all rights and defenses available to the State, MaineDOT has agreed it will conduct the remainder of the RI/FS for the Site.

EPA, Maine DEP and MaineDOT are currently negotiating the details of an enforceable three-party agreement for the RI/FS. This agreement will formalize the roles and responsibilities of the agencies involved. The agreement is expected to be finalized in May/June 2005.

Callahan Mine Superfund Site Public Information Meeting

April 28, 2005

**Brooksville Community Center
7:00 p.m.**

***Please come and visit with the EPA,
Maine DEP, and Maine DOT to discuss the
project***

What will be different now that MaineDOT is taking the lead in performing the work at the Site?

This is primarily a change in the agency that will be performing the work, writing the work plans, and issuing reports. EPA will continue to be the lead regulatory agency at the Site. EPA and the State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection (Maine DEP) will be responsible for providing oversight of MaineDOT and its contractors to ensure that the work is completed in accordance with EPA's and the State of Maine's environmental laws and regulations. EPA will retain approval authority over the field activities and the work products.

The public should continue to contact EPA and Maine DEP if they have any questions regarding the Site.

Summary of Fall 2004 sampling program

As described in the November 2004 Community Update, EPA began the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for the Callahan Mine Site during 2004. During the late fall 2004, an EPA contractor completed the following activities:

- Residential well sampling at seven locations;
- Surface water sampling at 12 locations;
- Sediment sampling at 23 locations;
- Geophysical surveys of the waste piles;
- Sonar imaging of the seafloor under Goose Pond and Goose Cove;
- Surface soil sampling (30 locations); and
- Topographical and bathymetric surveys to establish a base map.

EPA's contractor is currently compiling the data from these efforts and expects to release a report in May/June 2005 summarizing the results of the fall 2004 field program.

Upcoming Activities

This spring and summer, the consultant working for MaineDOT will continue the work to complete the RI/FS. Activities that will occur this spring include:

- Sampling of seeps and surface water runoff that during spring melt;
- Drilling of holes to install monitoring wells, evaluate subsurface conditions, and assess groundwater flow and quality; and
- Additional physical characterization of Goose Pond during spring melt.

Throughout the summer and fall additional activities will be performed to develop a better understanding of the site conditions. This work will be summarized in reports that are scheduled for release in late winter/early spring 2006. One objective of these reports will be to determine if additional data collection is necessary to fully characterize the Site and evaluate cleanup options.

Once the data collection activities are complete, the following documents will be prepared and released for public review:

- Remedial Investigation Report
- Human Health Risk Assessment
- Ecological Risk Assessment
- Feasibility Study

After release of these reports, EPA will issue a fact sheet summarizing the proposed cleanup actions. The proposed cleanup will be subject to public comment and will be finalized in a Record of Decision (ROD).

Information and Contacts:

Internet users may access current site information at:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl/me.htm#statelist>

Site information can also be found at:

Brooksville Free Public Library
1 Town House Road
Brooksville, Maine 04617

For More Information Please Contact:

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