SDMS DocID 270177

Site Name:	West Bank
Date:	8 December 1989
Subject:	POLREP #12 - Removal Action
Location:	Site #95 West Bank of the Merrimack River Nashua, New Hampshire
Pollutant:	Asbestos
Occurrence Date:	1960's
Environmental Media affected:	Land, water, air
Severity:	Potentially - Major
Quantity Discharged:	Unknown
Category:	Onshore/Non-transportation
Source:	Dumping of asbestos waste materials by Johns-Manville
Region:	U.S. EPA Region I
Latest POLREP:	POLREP 11 - November 30, 1989

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
On-Scene Coordinator (OSC):
Paul R. Groulx (Lexington, MA) (617) 860-4308

Technical Assistance Team (TAT) Member:
Molly Elder Boich (Burlington, MA) (617) 229-6430

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
Project Engineer:
Paul Battista (Nashua Field Office) (603) 886-5124
Robert Marshall
Fort Devens, Avon, MA (508) 772-0159

Project Manager:
Tony Riccio (Waltham, MA) (617) 647-8605

I. Background:

The West Bank asbestos waste site is situated in Nashua, New Hampshire, along the Merrimack River (Tax map reference #24, lot #18). The site is located immediately downstream of Taylor's Fall Bridge on Route 111, lying in between Hollis and Crown Streets. The property is owned by the City of Nashua, and is utilized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) as a flood control dike area. The site consists of a 25 foot slope extending approximately 1,000 feet along the west shore of the Merrimack River. Asbestos plate board, intermixed with baghouse waste, was fully and partially exposed from below the waterline to the top edge of the slope.

The removal action was managed by the U.S. ACOE under an interagency agreement (IAG) with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Two other sites in Nashua, New Hampshire were included in the same U.S. ACOE asbestos abatement project solicitation # DCAW33-89-B-0010. These two sites, referred to as the Pine/Nowell Street and Oakland Street sites, are being

documented separately. The ACOE provided the engineering design, and from August 28, 1989 to December 4, 1989 a construction contractor named R. Zoppo Co., Inc. (hired by ACOE) performed the site work.

The selected alternative for the West Bank removal action was to cover the asbestos in place. In order to place fill on the slope, the toe of the slope was extended into the Merrimack River, which changed the slope to a less steep grade of 2:1. Some contaminated material which required removal from the south end of the bank in order to create a consistent grade with the north end was transported and disposed of at the City of Nashua landfill. Woodchip waste from the clearing of the bank was also disposed at the City's landfill. The slope was covered with 30 inches of clean material including gravel fill, stone bedding and rip rap which was determined to be the proper depth of cover required for a design life of 50-100 years. The flat area between the top of the slope and the dike, referred to as the plateau, was also covered with 30 inches of clean material.

II. Actions Taken:

Nov 8, 1989	TAT conducted a site inspection for the U.S. EPA. Zoppo began excavation at the bottom of the slope on the south end. TAT photographed the excavation activities. The excavation line on the southernmost edge of construction on the slope showed a soil profile approximately 1.5 to 2 feet deep, and did not appear to contain visible asbestos. All material removed was disposed of at the City's landfill as asbestos-contaminated material. An industrial hygienist was back on site conducting an air monitoring program. Zoppo's objective was to complete all excavation and placement of stone on the bottom half of the entire length of slope so that the crane operator could be released. The upper portion of the slope could then be completed with other heavy equipment.
Nov 13-17, 1989	Erosion caused by heavy rains in late October indicated that the area where the top of the slope met the plateau had not been filled properly with stone bedding. Therefore, the top edge of the slope and one foot of the plateau was excavated and additional stone bedding was placed. Excavated materials were disposed at the City's landfill. The dike was screened for any remaining asbestos fragments which were then removed. One of the two access roads built over the dike was removed in preparation of site completion.

Nov 21, 1989	TAT conducted a site inspection for the U.S. EPA. All site excavation and stone placement was complete. Began placing loam on the plateau and disturbed areas on the dike in preparation of hydroseeding.
Nov 30, 1989	The OSC conducted a site inspection. The second access road was removed. The trailers and shed were dismantled and removed. Placement of loam was completed and hydroseeding began.
Dec 4, 1989	TAT conducted a site inspection for the U.S. EPA. Hydroseeding was completed on the plateau, dike, and other grass areas that were disturbed by parking or other site activities. R. Zoppo Co., Inc. loaded the heavy equipment in preparation of leaving the site. The river was covered with large chunks of ice. Fresh "all terrain vehicle (ATV)" tracks were visible in the snow on the dike.

III. Future Actions:

- Remove metal marker pins from the river in the spring when ice melts and allows small boat access.
- Monitor site conditions in the spring when snow melt and elevated river conditions are expected to occur.
- Monitor the success rate of the hydroseeding for grass growth.
- On-going site maintenance to be conducted by the City of Nashua.

IV. Funding Status:

U.S. EPA obligated an additional $100,000 to this site, increasing the TOTAL PROJECT CEILING TO $750,000.

Financial Data:

DOCUMENT CONTROL NUMBER	ACCOUNT NUMBER	DOLLAR AMOUNT	COST ALLOCATION
Z30006	7QFA1ANE95	$507,000	US Army COE
ER0028	8TFA1ANE95	$100,000	US Army COE
		$103,000	TAT
		$ 40,000	Intramural
TOTAL PROJECT CEILING		$750,000	

CASE PENDS:

Paul R. Groulx

Paul R. Groulx, On-Scene Coordinator