



Department of Environmental Protection

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Former General Chemical Site Update 133-135 Leland St., Framingham July 6, 2021

In a memorandum posted to MassDEP's on-line file viewer on June 4, 2021¹, MassDEP provided a status update through the end of May 2021 on the installation of a thermal remediation system at the former General Chemical property at 133-135 Leland Street in Framingham. This update summarizes progress made on the project since that time.

Schedule: As of the June 4, 2021 update, the project was on schedule to begin the heating of soil and groundwater to vaporize the solvent contaminants below ground surface. The start of the heating process was scheduled to start on June 28, 2021. The discovery of per- and polyfluorinated compounds (PFAS) at the site during the pre-cleanup "baseline" testing has caused a delay, due to the need to modify the treatment system to remove PFAS compounds in compliance with the MWRA discharge permit limit MassDEP has been advised by its contractors that the delay could extend the start date of the remedial system to late July.

Ongoing Activities: The following activities were completed in June 2021:

- During the first week of June soil vapor monitoring points were installed surrounding the treatment zone, and in the basements of two nearby residential homes. These points will be monitored during the thermal treatment to ensure that contaminated vapors are not migrating away from the treatment area toward the residences or the Woodrow Wilson School.
- On June 23 – June 24 the soil vapor points were sampled, along with sub-slab soil vapor and the indoor air of two adjacent homes. Ambient air surrounding the treatment zone was also sampled. A second round of baseline sampling was conducted on June 30. The goal of this sampling is to obtain baseline data prior to testing and startup of the remedial system.
- A temporary fence was placed along the existing fence line with the Wilson Elementary School playing field to keep children away from the General Chemical fence.
- Signs have been posted in English, Spanish and Portuguese along the fence to warn residents and workers in the area that high voltage is in use at the property.
- A "safety and awareness" meeting was held on June 24 and included representatives of MassDEP, the Contractors who have been hired to conduct the thermal treatment, and representatives of the Police Dept., the Fire Dept., Public Works, Board of Health and Framingham Public Schools to discuss system operations and actions that will be taken in the event of an emergency to protect residents in the surrounding community. A site safety and

¹ <http://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/EEA/fileviewer/Rtn.aspx?rtn=3-0019174>)

awareness meeting has also been scheduled with abutting residents and contractors at 155-157 Leland Street to discuss the thermal treatment system. This meeting is presently scheduled for Friday July 9.

- System startup testing is scheduled to start in mid-July and extend for 2 weeks.
- The thermal remediation phase will commence following the testing period and will run for approximately 14 weeks. To ensure the health and safety of the surrounding community, the ambient air and soil vapor monitoring will continue throughout the operation of the thermal remedial system, including an intensive period of monitoring during system startup, through deployment of MassDEP's mobile laboratory.

If you have any questions please contact Steve Johnson (978-694-3350 or Stephen.Johnson@mass.gov), or Chris Pyott (978-694-3353 or Christopher.Pyott@mass.gov).