

## FMC Proposes Remedial Action in 2007 for Middleport Residential Properties



FMC Corporation, with oversight by the government regulatory Agencies, plans to remove and replace soil this year from up to 13 residential properties near the FMC Middleport Plant in conjunction with work planned on a nearby vacant, wooded

property formerly used for industrial purposes.

The project is part of FMC's response to the community's desire for faster resolution of the company's environmental program in Middleport. The project represents the first part of work expected over the next two or three years to address some residential properties in the area where surface soils were potentially impacted by air depositions as a result of historic plant operations involving the production and handling of arsenical com-

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## Agencies Determine Groundwater Migration Under Control

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has determined that groundwater migration at the FMC Middleport plant is under control has been controlled.

This Environmental Indicator, a measure used in the RCRA Corrective Action program, tracks changes in the quality of the environment. Although significant levels of contamination are present on site, and



*An onsite water treatment plant is part FMC's extensive groundwater remediation program.*

lower levels of contamination are present off-site (generally within 500 feet of the plant

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### **Community Connection**

*is produced to inform the community about issues related to the FMC Middleport plant, the environment and the local community.*

Call Debra Overkamp at:

735-3761

Ext. 289

*with your questions, comments or concerns.*

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pounds.

Twelve of the 13 residential properties are on the south side of Park Avenue and one is on Maple Avenue. All are either adjacent to or near the largely wooded portion of the industrial area, located along the railroad tracks north of the FMC plant.

The soil excavation work planned will primarily consist of removal of shallow soils, similar to a landscaping project, and should allow residents to remain in their homes during the course of the work. The work is expected to take approximately 2 weeks at each property.

FMC will work with property owners and the Agencies (United States Environmental Protection Agency and New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health) to develop custom remedial and restoration plans for each property.

The 13 residential properties that are proposed for soil removal this summer had been included in sampling of residential areas near the plant in the 1990s and early 2000s. While those sampling results did not indicate any immediate health threats according to the health risk experts FMC consulted, some of the results from primarily surface soils were above residential background levels. Based on these conditions, it is anticipated that only shallow soil will need to be removed at parts or all of most of the properties. This is in contrast to a past project on Vernon Street just west of the plant where properties were more significantly impacted at greater depths below the ground surface because they were in a former water migration pathway from the plant.

### **ALSO IN 2007**

The proposed soil removal projects on the wooded portion of the commercial/industrial property and the Park Avenue properties are among the 2007 Early Actions FMC has proposed as part of its environmental program in the Village. The Early Actions proposed for 2007 are:

- \* Installation of an engineered cover over a section of the FMC-owned railroad property inside the FMC plant's property boundary.
- \* Removal of impacted soil, backfilling and installation of a soil cover on the Coe Property (wooded portion of the commercial/industrial property) with

property usage controls and cover maintenance.

- \* Rehabilitation of a portion of the Village storm water drainage system (Culvert 105) on the Coe property.
- \* Removal of impacted soil and Replacement of open ditch portions of the Village's storm water drainage system (Culvert 105) between the Canal and Sleeper Street with a new buried sewer pipe.
- \* Removal of sediments from the manholes to the section of the Village's storm water drainage system (Culvert 105) from the commercial/industrial property north to Sleeper Street.
- \* Upgrade of FMC's onsite water treatment plant, which treats surface water and groundwater collected at the plant site.

### **FUTURE WORK**

FMC is also working with the Agencies, Village of Middleport, and the Middleport CIG to develop a proposal and timetable for addressing the remaining properties in the historic air deposition area that require remediation. FMC expects to be able to share this proposal and timetable with residents and the community later this year.

### **CAMU PROPOSAL**

To accommodate soils removed in Middleport remedial projects beyond 2007, FMC has proposed an expansion of the existing area at the Middleport plant where soils removed in past remedial projects have been placed and where soils from the 2007 Early Action projects will be placed.

FMC will propose the area be designated a Corrective Action Management Unit (CAMU) for placement of soils removed from remediated areas. "FMC believes that The CAMU would make future remedial actions in Middleport less disruptive with less truck traffic on residential streets and would facilitate faster project schedules. It would be a permanent remedy, part of FMC's ongoing responsibility for long-term maintenance of the plant site," according to FMC's remediation project manager, Brian McGinnis.

FMC has received initial input from the Middleport CIG and the Village on the possible dimensions of the proposed CAMU. In the coming months, the company will design a plan for review by the Agencies and the general public.

## Groundwater Under Control

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*Groundwater quality and groundwater levels are monitored on a routine basis both onsite and offsite.*

boundaries), the NYSDEC has determined that ongoing migration of groundwater contamination is not occurring (contaminated groundwater is stable).

This condition was documented after studying all the known materials handled at the plant that may have impacted the groundwater, and a thorough review of FMC's extensive groundwater remediation program and related studies.

Prior to 1974, pesticide production wastes at the FMC Middleport facility were handled in accordance with standard prac-

*"FMC's remedial system is expected to beneficially impact groundwater quality, especially over the long-term."*

*NYSDEC*

tices at the time, including the storage, treatment and/or disposal in lagoons, landfills and trenches at the site. Groundwater underneath the FMC facility continues to be impacted by these past practices.

To address these conditions, FMC installed extraction wells in 1987-1988 to remove contaminated groundwater at the plant site and send it to the onsite water treatment plant. FMC also covered the northern portion of the plant site where industrial and waste management activities had occurred, and installed drainage systems beneath the cover to collect and pump shallow subsurface water to the treatment plant. In the 1990s and early 2000s FMC installed a system of groundwater interceptor trenches on the north and northeast portions of the site in the shallow bedrock beneath the site. Water collected in these trenches can be pumped to the treatment plant.

Currently, there are 14 extraction wells at the FMC Middleport plant site, and 86 monitoring wells that monitor water quality and 170 wells that monitor water levels on a regular basis both onsite and offsite.

The NYSDEC reports states that "FMC's remedial system is expected to beneficially impact groundwater quality, especially over the long-term."

## FMC Helps Library Fund Summer Program

Dana Thompson, FMC Plant Manager, presented Melane Shuttleworth, Director of the Middleport Free Library, a donation from the company that will be used for the library's annual summer program.

This year's program, "Get A Clue," will focus on mystery stories. Children will learn about forensics and act in a mystery play. FMC's donation will be used to purchase books and materials for the program.



## Follow-up Testing Confirms No Vapor Intrusion at Roy-Hart

February 2007 sampling of air within, beneath and outside of the Royalton-Hartland School District Middleport campus buildings was conducted by FMC in cooperation with the regulatory Agencies (New York State Department of Health, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, United States Environmental Protection Agency).

The 2007 sampling confirmed the results of previous (2006) testing showing that trichloroethene or TCE, (the groundwater contaminant found in monitoring wells at the FMC/School District property line and on School property) contamination from vapor intrusion was not detected in the classrooms sampled at the Royalton-Hartland School District Middleport campus buildings.

This second round of confirmatory sampling during the heating season was requested by the Agencies to confirm that existing building conditions (e.g. positive pressure heating, ventilation and/or air conditioning systems) are continuing



to minimize the potential for vapor intrusion into classroom areas.

The Agencies requested the study as a result of a new statewide initiative to evaluate more than 400 sites for the potential for soil vapor intrusion from VOCs in groundwater, including at the Roy-Hart campus, which is adjacent to the FMC plant.

The new results have been validated by the Agencies and will be shared with the community in an Agency fact sheet.

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### **We want to hear what you think!** **Please return this card to us with your thoughts.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to receive further information about FMC's Middleport plant.
- Please send this newsletter to the name(s) and address(es) listed:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- I would like FMC to make a presentation to my organization.

I would be interested in:

- A tour of the FMC Middleport plant
- More information about the FMC Middleport website.

My specific comment or question is:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- It is okay for FMC to share my comments with the NYS Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

**THANK YOU!**



## **FMC Opens Neighborhood Office on Vernon Street**

To make it as easy as possible for Village residents to have any questions or concerns about remedial activities addressed, FMC has opened their FMC Neighborhood Office at 17 Vernon Street. The office will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, while the remediation project is ongoing on Park and Maple Avenues. Please stop in for a visit!

*Please take a moment to share your thoughts on the enclosed comment card*

Each returned comment receives a personalized follow-up response.

**FMC** Community *Connection*

Comments are shared with elected officials and FMC staff. Topics from comment cards have covered:

**THE ENVIRONMENT**

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**THE FUTURE OF FMC**

**PLANT OPERATIONS**

**PRESENTATION/TOUR REQUESTS**

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*To review documents related to environmental activities at the plant, visit the FMC repository at the Middleport Free Library  
9 South Vernon Street  
Middleport, NY 14105  
(716) 735-3281*

## Postal Customer

### Joining the FMC Middleport Team

*By Dana Thompson, Plant Manager*



Earlier this year I joined FMC's Middleport team as new plant manager, taking over from long-time FMC manufacturing manager Mike Cooley, who had served for several months as interim plant manager.

As a lifelong Western New Yorker, it was a great career opportunity for me and my family to stay in the area we love. I was born and raised in Niagara Falls, graduated from the University at Buffalo with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering, and have worked in various positions at FMC's Tonawanda facility since the early 1990s. Most recently I served as supply chain and employee relations manager.

In Middleport, I will oversee the plant's mixing and packaging operations and its continued strong commitment to the community in which it has invested for many decades.

#### Production Increases, Plant Adds Jobs

The plant has continued last year's trend of an increasingly busy production schedule. As a result, just like in 2006, we have added three new production positions, two of which we have already filled.

Lou Kurtic, our new process engineer, has also joined the team. He provides technical support to new and existing processes, oversight of the Quality/Environmental Lab, and improvement initiatives. Lou previously worked at Xerox Corp., where he was a senior engineer. He succeeds John Shuttleworth, who provided FMC with decades of important service before retiring last year.

Over the past few months, I have also been pleased to meet many dedicated Middleport residents who serve on the FMC Community Advisory Panel and Middleport Community Input Group. These groups are part of FMC's commitment to working with and keeping local residents well informed, especially about our environmental program.

FMC is continuing to meet with individual property owners regarding work proposed in the Village this year as Early Action projects. FMC held two public information sessions on April 24 to update Middleport residents on the 2007 Early Actions.

Residents with questions can call Debra Overkamp, Community Liaison, at the FMC Middleport Community Relations office, 735-2761 Ext. 289. Special thanks go out to Debra's predecessor, Patt Fagan, who served in that position since 1998, for her great work with the community. Debra is very familiar with the Middleport community, having worked with residents regarding the environmental sampling conducted since 2004.