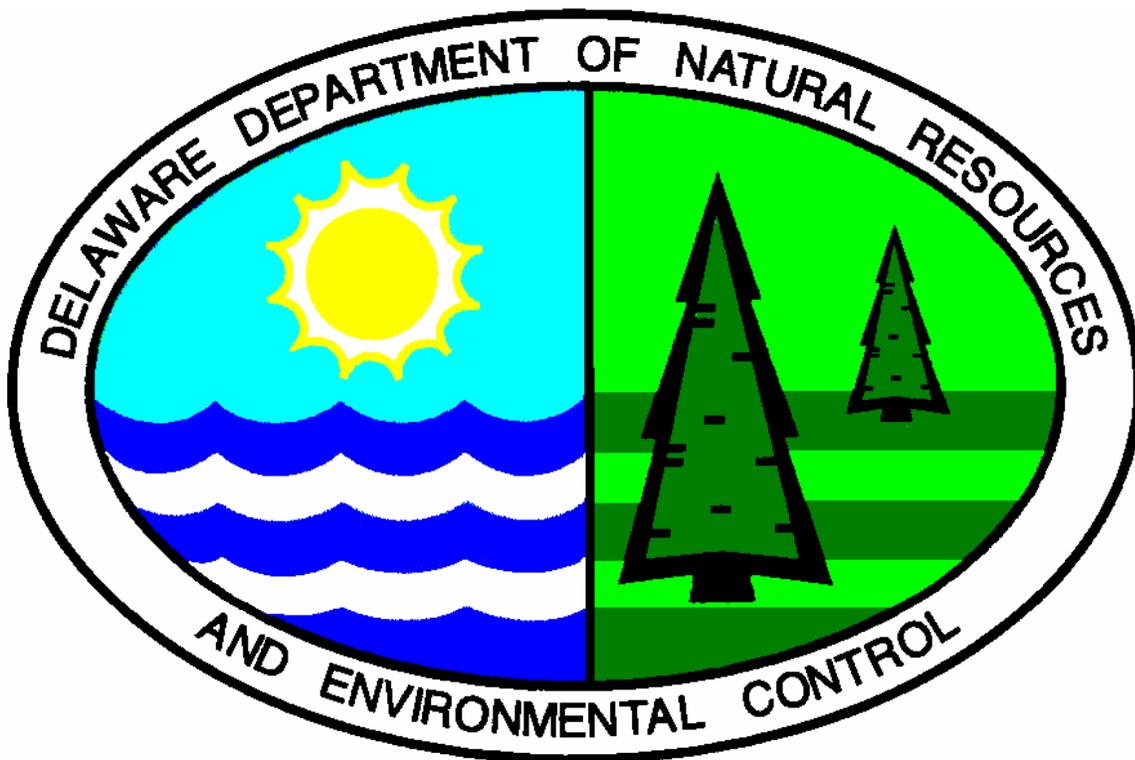


**AMENDED SECOND PROPOSED PLAN OF REMEDIAL  
ACTION  
210 GREENHILL AVENUE SITE  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE  
DE-1080**



**MAY 2003**

**Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control  
Division of Air and Waste Management  
Site Investigation and Restoration Branch  
391 Lukens Drive  
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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The 210 Greenhill Avenue Site (site) is located on the northeast corner of Second Street and Greenhill Avenue in Wilmington, Delaware. The site occupies 1.16 acres and is generally bounded by 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to the North, Greenhill Avenue to the West, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to the South, and Webb Street to the East (Figure 1). A final plan of remedial action was issued for the site in 1998. However, in order to address additional environmental concerns at the site, Diver Greenhill Properties, L.L.C. (DGP) entered into the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control's (DNREC) Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) under the authority of the State of Delaware's Hazardous Substance Cleanup Act (HSCA), 7 Del. C. Chapter 91. Through a VCP Agreement, DGP agreed to investigate the potential risks posed to the public health, welfare, and the environment. DGP contracted Duffield Associates, Inc. to perform a Remedial Investigation (RI) of the site.

The purpose of the RI was to: 1) investigate and collect information about groundwater from the site; 2) re-address a section of the soil cap where fire-damaged vehicles were stored; 3) determine the level of risk posed by the contaminants, and based upon this analysis, evaluate remedial alternatives.

DNREC issued the original proposed plan of remedial action (proposed plan) for the site on June 26, 1998. This proposed plan addressed site soils only. A groundwater investigation was not part of the original proposed plan. DNREC invited written comments from the public. During the public comment period, DNREC received written comments from the Wilmington Waterfront Watch. In July 1998, DNREC adopted the proposed plan as the final plan of remedial action (final plan) for the site. The final plan for the site recommended the same remedial action as contained in the proposed plan for the site.

A second final plan of remedial action (second final plan) was issued for the site in October 2002. The purpose of the second final plan for the site was to address the investigation of groundwater that was not addressed in the original proposed plan and final plan for the site as well as to re-address a section of the soil cap where fire-damaged vehicles were stored. These vehicles were damaged in a fire that occurred on June 10, 2000. Therefore, DNREC believed that further investigation of the site was necessary to ensure that the original remedy was still protective of human health and the environment.

This document is the Department's amended second proposed plan of remedial action (amended second proposed plan) for the site. The purpose of this amended second proposed plan is to amend the deed restriction that was to be placed on the property pursuant to the second final plan. This amendment of the deed restriction requirement is being done at the request of the property owner. The property owner has requested that land disturbing activities between zero (0) and twelve (12) inches be allowed without prior written approval from DNREC. Land disturbing activities within this depth range are allowable due to paving requirements set forth by DNREC in a November 17, 2000, letter. The letter required that the asphalt cap layer be comprised of a twelve (12) inch layer of clean fill as the base, followed by a six (6) inch layer of compacted stone and then covering the stone layer would be the asphalt layer consisting of a 1.75 inch base and a 1.25 inch top equaling a total thickness of three (3) inches. Any land disturbing activity greater than twelve (12) inches in depth will require prior written approval

from DNREC. This amended second proposed plan is issued under the authority of the HSCA and the Delaware Regulations Governing Hazardous Substance Cleanup (Regulations). It presents the Department's assessment of the potential health and environmental risk posed by the site.

As described in Section 12 of the Regulations, DNREC will provide notice to the public and an opportunity for the public to comment on the amended second proposed plan. After the comment period concludes, DNREC will review and consider all of the comments received and then DNREC will issue an amended second final plan of remedial action (amended second final plan). The amended second final plan will designate the final selected remedy for the site. The original final plan, second final plan, amended second proposed plan, comments received from the public, DNREC's responses to those comments, and the amended second final plan will constitute the remedial decision record.

Section II presents a summary of the site description, site history and previous investigations of the site. Section III provides a description of the RI results. Section IV presents a discussion of the remedial action objectives. Section V presents the amended second proposed plan of remedial action. Section VI discusses public participation requirements.

## **2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY**

### ***2.1 Site Setting***

The site is referred to as the 210 Greenhill Avenue site and is located on the northeast corner of Second Street and Greenhill Avenue in Wilmington, Delaware (Figure 1). The site occupies 1.16 acres and is generally bounded by 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to the north, Greenhill Avenue to the west, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to the south, and Webb Street to the east. On the tax maps of New Castle County, Delaware, the site is tax parcel number 26-026.10-012. Currently, the site is paved and has a car showroom building located on it. The site is owned and operated by DGP, and is zoned for commercial use. Land use in the area immediately surrounding the site is predominantly commercial.

### ***2.2 Site History***

The site was first developed by the Wilmington Leather Company between 1900 and 1910. A fire during the 1920s brought the Wilmington Leather Company to ruins. During the 1930s, the site was re-developed and the building on the site was used as a warehouse until 1994. The warehouse and site remained vacant for three years. The existing warehouse was demolished in May 1997.

### ***2.3 Previous Investigations***

In a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Report dated March 6, 1996, prepared by WIK Associates, Inc. (WIK) for the Breckstone Group, Inc., several areas of concern were identified. These areas of concern included an underground storage tank (UST), asbestos containing material (ACM), and polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) containing equipment. The assessment recommended that further investigation be performed.

WIK prepared a Phase II Soil Investigation Report dated January 3, 1997 on behalf of another potential purchaser of the property known as the Ventresca Group, LLC. Analytical results for soil were compared to Delaware's Uniform Risk-Based Standards (URS) for an industrial, non-critical water resource area as well as EPA Region III Risk-Based Concentrations (RBCs). The investigation revealed that arsenic, barium, and chromium exceeded URS as well as RBC values for metals in subsurface soils. The report also revealed that the following semivolatile compounds (SVOCs) exceeded URS and RBC values for SVOCs in soil: benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(a)anthracene, carbazole, chrysene, dibenz(a,h)anthracene, and indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene.

On January 16, 1997, at the request of DNREC, WIK submitted additional information in the form of an addendum to the Phase II Soil Investigation. The addendum was prepared to clarify the selection process for analytical parameters and methods for the December 1996 soil samples as well as report results from two additional soil samples that were analyzed for SVOCs. The two additional samples confirmed that SVOC contamination was not as widespread as originally suspected.

Based on the results of the Phase I and Phase II reports, the Ventresca Group formally entered into the VCP with DNREC by signing an agreement letter in January 1997.

In April 1997, Plymouth Environmental removed ACM from the site. The asbestos removal addressed pipe insulation, boiler insulation, and transite material.

Three transformers and one drum of solid debris were removed from the Site by SD Myers, Inc. on May 27, 1997 and were transported to the SD Myers facility in Ohio for disposal.

In compliance with the City of Wilmington's building demolition codes, the Ventresca Group imported 2,703 tons of select fill to the site. Over a two-day period, November 10-11, 1997, the select fill was placed across the entire 1.16 acre site to serve as a soil cover material. The average soil cover thickness was thirteen (13) inches.

On December 1, 1997 a 2,000-gallon UST was removed from the site. J&M Industries of Wilmington, Delaware removed the tank.

A Feasibility Study (FS) was prepared by Tetra Tech Inc. in July 1998 to evaluate remedial alternatives. The above-mentioned areas of concern were also included in the evaluation of remedial alternatives. The FS concluded that the preferred remedy was a combination of remedial measures which included construction of a soil cover, removal of transformers, removal of the UST, asbestos abatement, building demolition, and deed restrictions.

The original proposed plan for the site was advertised on June 25, 1998. The public comment period began on Friday, June 26, 1998 and ended on July 17, 1998. On July 27, 1998 the final plan was issued. The remedial actions that were contained in the final plan were the construction of a soil cap, a declaration of restrictions, and the establishment of a GMZ. A certification of completion of remedy (COCR) was issued on August 6, 1998 for soils only. Groundwater was not investigated and was not included in the COCR.

### **3.0 INVESTIGATION RESULTS**

As a result of the fire-damaged vehicles being stored on the site as well as the absence of a groundwater investigation, DNREC determined that further investigation at the site was necessary. DGP formally entered into the VCP by signing an agreement with DNREC on September 13, 2000. DGP agreed to conduct a RI of the groundwater and take shallow soil samples of the soil cap. Shallow soil samples had to be retaken because fire-damaged vehicles were transported to the site and stored on top of the protective soil cap. This was a violation of the final plan.

On September 11, 2000, Duffield Associates conducted a RI of the groundwater and shallow soils of the existing soil cap. The RI was conducted in accordance with a DNREC approved work plan dated September 2000.

Five surface soil samples (S-1, S-2, S-3, S-4, and S-5) were collected. Two groundwater samples (GB-1 and GB-2) were collected from temporary wells constructed by direct-push soil borings on the site. These sampling locations are shown in Figure 2.

#### **3.1 *Shallow Soil***

Shallow soil samples were analyzed exclusively for ethylene glycol and extractable petroleum hydrocarbons (EPH). These two analyses were requested exclusively because they included the chemicals of concern in relation to the fire-damaged vehicles. EPH concentrations for C<sub>19</sub> through C<sub>36</sub> aliphatic hydrocarbons exceeded the 5,000 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) URS value for protection of human health in samples S-1 and S-2 in a restricted use, non-critical water resources area (Table 1). EPH concentrations for C<sub>19</sub> through C<sub>36</sub> aliphatic hydrocarbons were reported as 9,400 mg/kg in sample S-1 and 12,000 mg/kg in sample S-2. Ethylene glycol was not detected in the soil samples.

#### **3.2 *Groundwater***

The results of the RI identified arsenic, iron, and manganese at concentrations exceeding their respective URS values for a restricted use, non-critical water resources area as well as the Federal Drinking Water standards known as the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels (SMCL) (Table 2).

Concentrations for arsenic, iron, and manganese in groundwater sample GB-1 were 0.09 milligrams per liter (mg/L), 1.65 mg/L, and 1.86 mg/L respectively. Concentrations of iron and manganese exceeded their respective URS values and SMCL of 0.30 mg/L and 0.05 mg/L for protection of human health. Arsenic in groundwater exceeded its respective Maximum Contaminant Value (MCL) of 0.05 mg/L. Groundwater sample GB-2 exceeded the URS and SMCL values for protection of human health for manganese with a concentration of 0.94 mg/L. No volatile organic compounds (VOCs), SVOCs, pesticides, or PCBs were detected at concentrations that exceeded URS values.

### 3.3 Results

The results of the RI identified metals in groundwater and EPH in soil that exceeded their respective URS values. Arsenic in groundwater exceeded its respective MCL value of 0.05 mg/L and state action level of 0.01 mg/L. The iron and manganese values are based upon drinking water SMCL standards of 0.30 mg/L and 0.05 mg/L, respectively, and represent non-enforceable aesthetic standards. However, public water is available in this area, and a Groundwater Management Zone (GMZ) restricting the use of groundwater in the city of Wilmington is presently in place, both of which prevent human exposure to site groundwater.

The highest concentration of arsenic in groundwater, 90 ug/L, does not exceed the Delaware surface water quality standard criteria of 360 ug/L (acute) and 190 ug/L (chronic) for arsenic. Since the Christina River is approximately 1.5 miles southeast of the site and the surface water quality criteria for arsenic is not exceeded, it is concluded that there are no impacts to the Christina River that can be attributed to this site.

EPHs in the shallow soil samples were detected at concentrations that exceeded their URS value of 5,000 mg/kg.

### 4.0 REMEDIAL ACTION OBJECTIVES

According to Section 8.4 (1) of the Regulations, site-specific remedial action objectives (RAO) must be established for all plans of remedial action. Remedial options were evaluated utilizing the qualitative and quantitative objectives and the following considerations:

- The surrounding land use is to remain predominantly commercial.
- The risk posed to future construction workers through exposure to contaminated soil.
- The risk posed to human health through the ingestion of contaminated groundwater.
- The site will remain commercial with a car showroom and a parking lot.

#### Qualitative Remedial Objectives:

Based on the above considerations, the following qualitative objectives were developed:

- Restrict human contact (dermal and ingestion) with contaminated soil; and
- Include the site in the City of Wilmington GMZ (August 2001), which will restrict the placement of wells and use of groundwater at the site.

#### Quantitative Remedial Objectives:

Based on the above qualitative remedial action objectives, the following quantitative remedial action objective was developed:

- Prevent human contact with contaminants that exceed the URS.

The RAO for this site is to minimize or eliminate exposure of humans to groundwater and shallow soils.

## **5.0 AMENDED SECOND PROPOSED PLAN OF REMEDIAL ACTION**

DNREC is proposing that the following amended remedial action be performed:

**Action #1:** Placement of a deed restriction on the site limiting the property to restricted land use (non-residential uses) and prohibiting excavation, trenching, construction, grading, drilling or other earth disturbance activities, or renovation or demolition of the existing structures on the property, or any paved surfaces in excess of 12 inches below grade on the site without prior written approval of DNREC-SIRB.

This amended remedial action will remain protective of human health and the environment due to the fact that there is a total of twenty-one inches of clean fill and asphalt paving layers covering contaminants that exceed the URS.

The following remedial actions, as set forth in the Second Final Plan of Remedial Action (signed October 30, 2002), will remain in effect:

**Action #2:** Installation of an asphalt cap to prevent contact with contaminated soil as well as the submission and implementation of an operations and maintenance (O&M) plan to ensure that the integrity of the asphalt cap is maintained.

**Action #3:** The property owner shall place a deed restriction on the site, no longer than ninety days following DNREC's adoption of the final plan. The deed restriction will prohibit the installation of any water wells on, or groundwater usage at the site without prior written approval of DNREC. The deed restriction will identify the site as located within a GMZ for the City of Wilmington which is an internal DNREC document that restricts groundwater withdrawals at the site.

In combination, these remedial actions meet DNREC requirements for an appropriate remedy for this site. These remedial actions will constitute the remedial decision record for this site.

## **6.0 ORIGINAL AND SECOND FINAL PLAN OF REMEDIAL ACTION**

It is important to note that not all of the details contained in the original final plan (July 1998) were included in this amended second proposed plan. The original remedy for the site, as addressed in the original final plan, remains in effect. That original remedy included construction of a soil cap, a declaration of restrictions, and the establishment of a GMZ.

A second final plan was issued for the site in October 2002. The details included in that second final plan are included in this amended second proposed plan. The purpose of the second final plan for the site was to address the investigation of groundwater that was not addressed in the

original proposed plan and final plan for the site as well as to re-address a section of the soil cap where fire-damaged vehicles were stored. These vehicles were damaged in a fire that occurred on June 10, 2000. Therefore, DNREC believed that further investigation of the site was necessary to ensure that the original remedy was still protective of human health and the environment.

The original GMZ was incorporated as part of the City of Wilmington GMZ in accordance with the second final plan. The preferred remedy in the second proposed plan, in addition to the remedy in the original final plan, will be more protective of human health and the environment. This amendment to the deed restriction contained in the second final plan is being done at the request of the property owner and will not lessen the protectiveness of the remedy contained in the second final plan. The total remedial action for the site is contained in the original final plan, second final plan and this amended second proposed plan in their totality. The original and second final plans, as well as this amended second proposed plan, can be viewed at DNREC's office located at:

391 Lukens Drive  
New Castle, DE 19720

## **7.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

DNREC actively solicits public comments or suggestions on the second proposed plan. Please direct written comments to:

DNREC- Site Investigation and Restoration Branch  
391 Lukens Drive  
New Castle, DE 19720  
Attn: Rebecca L. Hawkins

The comment period begins on Wednesday, May 7, 2003 and ends on Tuesday, May 27, 2003. Comments and/or requests for a public hearing may be submitted in writing to Rebecca L. Hawkins by the close of business (4:30 PM) on Monday, October 7, 2002 at the above address.

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**Figure 1: Site Location Map**

**Figure 2: Groundwater and Surface Soil Sampling Locations Map**

**Table 1: Summary of Shallow Soil Sample Results**

**Table 2: Summary of Groundwater Sample Results**