

**Hoosick Area Community Participation Work Group (CPWG)  
Meeting Summary – April 27, 2021**

<b>CPWG Member</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Marianne Zwicklbauer	X		
Emily Marpe			X
Loreen Hackett	X		
Barbara Lancour	X		
Brian Bushner	X		
Eric Sheffer	X		
Mark Surdam			X
Rob Allen			X
Pat Dailey	X		
David Lukas			X
Michael Hickey			X
<b>Facilitator</b>			
Nancy Pattarini, The Paige Group	X		
Carrie McMurray, The Paige Group	X		
<b>Presenters</b>			
Ian Beilby, NYSDEC	X		
Barbara Firebaugh, NYSDEC	X		
Chris Angier, Saint-Gobain			

**Note:** The April 27, 2021 public meeting of the CPWG was conducted via an online video/conference platform due to the restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. A press release reminder of the meeting date was issued to local media. A meeting date reminder and log-in directions were emailed to all community members who have signed up on the CPWG Listserv. Meeting-related materials may be found on the Hoosick Area CPWG website [www.hoosickareacpwg.org](http://www.hoosickareacpwg.org) and on the NYSDEC website <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/108791.html>

**Discussion Summary:**

- I. Welcome – The Paige Group
  - a. Facilitator – The Paige Group
    - i. The Facilitator provided an overview of meeting protocol for online participation
    - ii. The Facilitator noted that the opportunity for comments from participating community members will be provided at the end of each presentation
    - iii. The Facilitator introduced CPWG Co-chairs Loreen Hackett and Brian Bushner
  - b. Co-Chairs
    - i. The Co-chairs provided an overview of the meeting agenda
- II. NYSDEC Update – Following are excerpts from the discussion
  - a. PRAP released on 4/21/21
    - i. PRAP includes:
      1. NYSDEC’s proposed option to address contamination: utilize a new groundwater source located south of the village of Hoosick Falls and to treat water pumped from the source appropriately to

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achieve drinking water standards and the cleanup action objectives described in the PRAP

2. Granular activated carbon filtration of the water is included in DEC's proposed option
  - ii. Next steps:
    1. 45-day comment period (April 21 thru June 4, 2021) via mail or email:
      - a. Ian Beilby, Project Engineer  
NYSDEC  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7013
      - b. [hoosickwatersupply@dec.ny.gov](mailto:hoosickwatersupply@dec.ny.gov)
    2. NYSDEC/NYSDOH will host a virtual public meeting on 5/13/21 to present the PRAP and provide the public an opportunity to ask questions and/or comment
    3. The final Record of Decision (ROD) will be issued upon review of the comments submitted during the comment period
  - iii. Helpful links:
    1. ADDITIONAL SITE DOCUMENTS: online document library for the "Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics ~ McCaffrey Street":  
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/442046/>
    2. OTHER RELEVANT RESOURCES:  
<https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442046>
    3. OTHER HOOSICK AREA RESOURCES:  
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/108791.html>
- b. Remediation Update
- i. River Road: <https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442008>
    1. A project summary was presented to the NYSDEC in March and a Site Characterization Report is being prepared
  - ii. Hoosick Falls Landfill
    1. <https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442007>
    2. The initial leachate samples have been collected and work on the RI and Treatability Study is ongoing
    3. Pending final access agreement with RR and utility companies, preliminary investigation activities will commence
    4. RI/FS workplan is approved and available in the site repository
  - iii. Interface Solutions
    1. <https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442059>
    2. Field work for the site characterization was completed in March and a report is being prepared
  - iv. John Street: <https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442049>
    1. A project summary was presented to NYSDEC this month and a Remedial Investigation Report is being prepared
  - v. 80 First Street
    1. On-site sampling in preparation of an IRM workplan
  - vi. McCaffrey Street
    1. <https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442046>

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2. Ecological and Human Health Risk Assessment Work Plan are being finalized
3. Biological Sampling Plan scope of work is being finalized
4. Q2 groundwater monitoring sampling beginning in May
- vii. Liberty: <https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442048>
  1. Pre-Design Investigation well sampling and Q2 groundwater monitoring sampling underway
- viii. Aerial Deposition Study
  1. Phase 1 Report submitted to the department and is under review
- c. Teflon Storage Container Collection
  - i. Saint-Gobain will sponsor the collection and coordinate with the village and town hazardous waste collection days
- d. Fire Departments
  - i. NYSDEC will coordinate with Homeland Security and NYSDOH to ensure information about PFAS protocols is shared with fire departments
  - ii. The village will be asked to inform the NYSDEC of any specific sites identified by the fire department to be of concern with potential risk
- e. CPWG Comments/Questions

Key: C=Comment, Q= Question, A= Answer

  - i. Q: What is the nature of the health risk assessment at the McCaffrey site?  
A: All possible potential exposure pathways—soil, sediment, groundwater—are being looked at in terms of level of health risk.
  - ii. Q: Is NYSDEC involved in the construction activity currently going on at the old WCW factory?  
A: No, the NYSDEC did not find any areas of concern during the site characterization. As a result, the site has new owners and any construction activity currently going on does not involve NYSDEC.
  - iii. Q: Does NYSDEC know when the next Water Quality Council meeting is scheduled for?  
A: They are currently working on scheduling the next meeting and NYSDEC will let the CPWG know when it is scheduled.
- f. Public Comments/Questions
  - i. Q: Are POETs being addressed in the PRAP?  
A: The PRAP is specific to the municipal water supply. Short- and long-term solutions for private well owners will be addressed under another operable unit, OU 3.

**III. Other Hoosick Area CPWG Business**

- a. Ongoing Action Items Status, Discussion, and NYSDEC Response
  - i. Air emissions: Status of CPWG's request for more testing and the development of a proactive approach to minimize potential for future exposures going forward
    1. CPWG has proposed a joint meeting of NYSDEC, NYSDOH, EPA, and CPWG Co-chairs
  - ii. Concerns of property owners with wells: POET maintenance and POET eligibility
    1. NYSDEC will continue to maintain POETs and offer POETs to town residents

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2. NYSDEC will also:
  - a. Include information on how DEC will be addressing POETs at the PRAP public meeting on 5/13/21
  - b. Provide the town with POET information that they can share with residents
  - c. Coordinate with the town to host a future POET public information meeting
- iii. Potential impact of Saint-Gobain whistleblower on current remediation activities [Saint-Gobain whistleblower says company ignored pleas to probe pollution sites](#)
  1. Since NYSDEC's remediation plans are based on existing data, the allegations do not affect the NYSDEC's remediation approach
  2. NYSDEC's legal counsel will continue to monitor the situation
- iv. Status of adding PTFE to the TRI:
  1. NYSDEC's current position:
    - a. PTFE is made up of other compounds that are currently on the TRI
    - b. PTFE does not meet the criteria to be added to the TRI
  2. NYSDEC will meet with CPWG Co-chairs to provide additional information
- v. GAC systems: Effectiveness of additional filters
  - a. Mayor Allen to share data with CPWG and post recent data on the village website
- b. Other national and NYS activities relevant to Hoosick Falls
  - i. CPWG Communication Activities
    1. Co-chair Brian Bushner has drafted letter to EANY to correct misinformation about current water quality versus quality of source water
      - a. Co-chairs will share with full CPWG for comments prior to sending
    2. Water quality video
      - a. Co-chair Bushner will coordinate with the school district and village to create the video to help audiences better understand the distinction between source water and finished water
    3. Co-chair Loreen Hackett meeting with EPA Administrator Regan
      - a. Co-chair Hackett shared announcement of new EPA Council on PFAS. The Council is charged with building on the agency's ongoing work to better understand and ultimately reduce the potential risks caused by these chemicals
    4. Multi-Community Health Study Update
      - a. Dr. Erin Bell of University of Albany will present at the June CPWG Public Meeting regarding the Main Street site, gift cards for participants, high school involvement, and more
    5. Legislative and Advocacy News and Updates
      - a. CPWG Co-chair Hackett participated at Senator Gillibrand's roundtable related to proposed new PFAS legislation

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<https://www.facebook.com/SenKirstenGillibrand/videos/516500202698907>

- b. PFAS Action Act:  
<https://debbiedingell.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=2975>
- c. Bill to watch, passed onto Senate on 4/26 – adds 25-30 more PFAS to emerging contaminant list for testing:  
<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2021/s1759>
- d. EPA held a UCMR 5 presentation/stakeholder meeting on 4/6 (29 of the 30 contaminants are now PFAS) – slides will be shared with CPWG members and posted along with the April meeting report. Community members may submit comments until 5/10/21.

**IV. Other Hoosick Area CPWG Business**

- a. Meeting Summaries posted on [www.hoosickareacpwg.org](http://www.hoosickareacpwg.org)
- b. 2021 Public Meeting Schedule – Meeting Location/Format TBD
  - i. PUBLIC: Tuesday 6/22/21
  - ii. PUBLIC: Tuesday 8/24/21
  - iii. PUBLIC: Tuesday 10/26/21
  - iv. PUBLIC: Tuesday 12/14/21