

**Hoosick Area Community Participation Work Group (CPWG)  
Meeting Summary – August 24, 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			
Maureen Leahy, ERM			

**Note:** The August 24, 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 and presentations 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 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 – Following are excerpts from the presentation
  - a. Site Remediation Activities
    - i. River Road – <https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442008>
      1. Draft Site Characterization Report has been received by the department
      2. A pre-design investigation (PDI) workplan
      3. The PDI is in preparation of implementing an IRM

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- ii. Hoosick Falls Landfill –  
<https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442007>
    - 1. Remedial investigation is underway—RI WP approved early 2021
    - 2. Well installation and sampling
  - iii. Columbia Corporation –  
<https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442005>
    - 1. Site Characterization Report is under review
  - iv. John Street – <https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442049>
    - 1. Remedial investigation report is being prepared, to be followed by the Feasibility Study work plan
  - v. Interface Solutions –  
<https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442059>
    - 1. Data Summary Report received and reviewed
    - 2. Site Characterization is complete, a report is being prepared
  - vi. McCaffrey Street –  
<https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442046>
    - 1. Ecological and Human Health Risk Assessment Work Plans were approved
    - 2. Biota sampling work plan is approved and work will proceed this fall
    - 3. OU3 (areas outside village water supply) remedial investigation is being planned
  - vii. Liberty Street –  
<https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/index.html?rs=442048>
    - 1. Proposed IRM to address the stormwater systems is in review
    - 2. Additional work proposed to assess surface water bodies around Liberty Street
  - viii. Contact Information
    - 1. Ian Beilby, P.E. – [ian.beilby@dec.ny.gov](mailto:ian.beilby@dec.ny.gov)
    - 2. Barbara Firebaugh, P.G.– [barbara.firebaugh@dec.ny.gov](mailto:barbara.firebaugh@dec.ny.gov)
    - 3. Chris Monaco, P.G. – [christopher.monaco@dec.ny.gov](mailto:christopher.monaco@dec.ny.gov)
- b. Comments/Questions
- i. CPWG
    - 1. Q: Please clarify what you mean by PFAS in stormwater.  
A: Stormwater pipes are acting as a continuous source of PFAS and methods to clean the pipes and return them to operation are currently being evaluated.
    - 2. Q: Do you know where the roof leaders on the Liberty Street building go?  
A: Currently we do not, but this information/data will be part of the site report.
    - 3. Q: What chemicals are in the pond by the landfill?  
A: We currently don't have that information/data, but it will be part of the site report.
    - 4. Q: At the Interface, Columbia, and Dodge sites, what is the potential source of contamination? Current use or historical use and/or dumping?

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A: The current manufacturing process at Interface uses a small amount of PTFE and it also has a manufacturing history. The Columbia site was once a paper mill, and the Dodge site is on hold for now until we can analyze the John Street data for additional insights on the Dodge site.

ii. Public

1. None

c. Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) Process

i. PRAP was released in April 2021

ii. Comment period was extended to the end of June 2021

iii. Currently preparing the Record of Decision (ROD) which will address public comments and finalize the selected option

iv. Design and implementation will begin after the ROD is released

d. Comments/Questions

i. CPWG

1. Q: Where can we find the public comments?

A: Comments received on the PRAP are released to the public by way of the Responsiveness Summary in the ROD. Prior to publication in the ROD, personal contact information, such as email addresses, is removed from the comment.

2. Q: When will the comments provided by the Village of Hoosick Falls and the CPWG be addressed?

A: The comments provided by the CPWG and Village will be formally addressed in the ROD.

3. Q: Will the ROD address new legislation that calls for the testing of new contaminants?

A: If warranted based on legislation and subsequent regulatory requirements, any new contaminants of concern will be evaluated and addressed appropriately.

ii. Public

1. None

III. Honeywell & Saint-Gobain Biota-Sampling Work Plan – Following are excerpts from the presentation

a. Purpose

i. Evaluate potential uptake of PFAS and other chemicals from soil, surface water, and sediment into plants, earthworms, arthropods (e.g., insects, beetles), small mammals (e.g., mice), and fish that live on and near McCaffrey Street site

b. Overview of the work plan

i. 7 land locations – 4 upland, 3 wetland

1. Surface soil (0 to 2 feet below ground)

2. Plants (clipping leaves and stems)

3. Earthworms (utilizing a sieve)

4. Arthropods (e.g., beetles, pill bugs, centipedes, millipedes)

5. Small mammals (e.g., mouse, shrew, vole)

ii. 6 river locations – 1 upstream, 3 near McCaffrey St., 2 downstream

1. Surface water samples

2. Sediment samples (0 to 2 feet below bottom of river)

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3. Aquatic macroinvertebrates (e.g., crayfish)
    4. Aquatic plants (about 100 grams)
    5. Small, medium, and large fish
  - iii. 3 stream locations
    1. Surface water samples
    2. Sediment samples (0 to 2 feet below bottom of stream)
    3. Aquatic macroinvertebrates (e.g., crayfish)
    4. Aquatic plants (about 100 grams)
  - iv. Samples will be tested for
    1. PFAS
    2. Metals
    3. PCBs
    4. PAHs
- c. Timeline
  - i. Preparation took place in July 2021
    1. Ordering supplies, scheduling staff, and coordinating with NYSDEC and various stakeholders
  - ii. Field work is taking place from late August through early Fall 2021 (schedule is approximate)
    1. One week of collecting non-biological samples
    2. Soil, surface water, sediment
    3. Two weeks of collecting biological samples on land and stream
    4. Plants, arthropods, small mammals
    5. Two weeks of collecting biological samples in river
  - iii. Information will be reported to NYSDEC in early 2022
- d. Comments/Questions
  - i. CPWG
    1. Q: Are you expecting to see PCBs originating from McCaffrey or other sources upstream?  
A: We are expecting to see PCBs; however, we are not sure of the source at this time.
    2. Q: Will weather impact the timeline?  
A: Fluctuations in water levels (high and low) will impact our ability to safely collect samples which would result in the need to extend the timeline.
    3. Q: How many PFAS are you testing for and are you also testing for Total Organic Fluorine (TOF)?  
A: We are testing for 21 PFAS, the same that were tested for in the water supply, and we are not testing for TOF because the methodology used to test for TOF is for high limits and that data would not be very useful in Hoosick Falls.
    4. Q: Are other states doing similar testing programs?  
A: Other states are conducting similar testing, however, the NYS program is the most comprehensive program being conducted to our knowledge.
  - ii. Public
    1. None

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- IV. Hoosick Area CPWG Co-Chairs Report: Current and Emerging Topics/Issues
- a. Ongoing Action Items Status for NYSDEC
    - i. New water supply
      - 1. Request to look at other well sites south of the proposed well sites
    - ii. Annual Guideline Concentration (AGC)
      - 1. Allowable concentrations in the air
  - b. Ongoing Action Items Status for EPA
    - i. Status/process of adding PFTE on TRI
    - ii. IRIS review of PFBA indicates there are health concerns
  - c. Ongoing Action Items Status for NYSDOH
    - i. CPWG requests status of next Water Quality Council meeting
  - d. Multi-Community Health Study Update – Job Postings
    - i. Phlebotomist (Hoosick Falls)  
<http://www.frontlinenational.com/job/phlebotomist-28/>
    - ii. Phlebotomist (Newburgh)  
<http://www.frontlinenational.com/job/phlebotomist-27/>
    - iii. Clinical Research Associate (Hoosick Falls)  
<http://www.frontlinenational.com/job/clinical-research-associate-clinical-interviewer-3/>
    - iv. Clinical Research Associate (Newburgh)  
<http://www.frontlinenational.com/job/clinical-research-associate-clinical-interviewer-2/>
    - v. Research Associate (Hoosick Falls)  
<http://www.frontlinenational.com/job/research-office-associate-study-office-associate/>
    - vi. Research Associate (Newburgh): <http://www.frontlinenational.com/job/5-7/>
    - vii. For more information on job postings, health information, and more, visit:  
<https://www.albany.edu/sph/pfas>
  - e. Other national and NYS activities relevant to Hoosick Falls
    - i. Legislative and Advocacy Updates
      - 1. Letter sent to Governor’s office requesting the prompt signing of A.126-A/S.1759-A
      - 2. National Institute of Health: Requested input by 8/2/21 from all interested parties on research needed to identify, analyze, monitor, and mitigate drinking water contaminants of emerging concern [Request for Information on Drinking Water Contaminants of Emerging Concern for the National Emerging Contaminant Research Initiative; Reopening of Comment Period](#)
      - 3. Meetings scheduled with elected officials on new and pending legislation
    - ii. Other
      - 1. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM)

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- a. NASEM article: [Environmental Health Professor Provides Guidance on PFAS Testing and Health Outcomes](#)

**V. 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 10/26/21
  - ii. PUBLIC: Tuesday 12/14/21