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Acting Commissioner

## **Dewey Loeffel Landfill (NYSDEC I.D. # 4-42-006)** **Project Update - December, 2010**

### **Operable Unit 1 (landfill cap and slurry wall)**

- **Status of the maintenance of the landfill** – Year round pumping from the on-site leachate collection tank continues. Tanker trucks continue to transport the leachate for off-site treatment at a permitted disposal facility. Routine site maintenance continues by DEC personnel and DEC contractors. The DEC is currently moving the leachate transfer operation from Mead Road to inside the fence line. The excavation for the new leachate transmission line has been started. It will not impact the integrity of the cap itself. This work will be completed shortly and the tanker trucks will no longer be parked on Mead Road while filling. See figure.

### **Operable Unit 2 (landfill waste, leachate and groundwater)**

- **Status of the operating off-site bedrock groundwater extraction well system** - The three off-site bedrock groundwater plume extraction wells have been operating since the spring with very limited interruption by the DEC. Approximately 5 - 6,000 gallons of contaminated groundwater are being extracted per day for off-site disposal. The extraction wells were installed to capture the off-site bedrock plume and based on results to date, appear to be working effectively. This is confirmed by periodic sampling of the extracted groundwater and measurement of the water levels within nearby monitoring wells. The monitoring shows contaminated groundwater is being captured by the extraction well pumping rather than continuing to migrate further. For 2010 (approximately 7 months of operation), over 1 million gallons of contaminated groundwater has been captured and shipped off-site to a permitted disposal facility. The system is currently shut down for the winter months. Modifications are planned to allow year round operation of the extraction system. This will include collecting the contaminated groundwater in an insulated tank for eventual transfer to an off-site permitted disposal facility. An end-of-the-year report is being prepared and will be made available.
- **Off-site groundwater monitoring program status** - Monitoring by GE's consultant of a network of the off-site groundwater monitoring wells on a



semi-annual basis continues in accordance with the approved work plan. The May, 2010 Groundwater Sampling Event Monitoring Report was submitted in July and is available at the Nassau Free library. Volatile organic compounds (vocs) continue to be detected in the monitoring wells south the landfill, although a significant portion of them are being captured by the bedrock groundwater extraction wells. The fall, 2010 sampling was completed in October and a report was submitted on December 15th. Based on the data collected this year, there does not appear to be any expansion of the groundwater plume.

- **Residential potable well treatment and sampling program status** - The maintenance of the 5 residential treatment systems continues by a GE consultant and bottled water continues to be provided. The fall residential well sampling program has also been completed. This sampling included the semi-annual list (6 residential wells), the annual list (6 residential wells) and the biennial list (7 residential wells) for a total of 19 residential wells. No new residential wells have been impacted by the groundwater plume.
- **Soil Vapor Intrusion Study** - Access to two of the four properties which needed to be evaluated was obtained and shallow water table groundwater monitoring wells were installed by a GE contractor and two rounds of samples were collected in 2010. An initial report was submitted on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and an addendum report on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. No site-related vocs were detected in the shallow groundwater, a possible indication that structures located on these properties may not be at risk from vapor intrusion. Access to the other two properties is being pursued.
- **Status of the upgraded on-site leachate collection system and treatment plant design** - As previously explained, the design and construction of the on-site treatment plant is on hold. It is anticipated that the design will be re-evaluated by the USEPA once the site is finalized on the National Priorities List (see below for additional information with regards to the EPA).

### **Operable Unit 3 (drainageways and Nassau Lake)**

- **Valatie Kill & Nassau Lake fish collection and sampling** - The 2010 fish collection events were completed in June and July by a GE consultant with DEC oversight. As in previous years, fish were collected at 12 different locations in the T-11A tributary, the Valatie Kill and Nassau Lake. Multiple species are collected at most locations. Samples were processed in accordance with the accepted statement of work dated March 2009. A Draft biota (fish) monitoring report was submitted by GE in late November and is currently under review by the DEC and DOH. The five-year review specified in the OU3 Record of Decision is underway. The fish sampling is



planned to continue in 2011.

- **Fish advisories for the Valatie Kill & Nassau Lake** - The NYSDOH will be issuing the 2011 fish advisories in early spring for the entire State of New York. The 2010 fish sampling data is currently be evaluated to determine the appropriate fish consumption health advisories for Nassau Lake and the Valatie Kill. The advisory currently in-place is "eat none" for all species.
- **Sediment/soil Re-evaluation in the Tributary T-11A** – As requested by the DEC earlier this year, GE and their consultants conducted a two phase supplemental investigation of soils and sediment in the tributary T-11A of the Valatie Kill. The concern was that there may be residual PCBs remaining in the tributary T-11A soils and sediment that are continuing to impact fish. These PCBs were released when the dump operated and are not considered new releases. Sixteen samples were collected in the first phase and 158 samples were collected in the second phase. The sampling work was completed in August and a report was submitted by GE's consultant. The report confirms that there are still residual PCBs in significant concentrations remaining in T11A and additional removals will be required. The report has been reviewed by the state and GE has been requested to submit a supplemental remedial action work plan. It is anticipated that these additional removals will be completed in 2011.

**Additional News** - The NYSDEC formally nominated the site to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) on October 13, 2009 for listing on the federal National Priorities List (NPL), commonly called the Superfund. The USEPA has evaluated the site, completed a Hazard Ranking Score to qualify the site and proposed the site for listing in the federal registry on March 4, 2010. With the proposal of the site to the Superfund list, a 60 day public comment period began. See <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl/pubcom.htm>. The comment period has ended and the USEPA is evaluating the hundreds of comments which were received. If finalized on the NPL, the USEPA will be the lead government agency for the site. **For information on the USEPA NPL listing contact: Wanda Ayala, Community Involvement Coordinator at (212) 637-3676 or via email at [ayala.wanda@epa.gov](mailto:ayala.wanda@epa.gov).**

**For further information on the Dewey Loeffel Landfill Site, contact:**

**For questions on the overall project status:**

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**For questions on the fish collection and analysis program:**

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(518) 402-8973 or via e-mail at [wxrichte@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:wxrichte@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

**For health related issues:**

Bridget Callaghan or Dawn Hettrick  
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation  
NYSDOH  
Flannigan Square  
547 River Street  
Troy, NY 12180-2216  
(518) 402-7860 or via e-mail at [bk01@health.state.ny.us](mailto:bk01@health.state.ny.us) or [deh02@health.state.ny.us](mailto:deh02@health.state.ny.us)

**Where can I find information on the site?** Site related documents can be viewed at the Nassau Free Library, 18 Church Street, Nassau, N.Y. (open 2pm - 8pm Monday - Friday and 10am - 1pm on Saturday. Closed Sunday) or by contacting one of the above listed individuals or on the DEC website at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37564.html>. The Town of Nassau's website also has Loeffel related documents posted. See: <http://townofnassau.org/content>

**We encourage you to share this update sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this update sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.**

**Receive Site Fact Sheets & Updates by Email**

Have site information such as this update sheet sent right to your email in  
NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites  
County email listservs available at the following web page:  
[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html) . It's *quick*, it's *free*, and it will  
help keep you *better informed*.



As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related  
information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

To receive information on the Loeffel site electronically via the NYSDECs "listserv",  
you can sign up by visiting the following website:

<http://lists.dec.state.ny.us/mailman/listinfo/rensselaercountycleanupnews>.

The listserv for Rensselaer County issues emails periodically to subscribers  
about a given site, including the Dewey Loeffel Site.

You may continue also to receive paper copies of site information for a time after  
you sign up with a county listserv, until the transition to electronic distribution is  
complete.

**Note:** Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet  
electronically.

# Operable Units

O.U. 3

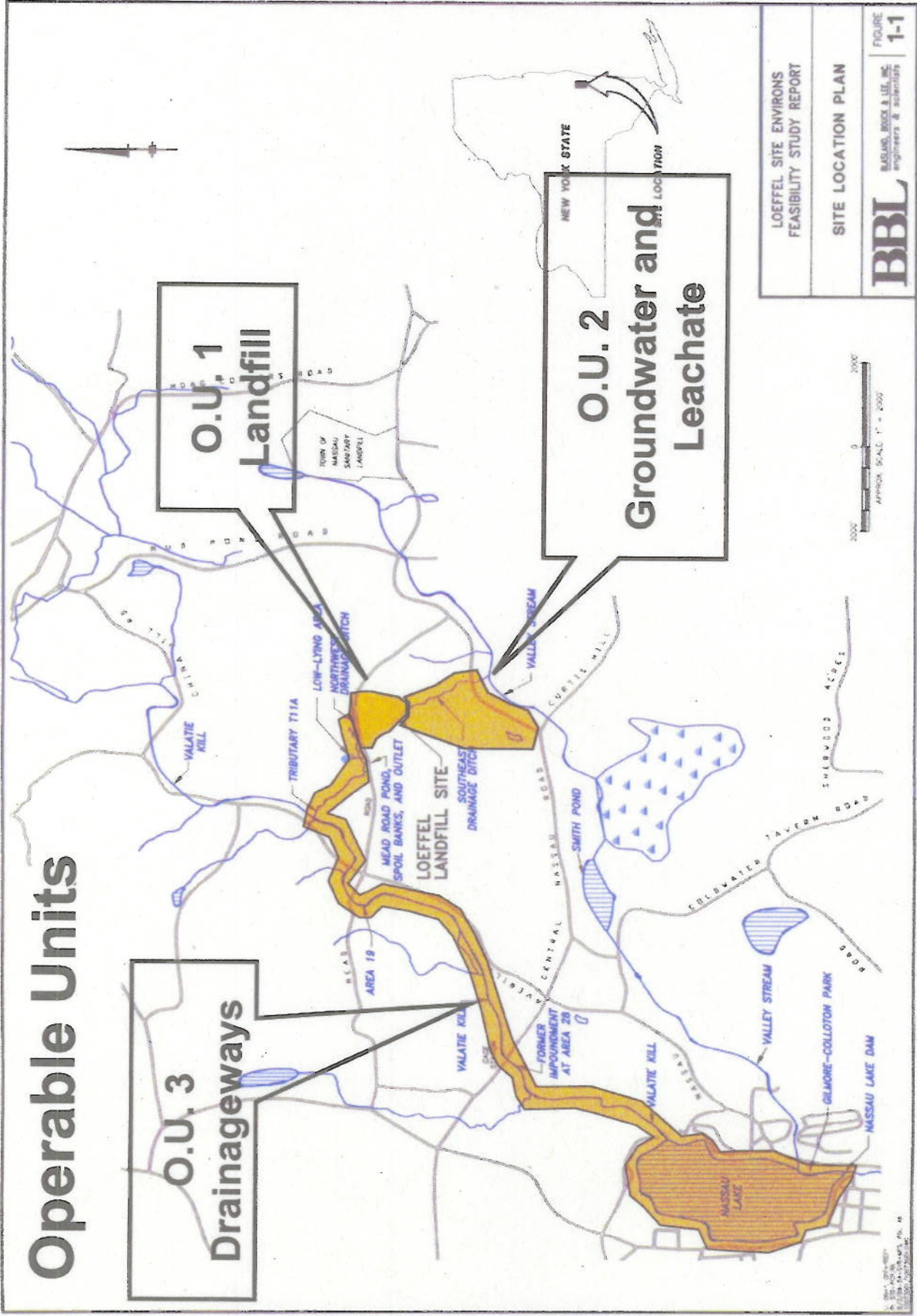
Drainageways

O.U. 1

Landfill

O.U. 2

Groundwater and  
Leachate



LOEFFEL SITE ENVIRONS  
FEASIBILITY STUDY REPORT

SITE LOCATION PLAN

FIGURE  
1-1

**BBL**  
BASLAND, BROS. & LEE, INC.  
engineers & architects





DEWEY LOEFFEL LANDFILL  
PROPOSED LEACHATE TRANSFER LINE UPGRADE