

## FORMER OWENS CORNING FACILITY SITE

160 Jackson Road • BERLIN, NEW JERSEY

*This project update has been developed and produced by Owens Corning to keep the public informed about ongoing environmental investigations and remediation activities related to the site of the former Owens Corning facility in Berlin, NJ.*

### PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Owens Corning former Berlin, NJ site was entered into the Industrial Site Recovery Act (ISRA) program by Owens Corning when manufacturing operations ceased in October 1993. Site investigation activities, conducted in cooperation with and under the direction of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), identified soil and groundwater impacts related to the former manufacturing operations. The identified impacts are primarily related to the historic use of DOWTHERM A™ (a heat transfer fluid), fuel oil, and various lubricants.

### Ongoing Groundwater Investigation

As part of the ongoing environmental investigation, groundwater at the site has been, and continues to be, monitored for impacts resulting from the former manufacturing operation. This work is being conducted by ARCADIS, an independent environmental consulting firm working for Owens Corning.

Owens Corning is committed to protecting public health and the environment. We are pursuing three paths of action simultaneously:

- A well survey and testing program
- Testing to define the extent of groundwater impacts
- Development of remedial plans to address on-site and off-site groundwater impacts

### What Is A Well Survey?

The purpose of a well survey is to identify and test private water wells within a defined distance from the location of known impacts to groundwater. It is needed to ensure public health and safety is protected and to help determine the appropriate steps to provide safe drinking water.

### On-Site Work Underway

In November, ARCADIS completed the installation of additional onsite groundwater wells and conducted aquifer testing to support remediation planning. This work was done to support efforts to develop remedial plans to address on-site conditions contributing to groundwater impacts. The interim remedy will be operational in the second half of 2013.

#### Want More Information?

Call our Community Information Line at **1-888-827-0983**  
Email us at: [OCBerlin@owenscorning.com](mailto:OCBerlin@owenscorning.com)  
Visit our website at: [occommunityinformationsite.com](http://occommunityinformationsite.com)

### UPDATE: Well Survey Results

As of December 5, 2012, Owens Corning has sampled 45 private potable wells as part of its ongoing well survey effort and with the consent of the respective property owners. The samples were sent to a NJ certified laboratory for analysis and a summary of the results is below.

#### 6 wells tested in Berlin Township

✓ **All 6 wells met the applicable groundwater quality (GWQ) standards for the DOWTHERM A™ constituents.** Owens Corning shared these results with the respective property owners and no further action is planned at this time.

#### 34 wells tested in Waterford Township

✓ **27 wells met the applicable GWQ standards for the DOWTHERM A™ constituents.** Owens Corning shared these results with the respective property owners and no further action is planned at this time.

✓ **5 wells contained levels of either one or both of the DOWTHERM A™ constituents above the applicable GWQ standards.** In accordance with NJDEP requirements, Owens Corning supplied bottled water within five days of receiving the laboratory results and is working directly with the property owners to establish an appropriate filtration system for their respective systems to serve as a long-term solution for their potable water needs.

✓ **2 wells contained levels of a constituent that is not the focus of the Owens Corning environmental investigation.** In accordance with regulatory requirements, Owens Corning notified NJDEP and is providing assistance to property owners to help them understand options available through the State.

✓ **Well Testing Ongoing**— Results from 2 wells tested in November are pending. Three additional wells are expected to be tested with the permission of the respective property owners.

#### 5 wells tested in Evesham Township

✓ **All 5 wells met the applicable GWQ standards for DOWTHERM A™ constituents.** Owens Corning shared these results with the respective property owners and no further action is planned at this time.

✓ **1 of the 5 wells contained levels of a constituent that is not the focus of the Owens Corning environmental investigation.** In accordance with requirements, Owens Corning notified NJDEP and is providing assistance to property owner to help them understand options available through the State.

## Defining Impacts to Offsite Groundwater Data

Owens Corning continues working to further delineate – or define – both the horizontal and vertical extent of impacts to groundwater related to the Owens Corning site, in accordance with NJDEP guidance. This is a necessary first step before we can design a remediation approach to address both on-site and off-site conditions.

Since February 2012, we have collected groundwater samples from depths between 25 and 125 feet below ground surface at 39 locations throughout Berlin Borough, Berlin Township, Waterford Township and Evesham Township. As a result of this work, we have fairly well defined the horizontal and vertical extents of DOWTHERM A™ constituents in the groundwater.

The sampling was done using a track-mounted Geoprobe®. A Geoprobe® inserts a small-diameter rod or pipe into the ground to the preferred depth and allows a groundwater sample to be collected from various depths at the same location. After the rods are removed, the hole is backfilled. This is sometimes referred to as “grab groundwater sampling.” In addition, we installed five permanent monitoring wells to enable easy access for future monitoring.

The data from this off-site investigation work is being evaluated. Additional work may be needed to fill in data gaps.

## Understanding the Area's Hydrogeology

In November, we installed staff gauges in the Mullica River in a continued effort to better understand the area's hydrogeology.

A staff gauge looks like a measuring stick and is used to facilitate easy measurement of the surface level of water bodies. They will be used to observe the River's water levels throughout 2013 and removed when the study is completed.

## Owens Corning Is Working with the Community

Owens Corning is committed to keeping well survey participants and the communities of Waterford Township, Berlin Township, Berlin Borough, and Evesham Township informed of our plans and activities.

We have held three community information sessions on May 16, July 26 and December 5 to provide the community with information about the project and give them an opportunity to ask questions.

Owens Corning has made regular presentations and meetings to elected officials and environmental commissions, including:

- Waterford Twp. Council – Sept. 12, Oct. 24
- Waterford Twp. Environmental Commission – Apr. 26, Jul. 25, Dec. 4
- Evesham Twp. Environmental Commission – Aug. 13
- Camden County Health Department – May 15, Aug. 2, Sept. 6

In addition, we are communicating about the project through:

- One-on-one meetings with property owners
- Monthly project updates & mailings
- Regular updates to the project website: [occommunityinformationsite.com](http://occommunityinformationsite.com)

## Owens Corning's testing is focused on the two constituents of DOWTHERM A™

### *1,1-Biphenyl and Diphenyl ether*

When results show levels of these constituents above the applicable groundwater quality (GWQ) standards, Owens Corning will work with the property owner to address both near-term and long-term water supply needs.

**Near-Term Solution** – Bottled water will be provided within 5 days and until a long-term solution is implemented (no more than 60 days).

**Long-Term Solution** – A granular activated carbon filtration system is an effective long-term solution for addressing constituents related to the Owens Corning site and for ensuring safe, potable water related to these constituents.

Owens Corning has contracted with Paragon Resource Management, Inc. to design, supervise and manage the installation and maintenance of a filtration system appropriate to the needs of the well owner. There is no cost to property owner for these services.

***Owens Corning will continue to take steps to protect public health and safety and the environment.***