# **July 2012**

### 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.

In February/March 2012, results of groundwater samples collected offsite to the east of the property boundary found two constituents (1,1-Biphenyl and Diphenyl ether) related to DOWTHERM A™. According to NJDEP guidance, these findings triggered the need for Owens Corning to perform a well survey to identify potable wells within a defined distance of the impacts. The well survey began in early May.

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 conditions contributing to 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.

### Questions? Want More Information?

Call our Community Information Line at 1-888-827-0983

Email us at: OCBerlin@owenscorning.com

Visit our website at occommunityinformationsite.com

### **UPDATE: Well Survey Results**

As of July 16, 2012, Owens Corning has sampled 22 private potable wells with the consent of the respective property owners. Six wells are in Berlin Township and 16 wells are in Waterford Township. The samples were sent to a NJ certified laboratory for analysis.

- ✓ 6 wells tested in Berlin Township met the applicable groundwater quality (GWQ) standards for the DOWTHERM A<sup>TM</sup> constituents. Owens Corning shared these results with the respective property owners and no further action is planned at this time.
- ✓ 13 wells tested in Waterford Township met the applicable GWQ standards for the DOWTHERM A<sup>TM</sup> constituents. Owens Corning shared these results with the respective property owners and no further action is planned at this time.
- ✓ 3 wells in Waterford Township contained levels of either one or both of the DOWTHERM A<sup>TM</sup> 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.

### **Well Survey Area Expanded**

Due to results from testing to define the extent of groundwater impacts (see back page for more information), Owens Corning is required by NJDEP to expand the well survey area by "stepping out" 1,000 feet down-gradient and 500 feet side-gradient from the location of the newly-discovered impacts.

Properties in Atco, Camden County and Evesham Township, Burlington County fall within this additional well survey area and property owners are being contacted directly by Owens Corning. The well survey process will help us confirm the water supply and the status of any private potable wells.

continued on back

## Defining Impacts to Groundwater Work Is Ongoing

In July, Owens Corning continued 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 contributing to groundwater impacts.

We collected groundwater samples from depths between 30 and 125 feet below ground surface at multiple locations throughout Berlin Borough and Waterford Township. The locations are based on our knowledge of area groundwater conditions and the impacts we have identified to date. A majority of the locations are on commercial property and within Camden County or municipal rights-of-way.

The next round of delineation sampling is being planned.

We will continue to notify the appropriate municipal officials of this work as the work progresses. If you have any questions regarding field activities, please call the Community Information Line at (888) 827-0983.

## 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 materials 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 for use with drinking and cooking.

#### **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 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 materials.

- Owens Corning has contracted with a local representative of 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 the property owner for these services.

# 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.

### > MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

On July 26, Owens Corning is holding a Community Information Session to give members of the community an opportunity to learn more about the ongoing groundwater investigation and well survey and have their questions answered directly by representatives of the Owens Corning team.

Where: Atco Senior Center

474 E. Atlantic Avenue, Atco, NJ

When: 6pm – 8 pm

Thursday, July 26, 2012

We will continue to provide project updates to interested community members and officials throughout the process.

If you have a question or concern, please contact us directly at our Community Information Line at (888) 827-0983, or via email at <a href="mailto:OCBerlin@owenscorning.com">OCBerlin@owenscorning.com</a>, or visit our web site at <a href="mailto:occommunityinformationsite.com">occommunityinformationsite.com</a>.