

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.

Site History

Historically, the facility operated as a sand and brick manufacturing plant from 1927 to 1941. In 1941, the facility was purchased by the Owens-Illinois Glass Company, which continued brick manufacturing until 1947. In 1947, Owens-Illinois converted the manufacturing operations to the production of high-temperature insulating materials under the brand name Kaylo®. Owens Corning purchased the facility in 1958 and continued the production of high-temperature insulation until manufacturing operations ceased in October 1993.

The site was entered into the Industrial Site Recovery Act program by Owens Corning when manufacturing operations ceased in October 1993. Site investigation activities – conducted in cooperation with and under the direction of the Licensed Site Remediation Professional in accordance with the regulations of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) – identified soil and groundwater impacts related to the former manufacturing operations. Impacts to soil are delineated and limited to the site. Groundwater impacts are delineated and exist both on-site and off-site. On-site groundwater impacts are primarily related to the historic use of DOWTHERM A™ (a heat transfer fluid) along with fuel oil, various lubricants, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs); and the on-site disposal of off-spec Kaylo®, an Owens Corning product. Off-site groundwater impacts are primarily related to the DOWTHERM A™ constituents.

The site is currently vacant and occupies approximately 45 acres, roughly 25 percent of which is covered by paving, building pads, and other improvements related to the former manufacturing operations. All of the buildings at the facility have been removed. Owens Corning is committed to working with the NJDEP to address environmental impacts associated with the site of the former Owens Corning facility.

Current Status

Owens Corning is committed to protecting public health and the environment.

❖ On-site groundwater pump and treat system

The groundwater pump and treatment system installed at the Owens Corning property in early 2014 has been working as designed and over time will help to improve overall groundwater quality, both on- and off-site.

❖ Annual monitoring of private wells

In late summer 2015, Owens Corning will perform its annual sampling of private water wells on properties within a Classification Exception Area (CEA) where impacts to groundwater are above Class IIA Ground Water Quality (GWQ) standards for DOWTHERM A™ constituents. The sampling is continuing on an annual basis to provide residents with assurances there are no impacts to their drinking water. All of the 2014 annual sampling results met NJDEP Class IIA GWQ standards for the two constituents of DOWTHERM A™.

More information about CEAs and the types of CEAs established as part of this remediation effort is provided on back.

❖ Quarterly monitoring of permanent wells

Owens Corning continues quarterly monitoring of the horizontal and vertical extents of the DOWTHERM A™ constituents in groundwater via the 12 permanent monitoring wells installed in and around the perimeter of our study area in addition to monitoring wells on site.

WHAT IS A CEA?

CEA stands for Classification Exception Area. It is an administrative control that identifies for state and county officials the horizontal and vertical extents of groundwater impacts. For the purposes of protecting public health and safety, a CEA is sometimes coupled with a Well Restriction Area (WRA) to enable the application of restrictions to access or use of the impacted groundwater via private wells. However, a CEA doesn't automatically have a Well Restriction Area.

As part of its work, Owens Corning has established four Classification Exception Areas. They include:

❖ **A CEA with a WRA:**

In May 2014, Owens Corning proposed a CEA for properties where impacts to groundwater are above Class IIA Ground Water Quality standards for DOWTHERM A™ constituents, in accordance with the defined regulatory process for submitting its Site Remedial Investigation Report to the NJDEP. Property owners within the proposed CEA/WRA with well restrictions were notified in April 2014 and are included in Owens Corning's annual monitoring program. The well restriction does not prohibit the use or construction of wells, but provides guidelines regarding well construction.

❖ **A CEA with no well restriction area:**

In December 2014, Owens Corning notified property owners within a second tier of the CEA, in accordance with NJDEP requirements for the New Jersey Pinelands. This portion of the CEA defines impacts to groundwater that exceed the Class I GWQ environmental standards of the New Jersey Pinelands only. There are no associated well restrictions and, as such, these properties are not included in the annual well monitoring.

❖ **A CEA for dibenzofuran:**

In December 2014, Owens Corning notified property owners of a CEA in a limited area east of its former location. The CEA is related to dibenzofuran, which was not used or manufactured by the former plant's operations, but can be created when DOWTHERM A™ decomposes under high heat, such as the high temperatures used in the manufacturing process.

❖ **A CEA with a WRA on Owens Corning's property:**

In February 2015, Owens Corning notified local officials of a CEA and WRA for constituents found only on-site at the former facility. There are no impacts from the constituents in this CEA and WRA to surrounding properties.

Class I refers to groundwater of Special Ecological Significance, such as the Pinelands area.

Class IIA refers to groundwater for the Potable Water Supply.

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

Site Name: Owens Corning

Site Location: 160 Jackson Road, Berlin Borough, Camden County, New Jersey -- just west of the intersection of Jackson Road with Route 73

Block & Lot Numbers: Block 1502, Lot 4; Block 1600, Lots 4,5 and 6

NJDEP Site Preferred ID #: 013542

Owens Corning is responsible for conducting the remediation; the Project Manager for Owens Corning is Alan Lake. He can be reached via our Community Information Line at 1-888-827-0983.

About DOWTHERM A™

DOWTHERM A™ was used at the former Owens Corning facility in the insulation manufacturing process and is a mixture of two chemicals: 1,1-biphenyl and diphenyl ether.

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