

## 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.

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### Current Status

Owens Corning is committed to protecting public health and the environment. In early 2014, we installed a groundwater pump and treatment system at the Owens Corning property. The system is working as designed and over time will help to improve overall groundwater quality, both on and off site. Additional on-site remediation is necessary to improve groundwater and soil quality. Sample collection and pilot testing for this remediation will take place over the next several months. We continue to monitor off-site groundwater through multiple actions, including:

#### ❖ Annual monitoring of private wells

In August 2014, Owens Corning continued its annual sampling of private water wells on properties where impacts to groundwater are above Class IIA Ground Water Quality (GWQ) standards for DOWTHERM A™ constituents. The sampling was conducted to ensure there are no impacts to drinking water. All samples met NJDEP Class IIA GWQ standards for the two constituents of DOWTHERM A™.

#### ❖ Quarterly monitoring of permanent wells

We continue to monitor quarterly 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.

#### ❖ Establishment of a two-tiered Classification Exception Area (CEA)

**A CEA with a well restriction area (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. Property owners within the proposed CEA/WRA with well restrictions were notified in April 2014 and are included in our annual monitoring program. The well restriction does not prohibit wells, but provides guidelines regarding well construction.

**A CEA with no well restriction area:** In December 2014, Owens Corning is notifying 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.

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

**Class IIA** refers to groundwater for the Potable Water Supply.

## What is a Classification Exception Area or CEA?

A CEA is an administrative control that identifies for state and county officials the horizontal and vertical extents of groundwater impacts.

## Do all CEA's include Well Restriction Areas?

No. For the purposes of protecting public health and safety, a CEA is sometimes coupled with a Well Restriction Area to enable the application of restrictions to access or use of the impacted groundwater via private wells. However, a CEA doesn't automatically carry with it a Well Restriction Area.

In May 2014, Owens Corning proposed a CEA in accordance with the defined regulatory process for submitting its Site Remedial Investigation Report to the NJDEP.

Prior to submitting the report, Owens Corning notified owners of properties within the portion of the proposed CEA where well restrictions could apply. Property owners in this tier of the CEA are included in the Owens Corning annual well sampling.

In December 2014, Owens Corning is notifying owners of properties within the proposed CEA where no well restrictions apply. This notification, in compliance with NJDEP requirements, recognizes the unique environmental standards of the New Jersey Pinelands. However, property owners in this portion of the CEA do not have well restrictions and are not included in the annual well sampling.

## 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)

## FAST FACTS

**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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