

## Public Involvement Plan (PIP) Meeting Notes

August 7, 2018

Norfolk Public Library

Norfolk, Massachusetts

A public meeting was held on August 7, 2018 at 7:00 pm to present the Draft Public Involvement Plan (PIP) for the Former Buckley & Mann Site located at 17 Lawrence Street in Norfolk, Massachusetts. The meeting was held in the community room of the Norfolk Public Library, 139 Main Street, Norfolk, Massachusetts. Mr. Stephen Vetere of Mabbett & Associates, the Licensed Site Professional (LSP) for the project, delivered a formal presentation, followed by a question and answer period. The presentation can be viewed on the internet at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PyxIQbZUZM>. A list of meeting attendees is provided as an attachment to these meeting notes.

### Introduction

Mr. Vetere opened the meeting by explaining that the purpose of the meeting was to explain the PIP process, solicit comments from the public on the process, and kick off a 20-day public comment period for the Draft PIP document. The Draft PIP has been placed into the document repositories established at the Norfolk and Franklin Public libraries and uploaded to the MassDEP's Reportable Release File Viewer:

<http://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/EEA/fileviewer/Rtn.aspx?rtn=2-3000173>

Hard copies of the Draft PIP were made available for all attendees of the meeting. All comments on the Draft PIP should be delivered via email to [vetere@mabbett.com](mailto:vetere@mabbett.com). The public comment period will close on August 27, 2018.

### Overview of the Site

Mr. Vetere provided a brief overview of the site history and the nature of operations.

- Buckley & Mann operated a wool carbonizer process from 1926 through 1965. The carbonizer process was used to reclaim wool from used garments. The raw material was conveyed through acid vapor to char the cotton threads on the seams, buttons, and zippers to facilitate separation of the wool. Wastewater from the carbonizer operation was directed through a trench into a lagoon. The carbonizer process was discontinued in the 1940s and the Carbonizer Building was demolished in 1965.
- Buckley & Mann also operated a dyehouse until 1986. Wastewater from the dyehouse operation was directed to a trench (since filled in with clean material) to two lagoons located to the west of the facility (Lagoon #1 and Lagoon #2). Lagoon #2 reportedly received overflow from Lagoon #1.
- A third lagoon (Lagoon #3), reportedly never received wastewater but was used for stormwater management.
- Buckley & Mann generated electricity using a water wheel at some point in their history. Water was directed from Bush Pond into a channel that ran between the Dyehouse and Carbonizer Building (since filled with clean material), past the water wheel, and into a tailrace that returned the water to the Mill River downstream from Bush Pond. The Tail Race currently contains rust-colored staining due to the presence of iron floc that is a concern to be addressed by the environmental risk characterization. The Tail Race reportedly never received waste from the Carbonizer or Dyehouse operations.
- Area #10 was Buckley & Mann's on-site disposal area for solid waste including zippers, buttons, building debris, used machinery, dye paste, and other items.

In the 1980s and 1990s, Buckley & Mann undertook a cleanup to achieve compliance with the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP). The cleanup included excavation and partial removal of materials placed within Area #10. Overtly contaminated materials were separated from less contaminated material and transported off-site for landfill disposal. Less contaminated materials were placed back into a consolidation cell within Area #10 along with impacted soils removed from the waste lagoons during operation of the facility. After the consolidation of soils into Area #10, a 3-foot clean soil cover was placed over the area, and a land-use restriction was implemented to prevent activities that might compromise the integrity of the cover and enable exposure to the contaminated soils. The mechanism used to implement this restriction is called an Activity and Use Limitation (AUL).

### **MassDEP Audit of AUL**

In September 2017, MassDEP “audited” the AUL for the site. Audits of this type are common, and they are performed as a way to verify that the LSP, who has authority to make cleanup decisions without MassDEP oversight, has applied the requirements of the MCP in a manner that is protective of human health and the environment. The audit identified four specific deficiencies with the cleanup activities performed to support the 2001 Response Action Outcome. Three of the deficiencies are related to administrative issues with the AUL. The fourth deficiency was the lack of an environmental risk characterization to evaluate potential risks to plants and wildlife from historical site operations. The need to perform an environmental risk characterization has triggered additional environmental data collection, which will be the focus of upcoming site investigation activities.

### **Overview of PIP Process**

Mr. Vetere explained the PIP process, which is focused on informing the public and soliciting the concerns of the public throughout the site assessment and remediation process. A group of residents petitioned Buckley & Mann to designate the site as a PIP Site on May 23, 2018. Letters were delivered to petitioners on July 3, 2018 to solicit public concerns about environmental issues related to the Buckley & Mann Site. The feedback received from this request was included in the Draft PIP. A hard copy of the Draft PIP was provided to all of the meeting attendees and uploaded to the MassDEP Reportable Release File Viewer on August 8, 2018.

The PIP is focused on informing the public and soliciting the concerns of the public related to environmental cleanup activities at the Buckley & Mann Site. Informing the public involves providing site-related documents on the MassDEP website, establishing local information repositories, maintaining a site mailing list, and maintaining a site notification list. Feedback is solicited from the public through public comment periods, providing responses to public comments, and holding public meetings.

The PIP is being implemented by DiPlacido Development Corporation of behalf of Buckley & Mann. There is an appeal process described in Section 6.0 of the PIP that describes the process for filing complaints if the community does not believe that the PIP is being implemented in accordance with MCP requirements. Revisions to the PIP can be made as required to adapt to project needs. Any proposed revision to the plan will be made available to the public for comment just as the Draft PIP has been made available for public comment.

### **Next Steps**

The next steps for the project are to develop a Phase II Scope of Work that will enable the collection of environmental data to support a Method 3 risk assessment (human health and environmental). The risk assessment data will be reviewed to determine which cleanup measures are required to ensure protection of human health and the environment in perpetuity. There will be opportunities for public input along the way. The next public meeting will be in early September to discuss the proposed Phase II Scope of Work.

### **Questions**

Mr. Vetere opened the meeting up for questions at the conclusion of the presentation. There were no questions asked by the meeting attendees.

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**PUBLIC MEETING FOR PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN**  
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**AUGUST 7, 2018**

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