

# FINAL PLAN OF REMEDIAL ACTION



## MECO DRIVE DITCH (OU-2), DE-1103

Meco Drive Ditch (OU-2)  
New Castle, Delaware

May 14, 2012  
DNREC Project No. DE-1103

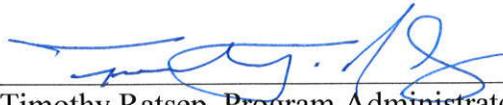
This Final Plan of Remedial Action (Final Plan) presents the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control's (DNREC's) determination that the area was used as a landfill in the 1960's. At some point in the past free-phase petroleum was released into the environment at the Site. DNREC-SIRS will implement a project to remove the free-phase petroleum stained soil, sediment and debris from the banks of the ditch. An engineered reactive barrier will be placed in the excavated area to prevent any residual free-phase petroleum from seeping out into the ditch. DNREC-SIRS will monitor the effectiveness of this remedy.

DNREC issued public notice of the Proposed Plan for the Site on April 15, 2012 and opened a 20-day public comment period, which ended on May 7, 2012. No comments were received from the public.

The Proposed Plan also includes the location of additional information found on the DNREC web page and in the DNREC office at Lukens Drive in New Castle. There were no comments or questions from the public regarding the Proposed Plan. Therefore, the Proposed Plan was adopted as the Final Plan (see attached).

### **Approval:**

**This Final Plan meets the requirements of the Hazardous Substance Cleanup Act.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Timothy Ratsep, Program Administrator  
Division of Waste and Hazardous Substances



## **PROPOSED PLAN OF REMEDIAL ACTION**

Meco Drive Site (OU-2) Ditch Remediation  
Wilmington, DE  
DNREC Project No. DE-1103

April 2012



Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control  
Division of Waste and Hazardous Substances  
Site Investigation & Restoration Section  
391 Lukens Drive  
New Castle, Delaware 19720

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# PROPOSED PLAN OF REMEDIAL ACTION

Meco Drive Site (OU-2)  
Meco Drive Ditch Remediation  
Wilmington, DE  
DNREC Project No. DE-1103



**Approval:**

This Proposed Plan meets the requirements of the Hazardous Substance Cleanup Act.

Approved by:	
<i>For</i>	
Marjorie A. Crofts, Director Division of Waste and Hazardous Substances	
Date	<i>4/5/12</i>



### **What is the Meco Drive OU-2 (Meco Drive Ditch) Site?**

The Meco Drive Operable Unit 2 (OU-2) ditch remediation is part of a Site located west of Wilmington, Delaware that is made up of seven (7) adjacent properties along Meco Drive. Site properties include #401, #403, #404, #406, #407, #408, and #410 Meco Drive, but exclude #402, #405, and #409 Meco Drive. The OU-2 area was delineated following completion of the Meco Drive OU-1 passive extraction trench in 2008.

**Tax parcel numbers:** 07-043.40-063, 07-043.40-058, 07-043.40-060, 07-043.40-061, 07-043.20-154, 07-043.20-157, 07-043.20-162

**Nearest major intersection:** Meco Drive and Brookside Drive

**Area:** The Meco Drive Site is 6.15 acres and the area of this project (OU-2) is less than 1 acre.

**Zoning:** Industrial

**Utilities:** Water, sewer and natural gas utilities are available at the Meco Drive Site

**Nearest surface water body:** Little Mill Creek which flows into the Christina River.

**Surrounding property:** Meco Drive is an industrial park area that lies north of Interstate 95 and southeast of Maryland Avenue, immediately west of the Little Mill Creek.

### **What happened at the Meco Drive OU-2 (Meco Drive Ditch) Site?**

From historic aerial photography DNREC-SIRS determined that the area was used as a landfill in the 1960's. The review of aerial photography showed that various unpaved access roads and disturbed soil areas in the 1954 and 1961 photographs. At some point in the past free-phase petroleum was released into the environment at the Site. Previous investigations have provided no evidence to link the presence of the free-phase petroleum with any particular past or current property owner or business operator.

The OU-2 section of the Site is entirely contained within the ditch. This ditch is where the release of free-phase petroleum to the environment was first discovered in 1986.

### **What is the environmental problem at the Meco Drive OU-2 (Meco Drive Ditch) Site?**

In December of 1986, a complaint initiated the identification of a seep of an oily substance near the vicinity of a drainage pipe on the eastern side of Meco Drive, which was discharging into Little Mill Creek. The Site is the source of free phase petroleum in the sub-surface that discharges nearly continuously into a ditch and intermittently into Little Mill Creek.

Free-phase petroleum impacted soil, sediment and surface water act as a source of contamination to the Little Mill Creek, Christina River and eventually the Russell Peterson Wildlife area.

### **What does the owner want to do at the Meco Drive OU-2 (Meco Drive Ditch) Site?**

To date DNREC-SIRS has assumed oversight and provided funds from the Hazardous Substance Cleanup Act to investigate and remediate the Site. In this capacity, DNREC-SIRS has sought to eliminate risk to human health welfare and the environment while limiting the impact to infrastructure at the site.

The owners at the Site want to continue to operate their businesses at the Site. The continued cooperation and rights-to-access the properties has allowed DNREC-SIRS to focus on the goal of remediation.

### **What clean-up actions have been taken at the Meco Drive OU-2 (Meco Drive Ditch) Site?**

Several actions have been taken at the Site. DNREC has placed booms to capture free phase petroleum in the ditch since discovery in 1986. Several extraction wells were installed in the early 1990's at areas of known subsurface impact. Extraction occurs on a monthly basis. In 2008, DNREC-SIRS installed a passive petroleum extraction trench along the lateral extent of the ditch in order to cut off the flow of free phase petroleum to the ditch.

### **How does DNREC plan to clean up the Meco Drive OU-2 (Meco Drive Ditch) Site?**

DNREC-SIRS will implement a project to remove the free-phase petroleum stained soil, sediment and debris from the banks of the ditch. This removal will extend as far as practicable without disturbing the previously implemented remedy. An engineered reactive barrier will be placed in the excavated area to prevent any residual free-phase petroleum from seeping out into the ditch. DNREC-SIRS will monitor the effectiveness of this remedy.

DNREC requires the following remedial action be performed on the Meco Drive OU-2 Site:

- Excavate and dispose of the impacted soil and sediment from the ditch to the extent practicable then place a protective barrier between any residual material and the waterway.
- Develop and implement a DNREC-SIRS approved Long Term Stewardship (LTS) plan that details the monitoring of the implemented remedy.

**What are the long term plans for the Mecco Drive OU-2 (Mecco Drive Ditch) after the cleanup?**

After the 20-day public comment period, DNREC will issue a Final Plan of Remedial Action. The current operations at the industrial park will continue into the foreseeable future. Environmental Covenants are being implemented for each of the properties within the site and the Southwest of Wilmington Groundwater Management Zone was created as part of the Final Plan of Remedial Action for the Mecco Drive OU-1 Site (2006).

DNREC will issue a Certification of Completion of Remedy (COCR) for the Mecco Drive OU-2 Site following the completion of the aforementioned remedial action.

**How can I find additional information or comment on this Proposed Plan?**

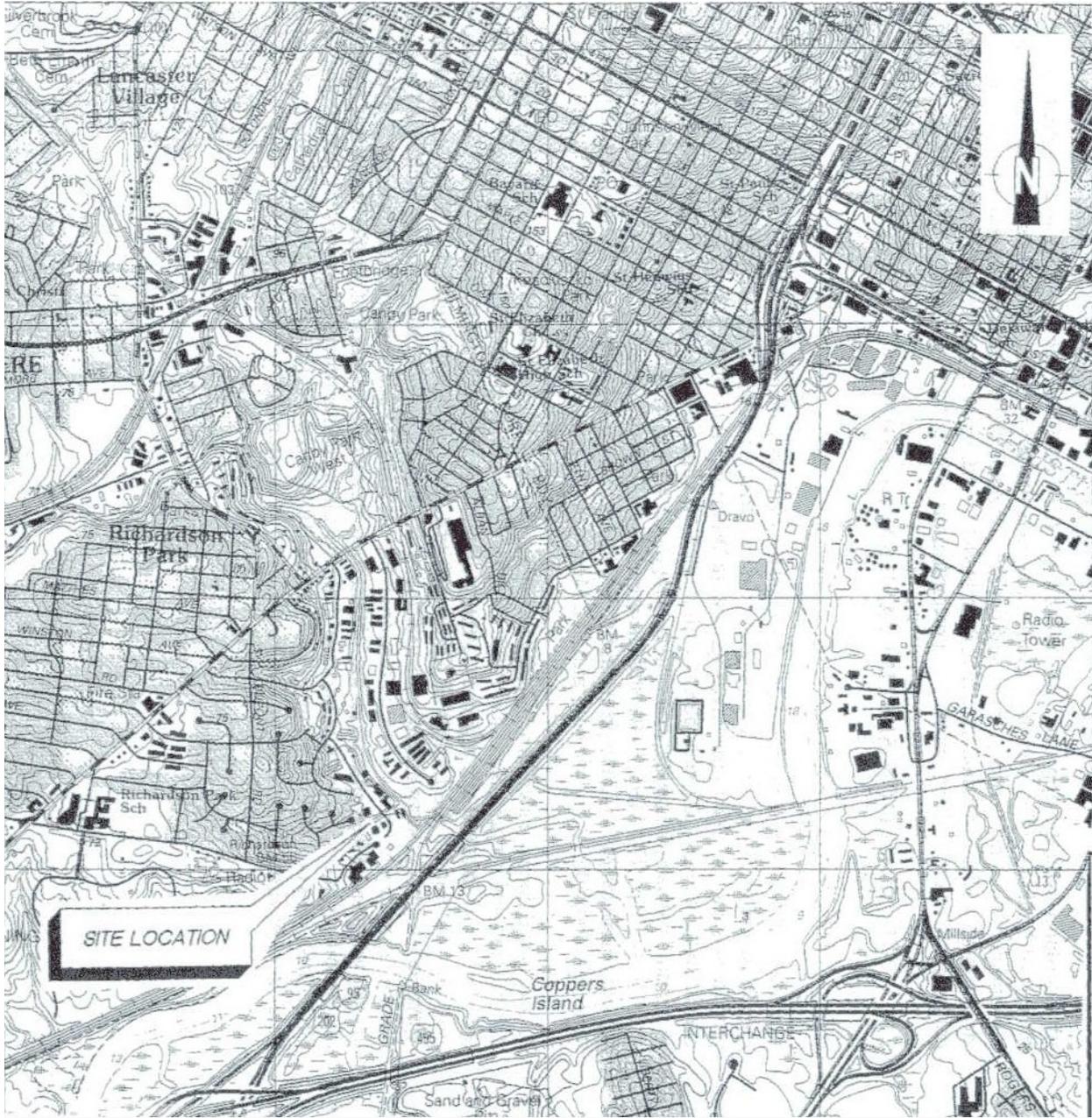
The complete file on the site including the Remedial Investigation reports and Remedy Evaluation Report is available at the DNREC office, 391 Lukens Drive in New Castle. Most documents are also found on:

<http://www.nav.dnrec.delaware.gov/DEN3/>

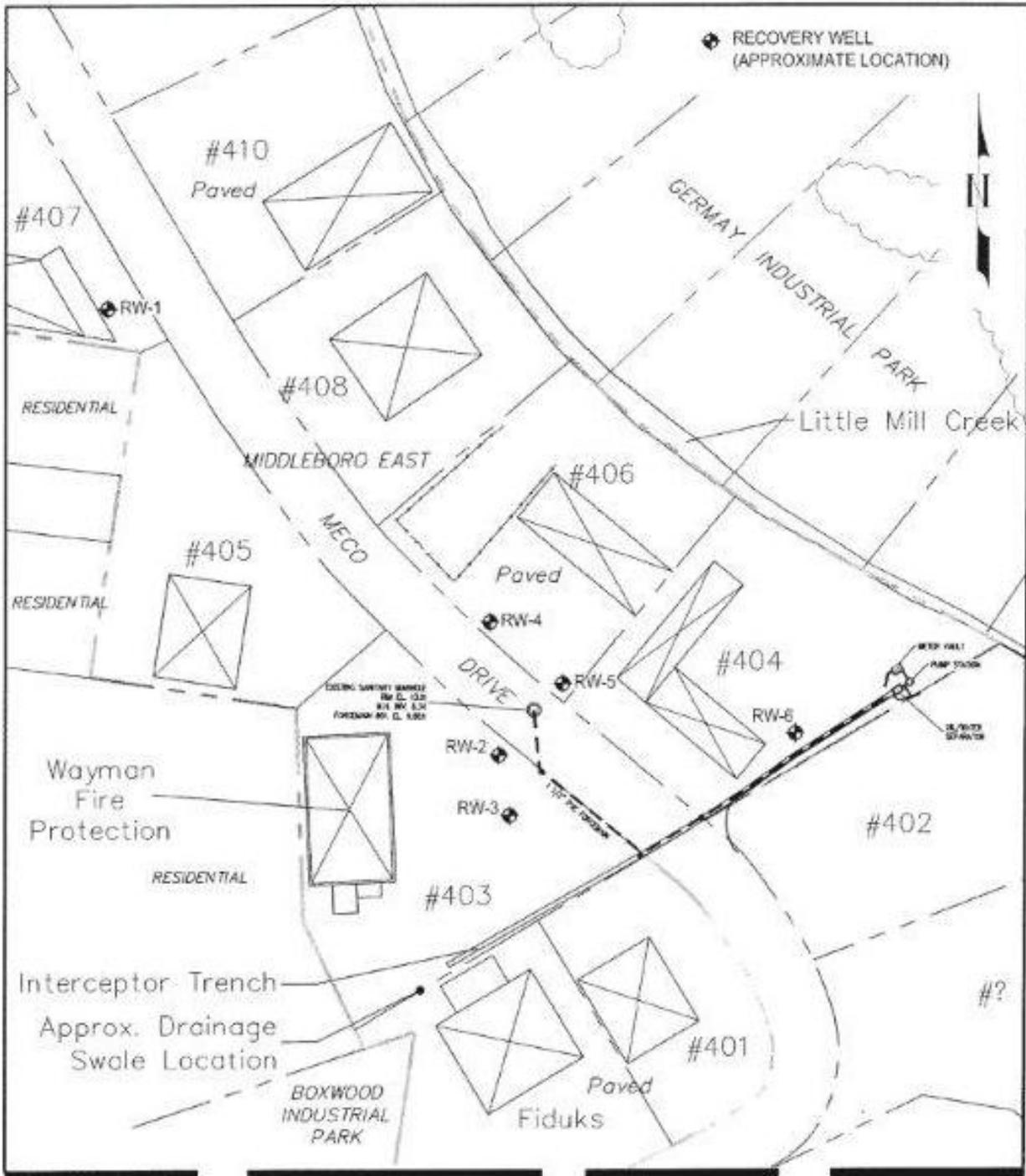
The 20-day public comment period begins on April 15, 2012 and ends at close of business (4:30 pm) on May 7, 2012. Please send written comments to Robert Newsome, Public Information Officer, or Todd Keyser, Project Manager, at 391 Lukens Drive, New Castle, DE 19720.

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**Figure 1 - Site Location Map**



**Figure 2 - Site Map**



## Glossary of Terms Used in this Proposed Plan

<b>Brownfield</b>	A property that is vacant or underutilized because of the perception or actual presence of an environmental problem.
<b>Certified Brownfield</b>	A brownfield that DNREC has determined is eligible for partial funding through the Delaware Brownfields Program.
<b>Certificate of Completion of Remedy (COCR)</b>	A formal determination by the Secretary of DNREC that remedial activities required by the Final Plan of Remedial Action have been completed.
<b>Contamination</b>	The introduction of harmful or hazardous matter into the environment
<b>Exposure</b>	Coming into contact with a substance through inhalation, ingestion, or direct contact with the skin; may be acute or chronic
<b>Final Plan of Remedial Action</b>	DNREC's plan for cleaning up a hazardous site after it has been reviewed by the public
<b>Groundwater Management Zone</b>	A geographical area where DNREC restricts drilling for ground water because it is contaminated
<b>PAH</b>	Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons—a class of chemical produced by the incomplete combustion of carbon containing substances
<b>Preliminary Risk Assessment</b>	A quantitative evaluation of only the most obvious and likely risks at a site
<b>Proposed Plan of Remedial Action</b>	A plan for cleaning up a hazardous site submitted by DNREC and subject to public comments
<b>Risk</b>	Likelihood or probability of injury, disease, or death
<b>Site Specific Assessment</b>	Field sampling and evaluation of a site financed by a grant to DNREC from the US EPA
<b>Soil Management Plan</b>	A written plan specifying how potentially contaminated soil material at a site will be sampled, evaluated, staged, transported and disposed of.
<b>Uniform Environmental Covenant</b>	A standardized form of a land use restriction that is recorded on the property deed of record and transfers with the land if sold to a new owner.

## **What is a *Proposed Plan*?**

A Proposed Plan of Remedial Action (Proposed Plan) is a summary of how DNREC intends to clean up a contaminated site. A Final Plan of Remedial Action (Final Plan) is the adoption of the Proposed Plan, after all comments made by the public within the comment period of twenty days have been considered and addressed by DNREC.

The Delaware State Legislature passed the Hazardous Substance Cleanup Act (HSCA) in 1990. The Legislature made sure that members of the public would be informed about environmental problems in their own neighborhoods and have a chance to express their opinion concerning the clean up of those environmental problems before DNREC takes action.

After DNREC studies a Site, it summarizes the problems there and proposes one or more possible solutions in a Proposed Plan. The Proposed Plan contains enough information to allow lay persons to understand the Site and the intended remedy. It is not meant to be an engineering design document. More detailed information can be found in the reports and documents approved by DNREC. All of the documents and reports created by DNREC or consultants during the course of the investigation of the Site are available to the public at the offices of DNREC-SIRS or at DNREC's website:

<http://www.nav.dnrec.delaware.gov/DEN3/>

DNREC issues the Proposed Plan by advertising it in at least one newspaper in the county where the Site is located. The legal notices for the Proposed Plans and the Final Plans usually run on Wednesdays or Sundays in the legal classified section of the News Journal and/or the Delaware State News. The public comment period begins on the day (Wednesday), or the day after (Sunday) the newspaper publishes the legal notice for the Proposed Plan.

DNREC frequently holds public meetings during the comment period. Those meetings are usually held near the site in the evening. Citizens can request a public meeting if DNREC did not already schedule one.

Comments are collected at the public meetings, by phone or in writing. DNREC considers all comments and questions from the public before the Proposed Plan is finalized and adopted as a Final Plan.