

Weekly Note for NVF-Yorklyn (DE-0071)

Though not always obvious from the street, work continues to progress at NVF-Yorklyn. In September 2013, demolition of buildings at the site paused for subsurface investigation and further industrial process remediation. DNREC has been able to coordinate removal of all remaining hazardous and non-hazardous (zinc containing) waste from remaining structures that posed a potential threat to human health and/or the environment. The following materials were completely removed from the site and were transported to permitted disposal facilities in 2013:

- 143,530 lbs of zinc chloride containing solid waste
- 60,740 lbs of sodium hydroxide solid waste
- 2,382 lbs of hydrochloric and sulfuric acid waste
- 10 lbs of mercury containing solid waste
- 23,460 lbs of soda ash
- 800 lbs of paint related wastes



Rolloff containers of waste collected from the interiors of facility buildings at the NVF-Yorklyn facility awaiting transportation and disposal. March 2014.

In addition, 9,337 gallons of zinc hydroxide sludge was removed from the onsite groundwater zinc recovery systems in 2013, and an estimated 59,344 pounds of zinc have been removed from the groundwater beneath the site via the treatment system since 2008.

The total 2013 costs to DNREC for removal of the waste from the NVF buildings and from groundwater recovery systems (including operation and maintenance costs for the groundwater treatment system) were approximately \$528,000.

This is great achievement considering all of this material could have been released to the environment over time from either deterioration of its containment or from being accidentally released during demolition activities. The positive result of these efforts by DNREC and its contractors, along with good sediment and erosion control measures at the site, is evident in the fact that the zinc Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the facility was not exceeded in the Red Clay Creek during 2013.

Activities at the site in 2014 have been no different. DNREC contractors are finishing the removal of thousands of additional pounds of zinc containing solid waste and other waste in preparation for the continuation of asbestos removal and building demolition this Spring. Contractors for the new Gun Club Road project are expected to start construction in late March and installation of new trails around the site and surrounding areas will start as early as this Spring.