

American Cyanamid Superfund Site

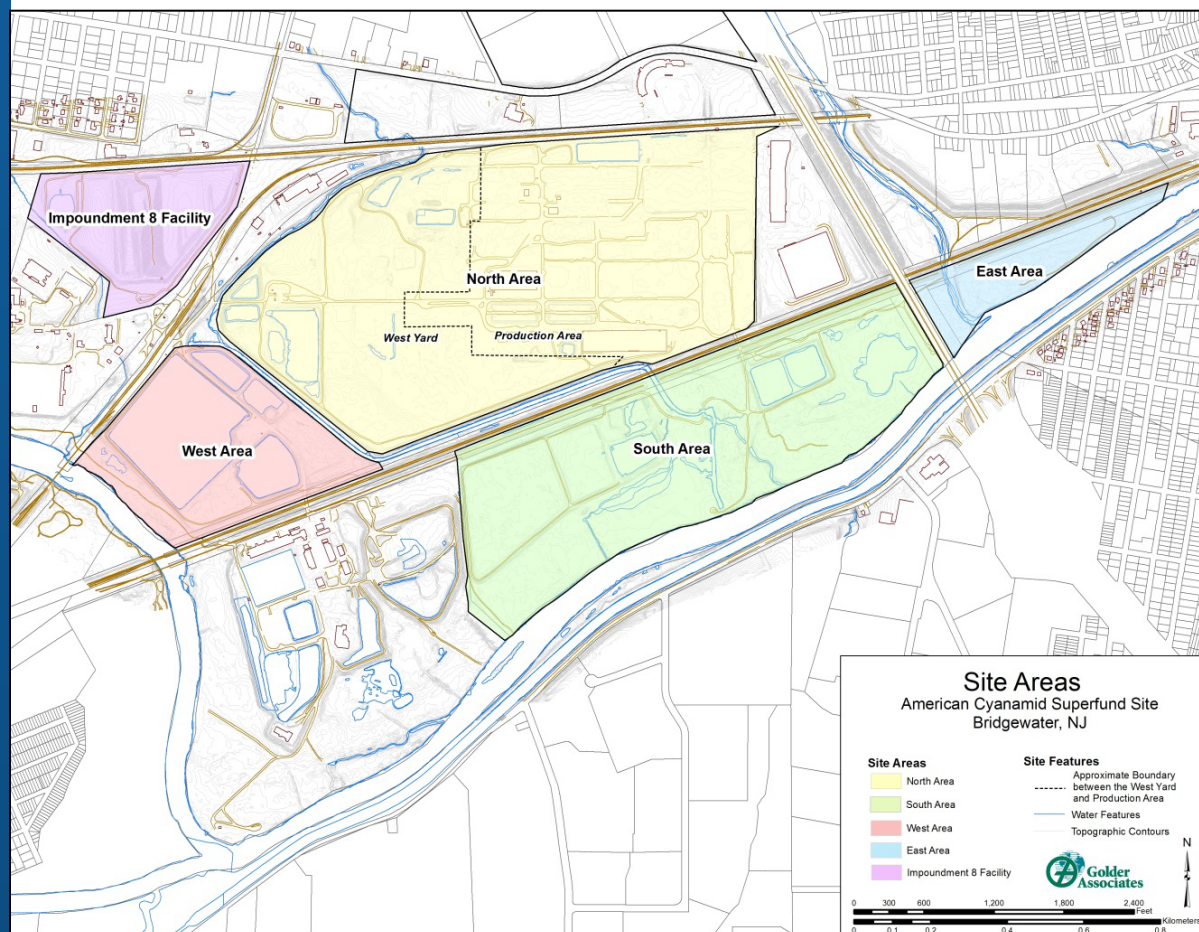
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United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

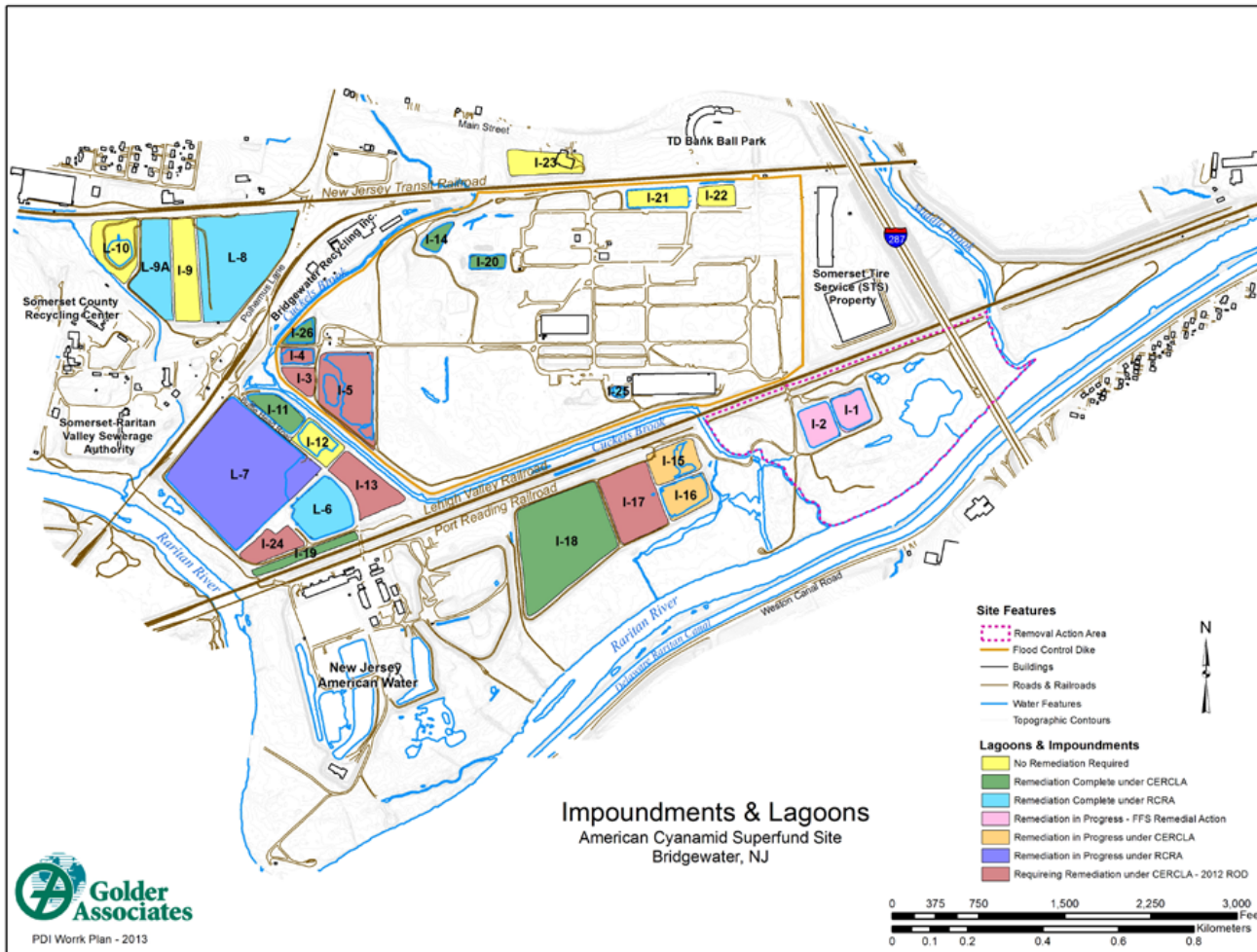
Climate Change Adaptation Webinar 4/1/2015 clu.in.org

Site Location & Background



- ◆ Located in Bridgewater Twp. in Central Northern NJ
- ◆ Pfizer acquired the property from Wyeth in 2009
- ◆ Residential/commercial area
- ◆ 435 acre site divided into 5 areas
- ◆ Entire site within flood hazard area, except impoundment 8 facility
- ◆ 10-12 ft flood control berm

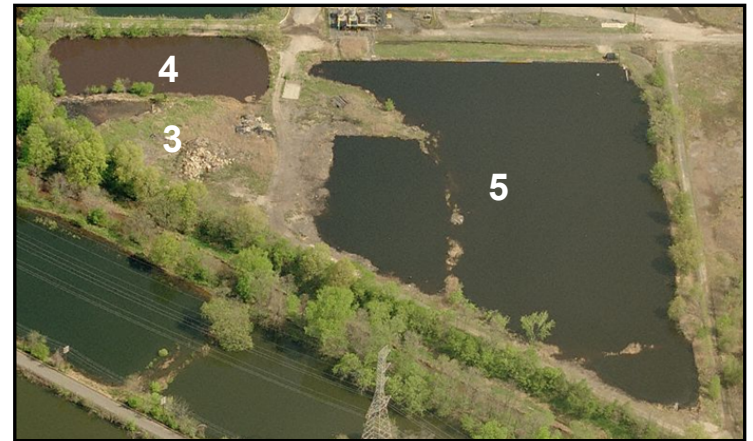
Contamination History



- ◆ From 1915 to 1999, manufacture of pharmaceuticals, chemical intermediates, petroleum-based products, dyes and pigments
- ◆ 27 impoundments/lagoons were constructed
- ◆ Impoundments, soil & groundwater contaminated with VOCs, SVOCs & metals
- ◆ Main COCs: benzene, 1,2-DCB, naphthalene, nitrobenzene & n-Nitrosodiphenylamine

Impoundments 3, 4 and 5

- ◆ Approx 10 acres total
- ◆ 10-17 feet deep
- ◆ Located within the flood control berm
- ◆ pH ranges from 1.3 to 9.9
- ◆ Maximum concentrations of 36 ppm (benzene), 240 ppm (naphthalene), 75 ppm (nitrobenzene) and 30ppm (1,2-DCB)

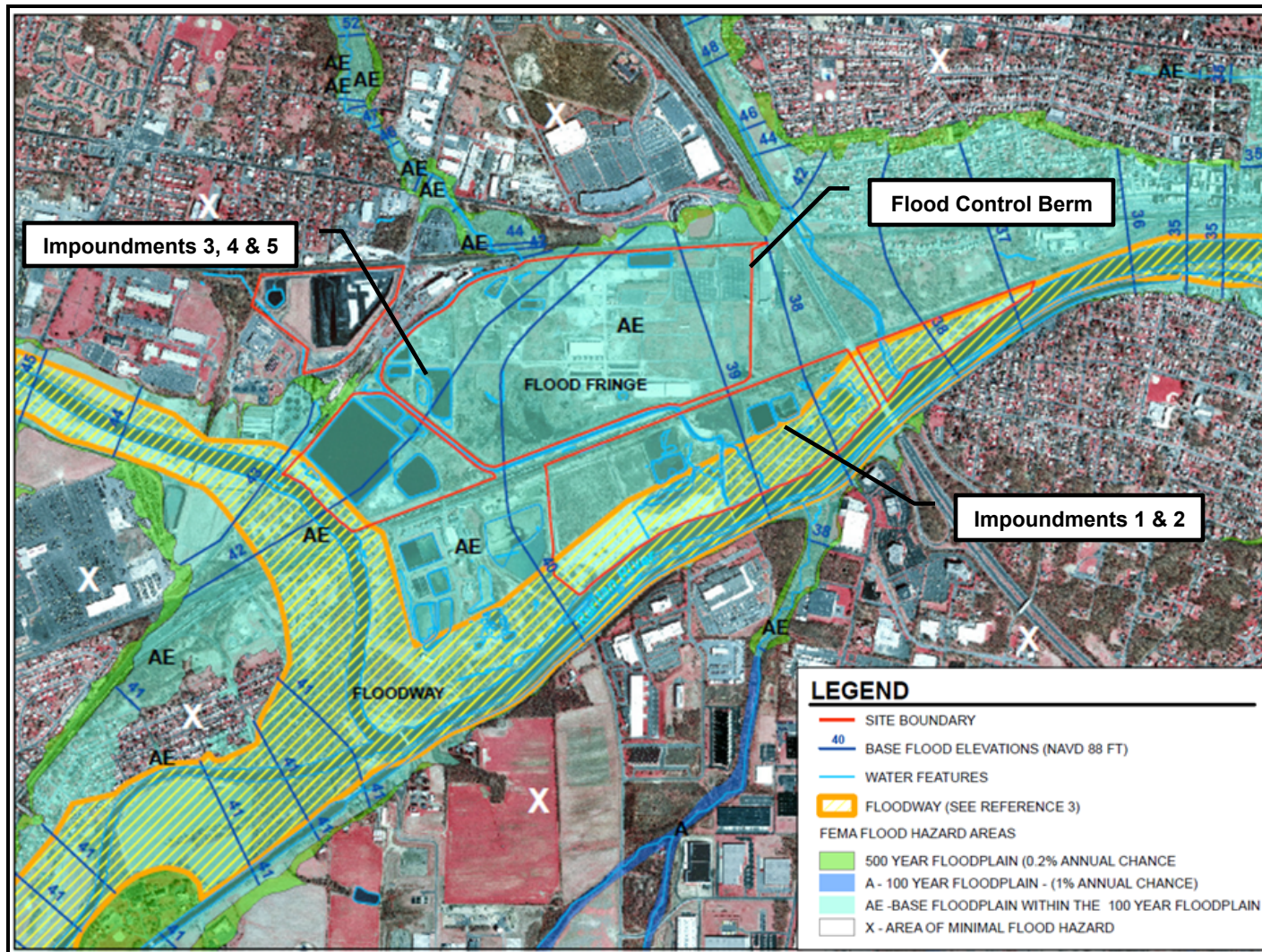


Impoundments 1 & 2

- ◆ Approx 2 acres each, 13-16 feet deep (about 6 feet below grade)
- ◆ Located outside of flood control berm (700 feet from Raritan River)
- ◆ Heterogeneous acid tar byproduct from refining coal light oil
 - Hard crumbly & viscous tarry layers
- ◆ pH ranges from 0.56 to 12.83
- ◆ Elevated VOCs and SVOCs, particularly BTEX and naphthalene
- ◆ Maximum benzene concentration of 207×10^6 ug/kg (20.7%)

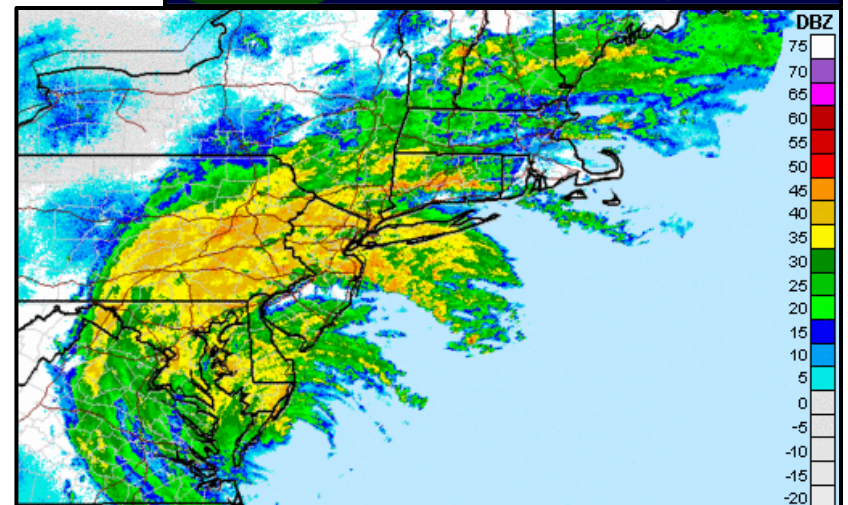


Flood Hazard Area Map



Hurricane Irene Summary

- ◆ Preceded by wet conditions (8"-16" of rainfall in the 3 weeks prior)
- ◆ NJ Governor declared state of emergency on Aug 25, 2011
- ◆ Up to 10" of rain in NJ from Aug 27-28, 2011 (Over 7" at site)
- ◆ Over 4M without power along East Coast
- ◆ All 21 NJ counties designated as a FEMA Major Disaster Area



Impoundments 1 & 2 Area (Looking SW)



Impacts on Impoundments 1 & 2

- ◆ Post-flood surface water sampling conducted from Aug 29 to Sep 2
- ◆ Post-flood berm inspection completed after flood waters receded
- ◆ No significant release occurred
- ◆ Some minor tar splatters observed on berm walls



Post-Flood Modifications: Impoundments 1 & 2

- ◆ Synthetic liners installed as a cap to reduce the potential for mobilization of waste material
- ◆ Berm-reinforcing material installed on the exterior slopes of impoundments 1 and 2 to increase the strength of the berms and prevent scour during future flood events
 - Completed in October 2013
 - Can withstand water velocities in excess of 8ft/s
- ◆ Pilot study scheduled outside of hurricane season



North Area (Looking East)



Site Trailers and Records Destroyed



Post-Flood Impacts to North Area

- ◆ 214 M gallons of standing water within North Area (5 ft high)
- ◆ Sluice gate for drainage of flood water concreted and dismantled
- ◆ Flood control berm, office trailers and records damaged
- ◆ No electrical power
- ◆ Groundwater extraction system to maintain hydraulic control in North Area did not operate for 30 days (no electricity or submersible pumps)

Post-Flood Surface Water Sampling



Generator-powered pumps used to controllably discharge 152M gallons of flood water to Cuckel's Brook by Sept 28



Post-Flood Modifications: Remainder of Site

- ◆ Two flood plans developed
 - Flood Emergency Preparedness Plan
 - Flood Management and Response Plan
- ◆ Sluice gate repaired
- ◆ Office trailers relocated out of the floodplain
- ◆ Flood control berm repaired and armored
- ◆ All electrical instrumentation re-constructed 5 feet higher than Hurricane Irene levels
- ◆ Submersible pumps installed in the two bedrock groundwater extraction wells so that hydraulic control can be maintained throughout a flood event.



Other Impacts

- ◆ OU4 remedy selected in September 2012 ROD
 - Called for an impermeable multi-layered cap for over 60 acres and a 2-foot soil cap for over 130 acres
 - All engineered caps must be designed and constructed to withstand the effects of a 500-year flood event
 - Minimize flood storage loss
- ◆ Removal Action WWTP
 - WWTP constructed 1.2 feet higher than Hurricane Irene levels



Lessons Learned & Recommendations

- ◆ Relocate site office trailers outside of the floodplain or use trailers that can be relocated in advance of flooding
- ◆ Store waste and equipment outside of floodplain, if possible
- ◆ Implement a berm inspection program (semi-annual basis)
- ◆ Evaluate whether berm armoring is necessary
- ◆ Elevate critical electrical infrastructure
- ◆ Design and construct remedies that are able to withstand greater than 100-year flood events
- ◆ Develop flood plans including river stage monitoring, preparation procedures, evacuation plans, chain of command, etc.

Questions?



Additional Reference Slides



Impoundments 1 & 2 Area (Looking South)



North Area (Looking North)



Damaged Portion of Site's Flood Control Berm



Additional Reference Slide: Site Elevations

- ◆ Typical Raritan River Stage: 19 MSL
- ◆ Flood Plan Action Levels
 - Flood Alert: 26 MSL
 - Flood Warning: 28 MSL
 - Flood Emergency: 33 MSL
 - Site Evacuation: 38 MSL
- ◆ Flood control berm: 39 MSL
- ◆ Hurricane Irene: 42 MSL
- ◆ Impoundment 8 facility: 46 MSL
- ◆ All critical on-site electrical instrumentation: 47 MSL
- ◆ Removal action WWTP: 43.2 MSL

