



**SEPTEMBER 2023**

## Upcoming Activities

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is addressing asbestos contamination at the Goudey Power Station site located in Johnson City, New York.

In August 2023, EPA posted asbestos warning signs and installed gates and fencing to prevent unauthorized access to the site and to prevent people from being exposed to the asbestos. Residents should not access the property because of the physical hazards and contamination on site.

EPA also decontaminated onsite road surfaces to ensure safe access for workers.



In the coming weeks, EPA will secure the asbestos debris at the site to prevent any further spread of asbestos. EPA will create and cover piles of asbestos-containing debris. A sealant material will be applied to open soil areas adjacent to the building and the debris piles to prevent the release of asbestos fibers into the air. EPA will find and address areas within the building where the asbestos insulation may continue to release to the environment. EPA will evaluate the inside of the remaining buildings for the presence of hazardous substances. EPA expects this work will be completed by the end of this calendar year.

## Past Activities

In February 2023, local authorities, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and New York State Department of Labor (DOL) investigated a petroleum fire at the site which was ignited by a torch used during metal salvaging activities. Following the fire, DOL ordered the parties responsible to stop demolition at the site and cited the parties for asbestos violations. DEC began addressing petroleum releases at the site in May. EPA investigated and found that demolition of the onsite buildings had begun before the necessary asbestos removal. Asbestos was found in a large debris field surrounding the facility and on onsite roadways. In addition, the site was not secured, and vandalism and trespassing are frequently noted.

EPA asked the property owner to secure the site to reduce risks to the community until the site can be properly cleaned up. The owner placed a few asbestos warning signs around the property but did not repair the fencing or secure a contractor to address the asbestos at the site.

## Asbestos Contamination

For a long time, asbestos was part of many building materials and commercial products and may still be used in some applications. Asbestos became a popular product because it is strong, won't burn, resists corrosion, and insulates well. Asbestos in the environment may be addressed by the Superfund program if it is the result of past industrial operations or improper waste disposal and is released into the environment.

For more information on asbestos, See: [www.epa.gov/asbestos](http://www.epa.gov/asbestos).

## Site Background

The Goudy Power Station is a former coal-fired power facility that operated from 1917 to 2011, when it was sold. The facility was not put back into production or redeveloped and has changed ownership multiple times. Beginning in 2021, the current owner of the site, NRGY Development, LLC, directed certain demolition and salvage operations without properly removing asbestos from the facility.

## EPA Contact Information

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For general information or questions about EPA's Superfund program, please contact the EPA Regional Public Liaison: James Haklar, [haklar.james@epa.gov](mailto:haklar.james@epa.gov) or (732) 906-6817 or toll free at (888) 283-7626.