

CLEANUP IS ON TRACK



NORA PENHALE The Observer

Workers with Tornado Motion Technologies, California, were getting the main boom unit ready for the third and final phase of the Dow remediation project. The pump, with its range from inches to 30-feet, can remove hazardous material from the bottom of the river without disturbing its surroundings, because the pump creates a tornado effect inside the unit.

River cleanup almost done

DOW CHEMICAL SLATED TO FINISH REMEDIATION JULY 1

By SCOTT STEPHENSON
The Observer

Dow Chemical Canada Inc.'s St. Clair River remediation project is nearing completion.

Sarnia operations manager Steve Bolt said Tuesday the three-year project to remove contaminated sediment from the river bottom is scheduled for completion by the end of July, weather permitting.

Bolt said the project was recently set back for a couple of days when heavy rains caused some erosion along the

shoreline where the work is being carried out.

For the last three years, Dow has been using vacuum equipment and mechanical excavations to remove sediment contaminated with mercury, chlorinated organic compounds and other chemicals from the St. Clair River, adjacent to the Dow site. These chemicals were deposited by production units no longer in operation.

"We're extremely pleased to have that (almost) behind us," Bolt said of Dow's remediation work.

Dow began its remediation

work approximately 15 years ago when it began separating the facility from the St. Clair River.

Once the contaminated debris is removed from the river, it is being placed in a sediment holding pond for treatment.

More than 55 million gallons of river water have been filtered from the sediment, treated to drinking water quality and released back into the St. Clair River. Tests indicate that the sediment is suitable for disposal in a Dow-owned, non-hazardous landfill.

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