# Mill River Cleanup Project Update
# September 2015
# Update No. 9

The following is a monthly project update for the cleanup of lead impacted sediment by hydraulic dredging in the Mill River. We are currently in the process of dredging, dewatering the sediment, treating the filtrate water from the dewatering process, and discharging treated water back to the Mill River. All of the sediment dewatering and water treatment work is occurring at the facility on Exide's property at 2190 Post Road in Fairfield. TRC is the firm conducting the cleanup work for Exide.

**What Has Happened in August**

During August you may have noticed the following activities:

- Dredging in Area II – the portion of the Mill River adjacent to Exide's property, between the Metro North railroad bridge and the Post Road bridge.
- The turbidity meters (yellow buoys with solar panels), turbidity curtains (floating yellow items), and the large orange pipeline (that conveys sediment to Exide's property) were moved periodically, as dredging progressed in Area II.
- Dewatering of sediment and treatment of filtrate at Exide's property is ongoing. The filtrate (i.e., water) treatment process has been very effective. For example, since the filtrate treatment plant (WTP) began operation in October 2014, the average concentration of lead in water discharged through August 25, 2015 is very low, 16.65 ug/L (i.e., parts per billion). This is approximately 11% of the CT DEEP permitted discharge limit of 150 ug/L.
- Monitoring and sampling, as required by CT DEEP is being conducted, and permit limits are being met.
- The Harbor Management Commission (HMC) requested that we attend their meeting on August 18, 2015 at the Town of Fairfield Board of Education Building to provide information regarding the dredging method proposed for Area IV – the portion of the Mill River south of Harbor Road. We gave a presentation to the HMC Board and public that attended the meeting, and responded to their questions regarding the use of either hydraulic cutterhead dredging (the dredging method used to date in other Areas of the Mill River), or hydraulic suction by diver assistance dredging. Based on the site-specific experience gained through eight months of dredging in Areas I, II, III, and V, and the degree of consolidation of sediments to be removed in Area IV, hydraulic cutterhead dredging is planned for Area IV. The HMC approved a motion to inform CT DEEP that the HMC did not object to the utilization of hydraulic cutterhead dredging in Area IV, subject to certain understandings that Exide/TRC are prepared to follow.

**What to Expect in September**

In September, we will conduct the following activities:

- Continue dredging in Area II and planning for Area IV dredging. Dredging in Area IV will commence after October 1st, the end of the shellfish spawning restriction period. The turbidity meters (yellow buoys with solar panels), turbidity curtains (floating yellow items), and the large orange pipeline that conveys sediment to the Exide property will be moved as dredging progresses in Area II.
- Dewatering of sediment and treatment of filtrate will continue at Exide's property.
- Monitoring and sampling will continue, as required by CT DEEP.

**For More Information**

If you have any questions or comments, or would like to be added to our distribution list for future project updates, please contact Exide's environmental consultant CCA, LLC as follows: Richard R. Chandler L.E.P., C.P.G. (203) 815-3141 richardchandler@ccaengineering.com

The CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has project information on its website: http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2719&q=517076&depNav_GID=1654, including a fact sheet:

http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/water/tmdl/millriver/deepmillriver_factsheet_9_14.pdf