Construction of Land-Based Support Facility to Start in Spring 2017

Construction work on land-based facilities to support future in-river work for the Grasse River remediation project is scheduled to begin in spring 2017 and continue through early 2018. This work includes construction of a staging area next to the river, near the intersection of County Route 42 and Route 131 (see inset figure to the right). The staging area will be used to unload sediments dredged from the near-shore areas of the river and to load clean capping and backfill materials that will be placed in the river during the in-water portion of the project. A site layout plan for the staging area construction is shown in the figure to the right. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the lead agency overseeing the work, along with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT) Environment Division.

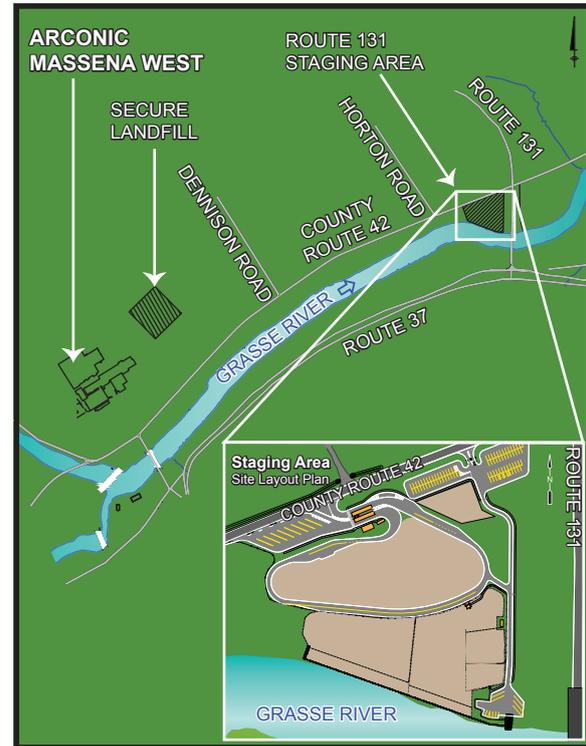Specific activities for the staging area construction include:

- Clearing and grading of the staging area location
- Installation of a water transfer line along County Route 42 from the staging area to the Arconic Massena West facility
- Construction of a dock facility along the riverfront
- Removal of a small amount of sediments along the shoreline

In addition, Arconic (formerly Alcoa) Massena West will expand the secure landfill on its property to safely store dredged material from the river during in-river work. The secure landfill has been used in the past for disposal of sediments from the Grasse River and is designed to safely contain dredged sediments. The sediment removed from the shoreline during the staging area construction will be taken to the secure landfill for disposal. The secure landfill work is scheduled to start in spring 2017. NYSDEC is the lead agency overseeing the expansion of the landfill.

A final design for the in-river portion of the remediation project is still under development and no start date has been determined at this time. We will provide additional updates as the project develops. For details on the scope of the remedial action, please visit the Grasse River website www.thegrasseriver.com.

Community Health and Safety

Community health and safety will be an important focus during the execution of the staging area work. A Community Health and Safety Plan will be posted on the project website this spring: www.thegrasseriver.com. Specific efforts include development of a traffic plan and an environmental monitoring plan. The staging area work will result in an increased level of truck traffic at and near the staging area, and we ask that everyone exercise caution when driving in the vicinity. Arconic is working with the contractor and local authorities to limit the impact of construction to residents. All 2017 work, except for environmental monitoring activities, will be done from the land. We do not expect this work to impact recreational boating.

For More Information

If you would like additional information or want to be added to the project mailing list, please contact:

Young Chang, EPA Remedial Project Manager, (212) 637-4253

Larry McShea, Arconic Project Manager, (724) 337-5458

Bruce Cook, Arconic Project Coordinator, (315) 323-1924

Additional project information is also available on Arconic's Grasse River website at www.thegrasseriver.com.

Additional EPA information about the Grasse River Superfund site is available at https://www.epa.gov/ny/aluminum-company-america-massena-ny.

Note: In November 2016, Alcoa successfully separated into two companies—Alcoa Corp. and Arconic. Upon separation, the Massena West forgings and extrusions operation became part of Arconic, which assumed responsibility for the Grasse River remediation project under the 2013 Record of Decision (ROD) issued by the EPA. Our commitment to the remediation project is unchanged by the separation.

GRASSE RIVER PROJECT

Grasse River Remediation Project Update
Construction of Land-Based Support Facility to Start in Spring 2017

Public Information Meetings:

U.S. EPA will host two public meetings in May to provide interested residents with an overview of planned 2017 construction activities.

May 9 – Massena: 6-8pm, Massena Town Hall, Board Room #30, 60 Main Street, Massena

May 10 – Akwesasne: 6-8pm, Office for the Aging – Seniors, Dining Hall, 29 Business Park Road, Akwesasne