

Statement from the EPA
Ringwood Mines/Landfill Superfund Site

Under EPA oversight, the Ford Motor Company (Ford) and the Borough of Ringwood (Borough) are currently preparing a feasibility study (FS) which will evaluate alternatives for addressing groundwater contamination at the Ringwood Mines/Landfill site (Site). EPA expects that the draft FS will be made available to the Ringwood Mines Community Advisory Group this summer (2017). The North Jersey District Water Supply Commission (NJDWSC) has recently asked the EPA to consider certain information for the FS. This information is contained in a report entitled, "Final Report of the Potential Fate and Transport of Benzene, 1,4-Dioxane, Lead and Arsenic at the Ringwood Mines Superfund Site Relative to the Wanaque Reservoir." EPA has forwarded this report to Ford and the Borough and asked that it be considered in the development of the FS. While the NJDWSC report indicates that there is a low probability of 1,4-dioxane threatening the Wanaque Reservoir intakes, it recommends that an active treatment remedy be implemented, particularly at the Peters Mine Airshaft. The FS will include an evaluation of active alternatives for addressing contaminated water in the Peters Mine Airshaft.

The NJDWSC Report does not contain any new information that calls into question the protectiveness of the cleanup plan already selected for fill material in the Peters Mine Pit, Cannon Mine Pit and O'Connor Disposal Areas of the Site.

Since 2015, groundwater and surface water have been monitored for 1,4-dioxane at and near the Site. The results of this monitoring indicate that 1,4-dioxane is present at low levels at locations in streams near the Site, but it has not been detected in samples collected from the Wanaque Reservoir by the NJDWSC in 2013 and 2016 or in stream samples collected near the reservoir. This data indicates that the Wanaque Reservoir has not been impacted by Site contamination and is not expected to be impacted by Site contamination in the future. Periodic monitoring of groundwater and surface water at the Site will continue to be performed to ensure that the Wanaque Reservoir is not impacted. EPA will ensure that the information provided by the NJDWSC is considered in the development of the FS and remedy selection process.