

Bay Harbor



1988: An area resident finds discolored seepage along the shoreline at the former plant site. It's found to contain elevated levels of toxic metals — similar to what can be found in cement kiln dust, a waste product remaining at the site from the cement production process — but there's no official link established immediately between the two.

FILE PHOTO

1980: Cement production ceases at plant.

1917: Petoskey Portland Cement Co. formed. Later, its plant along Little Traverse Bay west of Petoskey becomes part of Penn-Dixie.



1993: CMS Energy teams up with Victor International on plans to redevelop the cement plant site into a luxury resort which would become known as Bay Harbor. Kiln dust piles will be covered in vegetation and soil as part of the project, with portions of them incorporated into the resort's golf course.



COURTESY PHOTO

1994: Cement plant's smokestacks demolished in resort's groundbreaking ceremony.

1997: CMS installs a collection system to address a prominent seep at the base of one kiln dust pile, with the captured seepage to be routed to Petoskey's sewage plant. Six years later (**2003**), the system is shut down amid technical difficulties.

2004: Michigan DEQ learns of shutdown, inspects shoreline area of collection system. Water samples reveal high alkalinity, health officials advise public to avoid affected area.

2005: CMS assumes responsibility to remedy the seepage in an agreement with the U.S. EPA. **East Park**, located just east of Bay Harbor, closes when CMS begins to put interim remedies in place.

2007: CMS seeks state and federal permits to build a 2,000 feet deep **injection well near Alba** to dispose of collected seepage. Residents and environmental advocates question whether the groundwater will be fully protected from contamination.

2008: DEQ and EPA announce they'll be issuing permits for the well's development. Opponents mount challenges to the well in court.

2009: Regulators report that interim remedies to the seepage issues are becoming **very effective**. It's expected that significant movement toward a long-term management approach for the seepage will be reached this year.

1910

1980

1990

2000

2005

2009