

ELMIRA HIGH SCHOOL

Former Sperry Remington Property Cleanup

Brownfield Cleanup Program

777 South Main Street, Elmira, NY 14904

WHO TO CONTACT



Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

PROJECT-RELATED QUESTIONS:

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HEALTH-RELATED QUESTIONS:

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Corning Tower, Room #1787
Albany, NY 12237
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FOR INFORMATION ON THE BROWNFIELD CLEANUP PROGRAM:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html>

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Department of Health and Unisys Corporation to hold Public Availability Session on June 19

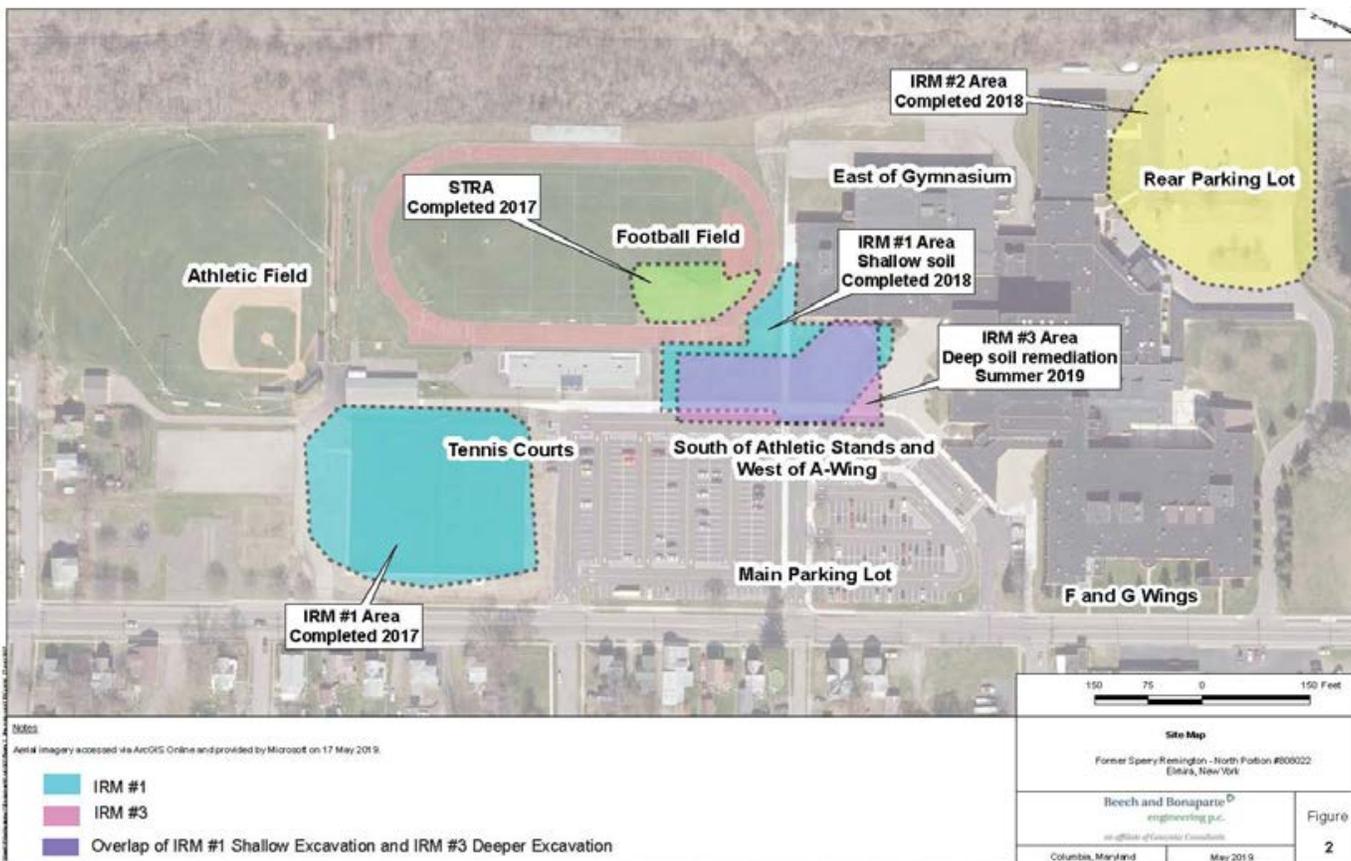
The New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Health (DOH) and Unisys Corporation (Unisys) will hold an open-house format public availability session on June 19, 2019 to discuss the ongoing investigation and planned cleanup work on the Elmira High School property. DEC, DOH and Unisys representatives will be available to answer questions. Community members are encouraged to attend at their convenience.

Wednesday, June 19, 2019
Elmira High School Cafeteria
5:30 – 7:30pm

DEC and DOH continue to oversee the ongoing investigation and cleanup activities at the Elmira High School property to ensure a comprehensive and careful cleanup while keeping the Elmira community informed of our progress and actions. Our top priority is ensuring that students, faculty, and visitors are not exposed to any of the site's below-ground contamination. Unisys, the corporate successor of the Remington Rand Company, is committed under its Brownfield Cleanup Agreement to fully investigate and implement a comprehensive cleanup of the site and any impacted off-site areas consistent with the Brownfield Cleanup Program.

Planning for Upcoming Work at Elmira High School

Over the past months, DEC and DOH project managers have been working closely with the Elmira City School District, Unisys, and their contractors to collect sampling data and prepare Interim Remedial Measures (IRM) work plans for the 2019 summer season. The next phase of cleanup work on the high school property (IRM#3) will include deeper excavation within the IRM #1 area (northwestern corner of the high school) to remove PCB-contaminated soils. PCB contamination that could not be removed during the initial 2017 IRM #1 activities will be excavated to a depth of approximately 20 feet. Unisys estimates 11,400 tons of contaminated soil will be removed as part of this work. Contaminated soil will be taken off-site for disposal at appropriately permitted facilities. Soils that meet requirements for reuse may be taken to the Material Storage Area (MSA) on the Southern Tier Commerce Center property.



EHS Football Field Complex

Unisys previously completed a Short-Term Response Action (STRA) on the southern portion of the football field, with DEC oversight. Subsequent data collected shows the turf and soil cover continues to prevent direct contact with contaminants beneath the surface; however, access to the football field complex continues to be managed to prevent exposure to any contaminants beneath the surface. More recent work on the football field complex includes the investigation and delineation of contaminants in soil, groundwater, and the former underground industrial sewers to support the comprehensive cleanup of this area.



Unisys will design and implement a cleanup plan for the football field complex in coordination with Elmira City School District restoration plans. Discussions between Unisys, ECSD and the State are underway for planning and scheduling the restoration of the football field complex to meet the needs of the district.

Designing a cleanup plan and sampling on the football field complex is ongoing in preparation for the anticipated

cleanup. Since July 2018, Unisys has completed more than 350 soil borings, collecting samples at two-foot intervals during the Remedial Investigation and Pre-Design Investigation of the football field complex. More than 800 soil samples have been collected within the athletic complex to define the limits of the planned excavation. Additional sampling is scheduled for early summer to complete the delineation of the contamination and final extent of the excavation, which will allow Unisys to complete the design and cleanup plan over the coming months.

Department of Health Outreach

On February 7, 2019, DOH staff held two meetings with current and former school staff. Current staff were invited to attend the afternoon session in the high school auditorium. The evening meeting was targeted to former school staff and open to the public. The goal of these meetings was to identify specific concerns and determine how DOH can best address those concerns. During these meetings, DOH described the past health studies focusing on the Elmira school community, discussed the current and previous potential for exposure to contaminants on the property, listened to community concerns, and discussed some possible next steps. Both sessions ended with a question and answer period and the opportunity for one-on-one discussions with health experts. The meetings were well attended and DOH is evaluating feedback received from these meetings and plans to continue the dialog with the community about its concerns.

Next Steps



Cleanup work near the northwestern corner of the school is expected to begin at the conclusion of the school year in June. DEC and DOH will continue to rigorously monitor Unisys' work. DEC and DOH will also be coordinating with Unisys and the Elmira City School District to complete the Pre-Design Investigation and Remedial Design for the cleanup plan on the football field complex. At the same time, sampling will be completed over the next few months in accordance with an approved Remedial Investigation Work Plan for the entire site. Thereafter, a comprehensive work plan for remediating the high school property, as well as addressing on- and off-site groundwater will be developed. DEC will keep the public informed throughout the additional investigation and cleanup of the site with newsletters such as this one.

WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION



Project documents are at these location(s):

Steele Memorial Library
101 East Church Street
Elmira, NY 14901
(607) 733-9175

Region 8 NYSDEC
Headquarters
6274 East Avon Lima Road
Avon, NY 14414
(585) 226-5324
(call for an appointment)

Project documents are available on the NYSDEC website at:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37556.html

SIGN UP TO STAY INFORMED

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>

