



# FACT SHEET

## State Superfund Program

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**BB&S Treated Lumber Corporation Site**

**February 2011**

**Site Number: 1-52-123**

**Hamlet of Speonk, Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, NY**

## Update on the Cleanup Action at State Superfund Site

A cleanup action was initiated in the fall of 2010 that is now addressing contamination related to the BB&S Treated Lumber Corporation State Superfund site (“site”) located at 1348 Speonk-Riverhead Road in the Hamlet of Speonk, Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, under New York’s State Superfund Program (*refer to the “Site Location Map” on page 5 below*).

The goals of the action for the site are to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment, eliminating, to the extent practical, exposure to contamination, and eliminating, to the extent practical, the off-site migration of contamination.

The cleanup action for the site generally includes excavating soils from the site and adjacent off-site areas that contain significant levels of contamination and backfilling the excavated areas with clean soil. The cleanup activities are being performed by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (“NYSDEC”) representatives funded by the State Superfund Program.

### Highlights of the Cleanup Activities

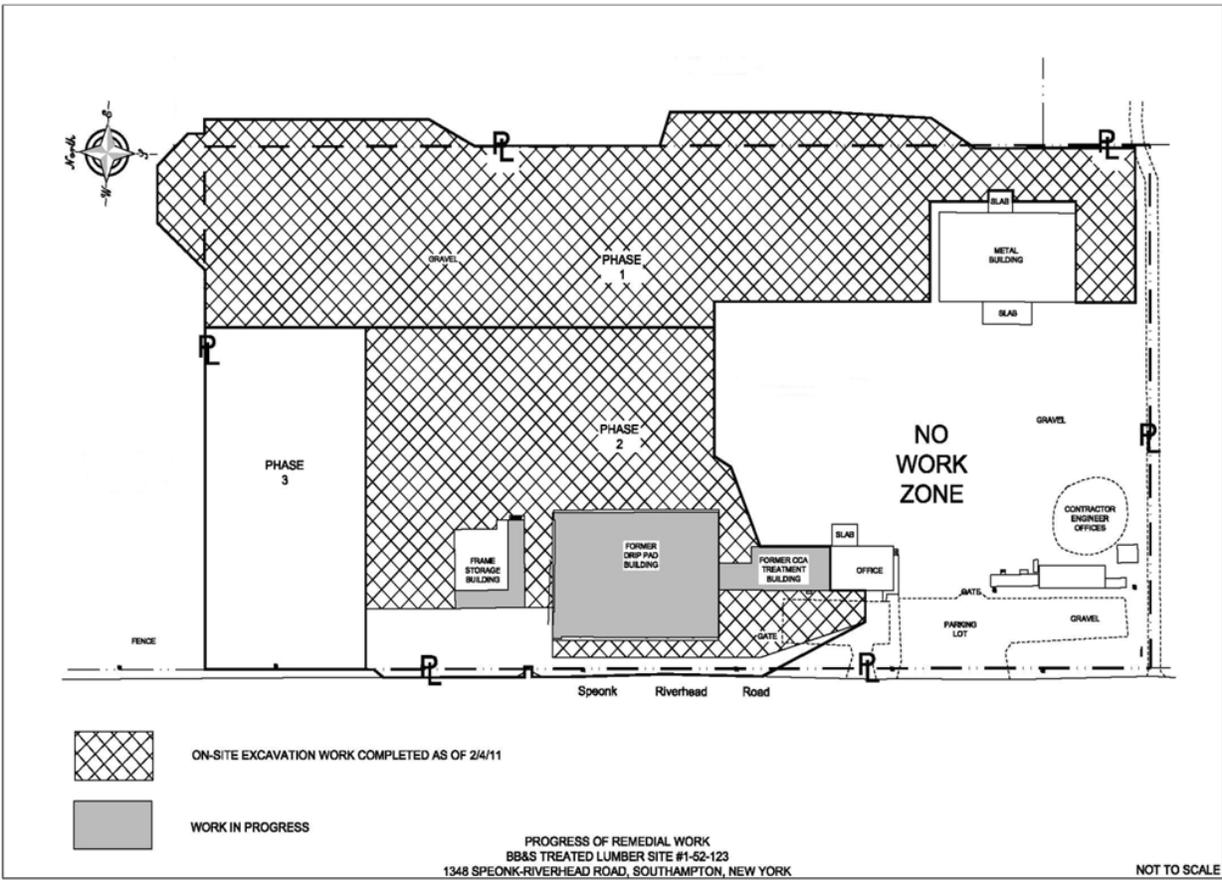
On-site cleanup activities began at the site on September 20, 2010. To date, over 14,000 tons of contaminated, non-hazardous waste and approximately 2,000 tons of contaminated, hazardous waste have been excavated and disposed off-site (*refer to “Progress of Remedial Work” figure on page 2 below*). Non-hazardous waste has been disposed of at the Brookhaven Landfill located in Brookhaven, New York. Hazardous waste has been transported to the Chemical Waste Management facility in Model City, New York.

**State Superfund Program:** New York’s State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

NYSDEC generally attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit:  
[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html)

The construction work is being performed under full-time oversight by Ecology & Environment Engineering P.C., the engineering consultant hired by NYSDEC. During cleanup activities, truck traffic to and from the site associated with excavation and off-site disposal activities have been limited to non-residential areas as much as practical. Furthermore, the contractor has been responsible for keeping the transportation route clean of soil and fill materials generated during site cleanup activities.



## Next Steps

In late January 2011, cleanup activities were suspended due to the inclement winter weather conditions experienced at the project area. Construction activities are currently scheduled to resume in early spring 2011, weather dependent. Once resumed, the contractor will complete the following work:

- 1) The excavation of approximately 3,000 tons of on-site contaminated soils. Backfill the remaining open excavations with clean imported fill. Cover disturbed areas with topsoil and seed.
- 2) Clearing of trees and brush from the west side of Speonk-Riverhead Road followed by the excavation and off-site disposal of approximately 10,000 tons of contaminated soil. All disturbed areas will be backfilled with clean imported fill and covered with topsoil and seed.
- 3) Site engineering control measures (i.e., fencing) will be repaired and maintained to restrict access and protect remedial components.

It is anticipated that construction of the remedy will be completed in the summer of 2011. After it completes the cleanup activities, NYSDEC will prepare a Final Engineering Report. The Final Engineering Report will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved.

Long-term site management by the NYSDEC will follow and primarily involve:

- 1) Sampling of a select number of groundwater wells and downgradient private water supply wells to monitor the migration of contaminated groundwater; and
- 2) Imposing deed restrictions/environmental easements to prevent potential exposure to residual on-site soil contamination and groundwater contamination.

### **Background**

Located at 1348 Speonk-Riverhead Road in Speonk, Suffolk County, the site was formerly occupied and operated by Best Building and Supply (BB&S) as a wholesale lumber distribution yard. The site consists of five acres in a rural area that is considered part of the Central Pine Barrens Preserve of eastern Long Island.

In the early 1980s, the site operated as a lumber treatment and storage facility. Products used for the treatment of wood included wood preservatives (copper chromate-arsenate, CCA) and flame proofing solutions (containing zinc oxide). The on-site use of these products resulted in the disposal of hazardous waste. Some waste product was released or has migrated through groundwater from the site into surrounding areas, including the groundwater and soils in the adjacent pine barrens.

In 1985, site contamination first came to the attention of the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS) when elevated concentrations of chrome and arsenic were found within the on-site water supply well. Between 1985 and 1996, BB&S conducted its own environmental study and remedial action of groundwater. In 1993, the NYSDEC designated the site as a Class 2 site (site poses significant threat to human health and the environment) on the NYS Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites. BB&S ceased pressure treatment of wood in 1996.

To evaluate the contamination present at the site and alternatives to address the significant threat to human health and the environment posed by the presence of hazardous waste, NYSDEC conducted a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS). The NYSDEC completed the state-funded investigation and study in 1999 and a final selection of the cleanup action was made and documented in a February 2000 Record of Decision (ROD). Pre-design investigations were performed by the NYSDEC from 2001 through 2007. Between 2003 and 2005 work was suspended while the NYSDEC negotiated with BB&S after they expressed an interest in implementing a remedy at the site. The negotiations failed, and in February 2005 the NYSDEC resumed its plan to design and implement the remedy. The remedial design was completed in June 2009.

An Amended ROD was issued in October 2009 that incorporated changes to the February 2000 remedy (i.e., groundwater monitoring program in lieu of the pump and treat component for the groundwater and for soils the remedy has been changed to off-site disposal in lieu of the ex-situ solidification/stabilization process).

Plans and specifications associated with the implementation of the remedial action were advertised for bid in December 2009 thru January 2010. EQ Northeast, Inc. of Wrentham, Massachusetts, was given formal notice to proceed with the cleanup on September 13, 2010.

### **For More Information**

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public to stay informed. These documents include plans and specifications and the decision documents describing the selected remedy for the site (February 2000 ROD and October 2009 Amended ROD).

Westhampton Free Library  
7 Library Avenue  
Westhampton Beach, NY 11978  
Phone: (631) 288-3335  
Hrs: Mon. - Fri.  
9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.;  
Sat. 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.;  
Sun. 1 - 5 p.m.  
<http://wham.suffolk.lib.ny.us>

NYSDEC Region 1 Office  
50 Circle Road  
Stony Brook, NY 11790  
Contact: Mr. Walter Parish  
Phone: (631) 444-0240  
Hrs: Mon. - Fri.  
8:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.  
(by appointment)

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*Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically*

#### **Whom to Contact**

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

##### Project Related Questions

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(Please call for an appointment)

##### Site-Related Health Questions

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You can also view project documents online at the Region 1 Environmental Remediation Project Information page <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8431.html>. Look for the “BB&S Treated Lumber Corporation Site” entry under the Suffolk County heading.

**We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area for others to see.**

