Cleanup Action to Begin at State Superfund Site

Action is about to begin that will address the contamination related to the Former Air Force Plant No. 51 site (“site”) located at 4777 Dewey Avenue, Greece, Monroe County under New York's State Superfund Program. Please see the map for the site location.

The site is listed as a Class "2" site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; action is required.

Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." The cleanup activities will be performed by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities
The goal of the cleanup action for Operable Unit 01 is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment. The cleanup action for Operable Unit 01 includes:

- In-Situ Chemical Oxidation of the On-Site Source Area
- Post-Treatment Groundwater Monitoring
- Institutional Controls

The chemical oxidation remedial work is divided into a Pilot Phase, a Full-Scale (Primary) Phase, and a Polishing Phase (if deemed necessary). The Pilot Phase will be conducted on just a portion of the source area that requires treatment. The Full-Scale Phase and any Polishing Phase are intended to treat the entire source area. The findings of the Pilot Phase treatment will be used to confirm the use of the chemical oxidation techniques specified in the Remedial Work Plan at OU1 and assist in development of the remedial design plans for the Full-Scale Phase and Polishing Phase (if deemed necessary).

Subsequent to completion of ISCO phase, a post-treatment groundwater monitoring program will be implemented in order to evaluate the effectiveness of natural attenuation, the presence and concentration of VOCs, and the extent and potential movement of contamination. This groundwater monitoring program will continue for a period of up to five years. Completion of this five-year groundwater monitoring represents a decision point for the remedy. Potential outcomes include

*Operable Unit: An administrative term used to identify a portion of a site that can be addressed by a distinct investigation and/or cleanup approach. An operable unit can receive specific investigation, and a particular remedy may be proposed.
closure of the operable unit, further monitoring of the operable unit, additional chemical oxidant
injections at the operable unit, or selection and implementation of a contingency remedy.

As part of the remedy, institutional controls will be implemented that include development and
implementation of a Site Management Plan (SMP) and an environmental easement to require
compliance with the SMP.

Additional Details
Activities are also planned for other areas of the site including defining the nature and extent of
contamination beneath the complex of existing and former buildings, completing the investigation of
the industrial sewers on-site, and delineating the full extent of off-site impacts within the wetlands to
the west and the open channel immediately north of the site. Preliminary work associated with this
work, including monitoring well installation and development, is scheduled to begin in July 2013.

The Department will keep the public informed of all site activities through the Monroe County Email
listserv. See "Form More Information" to learn how to receive site fact sheets by Email.

Next Steps
After completion of the cleanup activities, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation 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.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will keep the public informed
throughout the cleanup of the site.

Background
Location: The Former Air Force Plant No. 51 site is located just north of the Lake Ontario State
Parkway at 4777 Dewey Avenue in suburban area of the Town of Greece, Monroe County.

Current Zoning/Use(s): The site is currently active and is zoned Light Industrial. The site is privately
owned and is generally unoccupied except for a small commercial business occupying one of the
maintenance buildings.

Surrounding land use consists of commercial and residential use to the east, undeveloped wooded
upland areas to the south and wooded upland areas leading to wetlands and Round Pond Creek to the
west. The Monroe County Water Authority Shoremont Treatment Plant is located north of the site.

Site Features: The main site features include a central complex of large and mid-size buildings
surrounded by parking areas, roadways, and open fields. Access to a portion of the site is controlled by
a fence.

Historical Use(s): The plant was originally built during WWII by the Odenbach Shipbuilding Corp.
for the production of ocean-going ships. To launch the ships, a water-filled channel was dredged from
the from the north end of the shipyard to Round Pond Creek. Today, the remaining portion of the
channel is used by the Shoremont Treatment Plant as a settling pond for sediments from filter
backwashing.
After the war, the plant was used by the Dept. of Defense for the production of B-52 bulkheads and the name of the facility was changed to Air Force Plant 51. Records indicate that the A.O. Smith Corporation and the American Machine and Foundry Company occupied the site in the 1950s. In 1959, the facility was declared excess by the U.S. government. From 1961 to 1963 the property was owned by the Monroe County Water Authority. Since 1963, the facility has been owned by corporate relatives of the current owner with space leased to a variety of businesses including scrap metal recycling and metal plating.

US Air Force contracts indicate that a plating operation was performed at the site prior to 1956 and that plating area rinse water drained to an on-site pond before flowing into Round Pond Creek. Other operations at the site that may have potentially contributed to site contamination include: discharges from acetylene gas production; a variety of maintenance activities including vehicle maintenance; underground gasoline storage tanks; above ground storage tanks; electrical transformers; heat treating; degreasing; laboratory activities; metal plating activities from tenants in the 1970s; discharges to septic systems; and discharges to the storm sewer system which discharges to Round Pond Creek. Other activities not specifically identified above may have also contributed to the contamination of the site.

Over the past 15 years, numerous investigations have been conducted by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and by the current owner of the property under the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) to define the nature and extent of contamination and develop a plan to cleanup the site. DEC is currently implementing a remedial program at the site while continuing to identify and pursue parties who are potentially responsible for the contamination in order to recover remediation costs.

Operable Units: An operable unit (OU) represents a portion of a remedial program for a site that for technical or administrative reasons can be addressed separately to investigate, eliminate or mitigate a release, threat of release or exposure pathway resulting from the on-site contamination.

Under the VCP, the site was divided into seven OUs. (See Site #V00421 for information on the previous OU designations.) Since the site is now being addressed under State Superfund, the separate OUs have been consolidated and renamed using a more simplified naming convention as follows:

Operable Unit 1 (OU1) continues to refer to the former on-site lagoon/pond and the on-site portion of the outlet swale. OU2 refers to the investigation of suspected source areas across the entire site including the complex of buildings, former storage tanks, former vehicle maintenance facilities and transformer areas occupying the central portion of the site, the industrial sewers that discharged storm water and septic wastes to the wetlands via a number of outfalls, and other suspected disposal areas. OU3 is reserved for the investigation of off-site areas including the adjacent forests, wetlands, Round Pond and Round Pond Creek, and the former shipping channel.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: The upper 1 to 6 ft of the site is composed of a layer of fill material consisting of soils with small amounts of concrete, asphalt, metal, brick and wood. Soil beneath this fill layer generally consists of mixtures of silts, clays, some sands, and a lesser amount of gravel. Bedrock, consisting of a brick-red sandstone, was encountered at an average depth of about 30 ft below ground surface. Groundwater is generally encountered within 2 ft of the ground surface and flows to the northwest with more radial flow in the vicinity of the former on-site pond.
**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/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

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

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

---

FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Where to Find Information**

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed.

- **GREECE PUBLIC LIBRARY**
  - Attn: BERNADETTE FOSTER
  - 2 VINCE TOFANY BLVD
  - GREECE, NY  14612
  - phone:  585.225.8951

---

**Who to Contact**

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

- **Project Related Questions**
  - Eric Hausamann
  - Department of Environmental Conservation
  - Division of Environmental Remediation
  - 625 Broadway
  - Albany, NY  12233-7017
  - 518-402-9814
  - eghausam@gw.dec.state.ny.us

- **Site-Related Health Questions**
  - Julia Kenney
  - New York State Department of Health
  - N.Y.S. Department of Health Empire State Plaza,
  - Corning Tower, Room 1787
  - Albany, NY  12237
  - (518) 402.7860
  - BEEI@health.state.ny.us

---

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

**Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email**

Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page:

[http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html). It’s quick, it’s free, and it will help keep you better informed.

As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.
SITE:
4777 Dewey Avenue
Greece, New York