



# FACT SHEET

## Voluntary Cleanup Program

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**Site Name:** Former Dowell Facility  
**DEC Site #:** V00410  
**Address:** 3311-3313 Walden Ave.; Depew, NY  
**Website:** <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/103580.html>

Have questions?  
See  
"Whom to Contact"  
Below

### Former Dowell Facility: Community Update

#### Highlights of Completed Activities

In 2004, a Remedial Action was performed by the Volunteers. The remedial action included building/structure demolition, asbestos-containing material abatement, contaminated soil excavation/disposal, monitoring well removal/installation, and site restoration. No engineering controls were installed as part of the site remedy; however, a Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions granted to DEC was recorded with the Erie County Clerk on June 22, 2005.

Following completion of 2004 Remedial Action, a long-term groundwater monitoring program was implemented to monitor VOC-impacted groundwater. Since the inception of the long-term groundwater monitoring program, groundwater samples have been collected from site monitoring wells by the Volunteers to monitor the residual contamination.

A supplemental off-site groundwater investigation was completed in 2008 to determine if residential structures on the North side of Walden Avenue might be impacted by the residual groundwater contamination. Off-site groundwater samples collected during the investigation determined that no detectable levels of site contaminants were present in the samples. Based on this data, the Volunteers and DEC concluded that there was no potential for vapor intrusion into residences north of Walden Avenue.

A Site Management Plan (SMP) was prepared in May 2011 for the site to identify how the residual on-site contamination would be managed. The SMP details monitoring activities for the site and requirements for future use of the site. The SMP requires the Volunteers to performed regular monitoring and reporting activities and for DEC to routinely review and approval monitoring data to insure that the monitoring and reporting activities are performed by the Volunteers are in compliance with the SMP.

DEC issued a Certificate of Completion on December 7, 2011, for the 2004 site remediation. Since issuance of the Certificate of Completion, the long-term monitoring program and site maintenance activities have been conducted in accordance with the SMP and DEC-approved modifications.

#### Highlights of Upcoming Cleanup Activities

To address the residual on-site groundwater contamination, the Volunteers have developed a Remedial Action Work Plan which includes the installation of an in situ thermal treatment (ISTT) system to remove residual VOCs still present in groundwater within a limited area of the

site. The proposed ISTT system involves the placement of multiple electrode groups in the subsurface and the application of an electrical current that generates heat, which in turn heats the surrounding soil formation that forces the contaminants to rise to the surface where the contaminants are collected in recovery wells as either vapor or liquid. The extracted waste streams (that is, vapor and liquids) are then treated at the surface through

An air stripper and/or granular activated carbon (GAC). Spent GAC (with VOCs adsorbed in the porous material) will be transported off-site for disposal at an approved facility. Treated liquid will be discharged to the local sewer in accordance with Erie County permits and regulations.

### **Project Schedule for Upcoming Cleanup Activities**

The project schedule for the upcoming cleanup activities has been provided below. The Volunteers anticipated that the ISTT system will operate for approximately six-months. After the residual groundwater contamination has been extracted and treated, the ISTT system will be dismantled and the site will be restored to its previous condition.

- Construction of ISTT system components – projected start date, September 28, 2015
- Start-up of ISTT system – projected start date, December 28, 2015
- Operation of ISTT system – projected end date, June 30, 2016

### **Background**

**Location:** The Former Dowell Facility is located at 3311-3313 Walden Avenue in the Village of Depew, New York. The facility resides within a mixed residential and industrial/commercial area and consists of two parcels identified on Erie County tax maps as parcels 104.09-1-14 and 104.09-1-15. The relatively flat, currently vacant property is triangular shaped, covers approximately 1.78 acres, and is fronted to the north by Walden Avenue. A 6-foot-high chain-linked fence with a locked entrance gate along Walden Avenue surrounds the site.

**Current Use:** The entire site is zoned industrial/commercial. Surrounding uses include a railroad line to the south, a manufacturing facility to the west, and a commercial lumber yard to the east. The closest residential structures are to the north across Walden Avenue. Former activities at the site included servicing industrial facilities and limited oilfield-related project. Dowell discontinued facility operations in the late 1980s and the facility was permanently closed.

**Historical Use(s):** The parcels included buildings such as office space, storage, and equipment repair garages that supported operations relating to the development and maintenance of natural gas and oil wells. Various industrial cleaning and oil-field chemicals were stored on-site and transferred into tank trucks for use at job sites.

Spillage and poor housekeeping during active facility operations may have led to release of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including trichloroethene into the soil and shallow groundwater. The Volunteers entered the site into DEC's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) on February 26, 2001, under Voluntary Cleanup Agreement (No. B9-0586-00-10).

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on DEC's website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/xtapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=V00410>.

**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.**

**Volunteer Cleanup Program:** New York established its Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) to address the environmental, legal and financial barriers that often hinder the redevelopment and reuse of contaminated properties. The Voluntary Cleanup Program was developed to enhance private sector cleanup of brownfields by enabling parties to remediate sites using private rather than public funds and to reduce the development pressures on "greenfield" sites.

For more information about the VCP, visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8442.html>

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

### **Where to Find Information**

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

NYS DEC Region 9 Office  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14203  
716-851-7220  
(Call for appointment)

### **Whom to Contact**

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

#### Project Related Questions

David Szymanski  
NYS DEC, Division of Environmental  
Remediation  
270 Michigan Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
716-851-7220  
[David.Szymanski@dec.gov.ny](mailto:David.Szymanski@dec.gov.ny)

#### Site-Related Health Questions

Matthew Forcucci  
NYS DOH  
584 Delaware Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
716-847-4501  
[BEEI@health.ny.gov](mailto:BEEI@health.ny.gov)

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<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.



Walden Ave

Runford St

Brewster St

Lincoln St

V00410 Former Dowell Facility