

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
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EMERGENCY AND REMEDIAL RESPONSE DIVISION

FACSIMILE REQUEST AND COVER SHEET

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NOTES/COMMENTS:

## Superfund Update



# Liberty Industrial Finishing

Farmingdale  
Nassau County, New York

EPA  
Region 2

Fact Sheet #3

March 1993

## STATUS OF CURRENT EPA REMEDIAL ACTIVITIES AT THE LIBERTY INDUSTRIAL FINISHING SITE

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") is currently conducting a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study ("RI/FS") to further identify the extent and potential public health and environmental effects of hazardous substances at the Liberty Industrial Finishing Site (the "Site"). The RI will define the nature and extent of any contamination at the Site, particularly in the soils, air, surface water and in the groundwater. The FS, the second part of the study, will identify and evaluate alternatives for addressing any environmental and public health risks identified in the RI. This latest fact sheet is part of the ongoing effort to inform the public on the progress of EPA activities at the Liberty Industrial Finishing Site.

### SITE LOCATION

The Liberty Industrial Finishing Site is located in a suburban residential area in the Town of Oyster Bay, South Farmingdale, Nassau County, New York. The Site includes Lots 326 and 327 (approximately 30 acres) of Block 518, Section 48, as recorded in the Nassau County Clerk's Office, which is known as 55 Motor Avenue. This property is generally bordered on the north by railroad tracks, on the east by Main Street, on the west by a small park (the Ellsworth-Allen Park), and on the South by Motor Avenue. The Site is located approximately one (1) mile south of the Bethpage State Park. A small tributary of the Massapequa Creek is approximately one-half (1/2) mile south of the Site.

Since the late 1930's industrial operations at the Site have included aircraft parts manufacturing, trailer manufacturing, and metal plating and finishing operations, including anodizing, electroplating, dyeing and painting. Numerous industrial and light industrial businesses have leased and continue to lease space at the Site. Detailed background information concerning this Site is available at the information repository listed at the end of this fact sheet.

### STATUS OF CURRENT ACTIVITIES

This fact sheet summarizes the progress made since the release of the March 1992 fact sheet.

The activities covered as part of the field investigation included: installation and sampling of monitoring wells, surface water and sediment sampling, digging test pits, soil borings, ambient air monitoring, and sampling of under ground storage tank contents. Summarized below is the status of the field investigation activities. The data presented here is preliminary, and the final results will be presented in the RI report.

### Site Characterization

► Ambient Air Monitoring. Four ambient air monitoring stations were set up within the Site, based on predominant wind direction. Samples were collected and analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and selected metals. The results were forwarded to the Agency for Toxic

Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and used as a basis for a preliminary health consultation. ATSDR determined that the levels of air contaminants detected at the Site do not pose a significant threat to the health of Site workers, users of the Ellsworth-Allen Park or nearby residents.

► Test Pits and Soil Borings. Samples were collected from the approximately ninety (90) test pits and forty (40) soil borings conducted throughout the property, with emphasis on the identified potential source areas. The data available indicates that relatively elevated levels of some contaminants (i.e., cadmium, chromium, lead) have been detected in soil samples collected at the Site, including the areas of the former basins and the former building B. Much of the contaminated areas on the eastern portion of the Site are currently covered by pavement, and on-Site workers do not generally enter the western portion of the Site. Based on the information available, EPA concluded that as long as the conditions outlined above do not change, risks of health impacts to workers from short-term exposures are minimal. While some exposures are possible through inhalation of contaminated dust from the Site, the short-term hazards are likely to be insignificant. None of the soil samples collected from the Ellsworth-Allen Park showed elevated concentrations of contaminants.

► Hydrogeologic Investigation. Twenty-two (22) new monitoring wells were installed on the property and directly downgradient. Two rounds of groundwater sampling were conducted on the newly installed and existing monitoring wells to determine the nature and extent of groundwater contamination, characterize the aquifer, and determine the groundwater flow direction. The data from the first round of groundwater sampling passed the validation process and is currently being evaluated. The data from the second round of sampling has just been validated. The results available indicate that several contaminants were detected in excess of the federal and New York State (NYS) drinking water standards. Some of the contaminants found at the Site in excess of drinking water standards include: cadmium, chromium, trichloroethene, 1,2-dichloroethene, and 1,1,1-dichloroethane. It is important to mention that, in general, the residents of Oyster

Bay receive their drinking water from the local water utilities. These water suppliers are required to test their water to ensure that it meets all NYS and federal drinking water standards.

► Surface Water and Sediment Sampling. This activity was completed. Surface water samples and sediment samples were collected from both tributaries of Massapequa Creek. This data will be evaluated as part of the RI report.

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

All field activities were completed. The activities now in progress include data evaluation, the assessment of risks, and the completion of the RI/FS reports. EPA expects that the reports will be finalized and available to the public by the Summer 1993. The extended RI schedule, (RI completion was previously planned for Winter 1992-93), was the result of the necessary expansion of the field investigation activity and the longer than expected effort needed to complete the data validation process. The findings of the RI/FS will be summarized in a proposed plan. The proposed plan will provide EPA's preferred alternative for remediating the Site. After the public has had an opportunity to comment on the FS and the proposed plan, the EPA will choose the most appropriate alternative as the selected remedy for the Site and will substantiate the basis for such a decision in a document called the "Record of Decision" (ROD). Subsequently, a detailed remedial design (RD) phase of the remedy will be performed. This design will be utilized in the remedial action (RA) phase of the project.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

For additional information concerning EPA activities at the Liberty Industrial Finishing Site, please contact Carlos R. Ramos, EPA Remedial Project Manager at (212) 264-5636, or Yvette Harris, EPA Community Relations Coordinator at (212) 264-9368.

Copies of relevant Site documents are available at the following information repository:

South Farmingdale Branch Library  
Merrit Road and Broadway Avenue  
Farmingdale, NY 11735