



**Public Information and
Comment Meeting to be held
February 24, 2003
7:00 p.m.**

**Farmingdale Public Library
116 Merritts Road
Farmingdale, New York 11735**

Directions

**Take Southern State to
Bethpage State Parkway North.
Go to 1st Exit (Boundary
Avenue) and bear left. Go about
2 blocks to Merritts Road. Make
right onto Merritts. Library is
1/4 mile (opposite firehouse) on
the left hand side.**

**For More Information
Contact:**

**NYSDEC
625 Broadway, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7015
Attn: Champanine
Saviengvong
Project Manager
(518) 402-9621**

**NYSDOH
Flanigan Square
547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180
Attn: Mrs. Jacquelyn Nealon
(518) 402-7880
1-800-458-1158 ext. 27530**

**Spectrum Finishing Corporation Site
Town of Babylon,
Suffolk County
Site Number 1-52-029
PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN
Fact Sheet - February 2003**

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), is proposing a final remedy for environmental contamination associated with the Spectrum Finishing Corporation (Spectrum) Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Site. The proposed remedy consists of excavation and offsite disposal of contaminated soil, coupled with groundwater monitoring.

NYSDEC's proposal is described in a proposed remedial action plan (PRAP). The PRAP is available for review at the document repositories listed on the last page of this fact sheet. NYSDEC and NYSDOH staff will describe the proposed remedial action plan at a public meeting to be held on February 24, 2003 at the Farmingdale Public Library at 7:00 p.m. Interested members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions about the PRAP at the meeting. NYSDEC will also accept comments on the PRAP at the meeting and in writing. Written comments may be submitted to Ms. Champanine Saviengvong (See sidebar for address.) Until March 10, 2003.

Upon review of public comments, NYSDEC may modify its PRAP. NYSDEC will document its final decision on a remedy in a record of decision. The record of decision will include a response to all substantive comments received on the PRAP and will be placed in the document repositories for public review. Design, construction and implementation of the final remedy will commence after publication of the record of decision.

Site History & Description

The 0.67-acre site is bounded by Cabot Street on the west side and Dale Street on the east side, in the Pinelawn Industrial Area in the Town of Babylon. Spectrum owned and conducted metal finishing operations at the site from 1968 to 1994. The metal finishing operations included electroplating of high strength alloys for the aerospace industry, chromium conversion coating, chemical cleaning and painting. Site inspections and sampling by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS)

performed between 1970 and 1975 revealed discharges of industrial waste into onsite cesspools and drainage structures, leaks from holding tanks, and high levels of heavy metals in sediment samples collected from drainage structures and site run-off. The NYSDEC performed Phase 1 (1984) and Phase 2 (1988) investigations to review past data and conduct limited sampling. These investigations indicated that the soil was contaminated with metals and that the groundwater was contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and metals. NYSDEC confirmed that hazardous waste had been disposed at the site and added the Spectrum site to the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites as a Class 2 site in 1990. Class 2 sites are those that pose a significant, but not immediate, threat to human health and/or the environment and require action.

In 1994, Spectrum Finishing Corporation filed for bankruptcy and ceased operations at the site. The NYSDEC requested that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) perform a time critical removal action in November 1997 to address the presence of drums, vats, sumps and other waste containers left on the site. The EPA completed removal of these containers and bulk waste stored in aboveground storage tanks in April 1998. A subsequent EPA investigation indicated that a remedial investigation was necessary. NYSDEC conducted a remedial investigation from June 1999 to May 2001. This remedial investigation was funded by the State Hazardous Waste Remedial Fund (Superfund).

The purpose of the remedial investigation was to define the nature and extent of contamination and the risks that it may pose to human health and the environment. Soil sampling during the investigation revealed elevated concentrations of metals in soil located beneath the factory floor and in the alleyway on the south side of the factory building. In addition to metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were detected at concentrations exceeding the cleanup objective in the alleyway. The groundwater has been contaminated by metals and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and both plumes are migrating off site in a southeasterly direction. The VOC with the highest concentration in the groundwater was tetrachloroethylene (PCE) detected at 560 parts per billion (ppb) in an off-site intermediate depth monitoring well. The highest metals concentration in the groundwater was cadmium reported at 1,940 ppb in an off-site shallow monitoring well.

An interim remedial measure is an activity that may be carried out to remove or isolate environmental contamination without further investigation. The NYSDEC conducted an interim remedial measure in 2000 to remove sediments from eleven cesspools and drainage structures. Confirmatory sediment samples collected from the bottom of the cesspools and drainage structures show that VOCs, semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and pesticides were removed; however, residual metal concentrations exceed cleanup objectives.

Based on the results of the investigations and considering the remedial measures already performed at this site, the NYSDEC is proposing the excavation and off-site disposal of soils that continue to act as a source of contamination, including areas of PCB contamination within the alleyway. The NYSDEC is also proposing that all of the cesspools and drainage structures be cleaned and properly closed. Under the PRAP, groundwater would be monitored for metals and VOC contamination by sampling three proposed outpost wells and three existing monitoring wells. The new outpost monitoring wells and existing monitoring well cluster are located about 3,000 - 3,900 feet and 400 feet, respectively, downgradient from the site. Monitoring the groundwater would ensure that the metals and VOC plumes migrating off site do not reach potential receptors.

This PRAP is issued by the NYSDEC as an integral component of the citizen participation plan responsibilities provided by the New York State Environmental Conservation Law, New York Codes, Rules and Regulations Title 6 Part 375.

Groundwater beyond the boundaries of the Spectrum site has been contaminated by trichloroethane and trichloroethene, however homes with private wells have been provided with public water due to contamination

associated with the nearby Babylon Landfill. Public water is regularly tested and must meet strict federal, state and county standards. The Suffolk county Water Authority Tenety Avenue wellfield is located approximately 2500 yards downgradient from the site. No contaminants related to the Spectrum site have been detected in this wellfield.

Document Repositories: The public is encouraged to review the documents related to the site which are available for public review at the following locations:

Ms. Champaine Saviengvong
Project Manager, NYSDEC
625 Broadway, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7015
1-800-342-9296 or
(518) 402-9621
M-F, 8:15 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

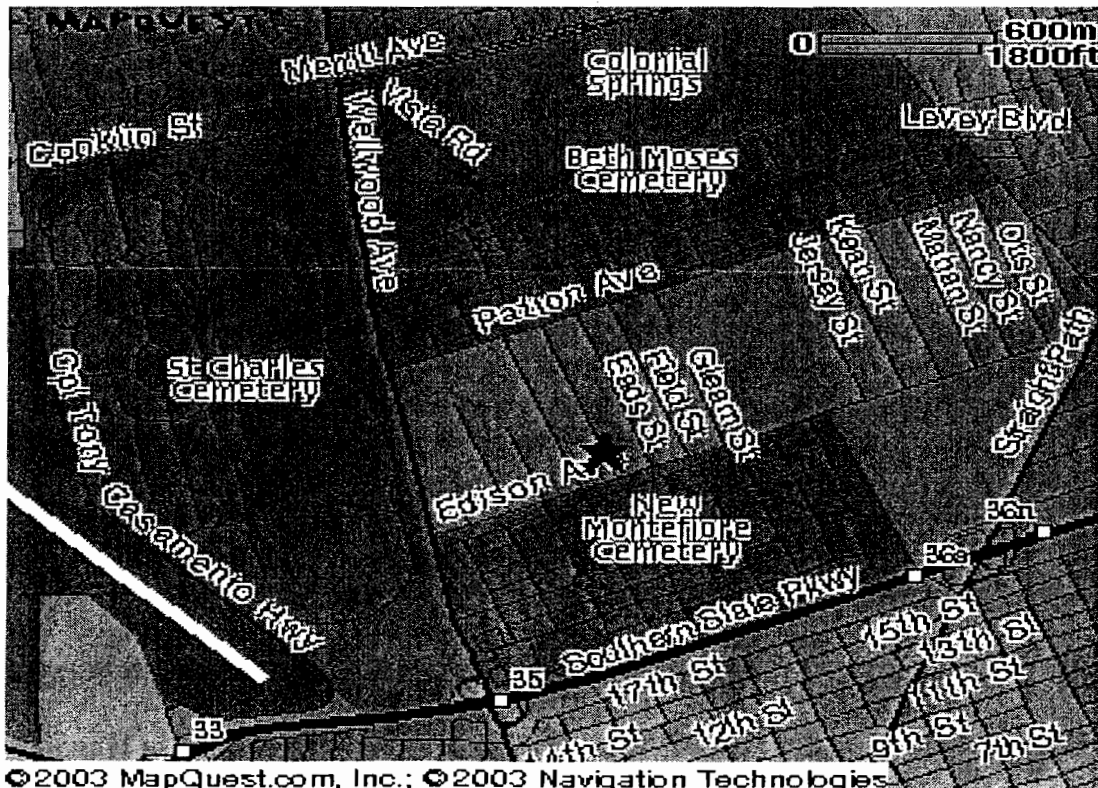
NYSDEC- Region 1
SUNY Campus
Loop Road, Bldg. 40
Stony Brook, NY 11790-2356
Attn: Mr. Mark Lowery
631-444-0350
M-F, 8:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

West Babylon Library
211 Route 109
West Babylon, NY 11735
Phone: (631) 669-5445
M-Th 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
F-Sat 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Submit Written Comments: Public input is important to this project. Send written comments to:

Ms. Champanine Saviengvong
Project Manager
NYSDEC
625 Broadway, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7015

The public comment period on the PRAP is from February 10, 2003 to March 10, 2003.



Bureau of Eastern Remedial Action
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7015

Attn.: Champanine Saviengvong