

NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION

**Public Meeting  
Invitation**

**Tuesday  
September 21, 1999  
7:00 p.m.**

**Eastport High School  
Dining Hall  
390 Montauk Highway  
Eastport, NY**



*NYSDEC will hold a public information meeting to discuss the proposed remedial action for the BB&S Treated Lumber Site.*

*Representatives from NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health will give brief presentations, followed by a question and answer session and your opportunity to comment on the proposed cleanup action.*



**Public Comment Period:  
September 7, 1999  
through  
October 8, 1999**

Administrative Record KM  
152123

**FACT SHEET**

September 1999

BB&S Treated Lumber Corp.  
Speonk-Riverhead Road, Speonk, NY  
NYSDEC, Region 1, Suffolk County

3

**Remedial Action Proposed for  
the BB&S Treated Lumber  
Corporation Site**

**Public Meeting, Comment Period Announced**

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in cooperation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), has proposed a cleanup plan for the BB&S Treated Lumber Corporation Site (BB&S Site) in Speonk in the Town of Southampton, Suffolk County. The BB&S Corporation pressure-treated wood, using copper-chromate-arsenate (CCA), at its lumberyard on Speonk-Riverhead Road from the early 1980s until 1996. (Site location map on p. 4)

Hazardous waste (CCA) disposed at the site has contaminated soil and groundwater. NYSDEC has designated the BB&S Site as a Class 2 site ("significant threat to public health or environment, action required").

**The Proposed Action:** Highlights include solidification/stabilization and on-site burial of contaminated soil from the BB&S lumberyard and surrounding land. For contaminated groundwater, NYSDEC proposes collection by extraction wells, with on-site treatment and reinjection. These proposed actions are described in the site's "Proposed Remedial Action Plan" (PRAP). The PRAP was developed following detailed investigation of contamination at the BB&S Site and surrounding areas. The PRAP examines different ways to clean up the site, and presents the alternative proposed by NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

*See pages 2 and 3 for a summary of the Proposed Remedial Action Plan. The full PRAP is available for your review at the document repositories listed below.*

**Your Opportunities to Be Informed and Involved:** Release of the PRAP begins a process to formally select a remedy for the BB&S Site. *Your comments and input about the proposed remedy are important and encouraged.*

Your oral and written comments about the PRAP are welcome at the **public meeting** and during the **public comment period** (see sidebar at left). Written comments also may be sent until the end of the comment period by addressing them to:

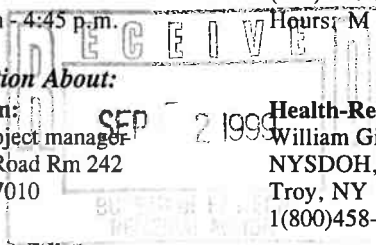
Ms. Kathleen A. McCue, P.E.  
NYSDEC Division of Environmental Remediation  
50 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12233-7010

**Document Repositories.** Two locations provide access to information about the site:  
NYSDEC Reg. 1 Westhampton Library  
SUNY - Building 40, Stony Brook, NY 11790 7 Library Ave., Westhampton Beach, NY 11978  
(516) 444-0240 (516) 288-3335  
Hours: M - F 8:30am - 4:45 p.m. Hours: M - Th 9am - 9pm; F, Sat 9am - 5pm

**For More Information About:**

**The Site Investigation:**  
Kathleen McCue, project manager  
NYSDEC, 50 Wolf Road Rm 242  
Albany, NY 12233-7010  
(518) 457-7924

**Health-Related Concerns:**  
William Gilday or Mark Van Deusen  
NYSDOH, 547 River Street  
Troy, NY 12180  
1(800)458-1158 ext 2-7880 or (518)402-7880



# PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN

## Site Background and History

The BB&S Treated Lumber Corporation was a lumber preservation business that operated from the early 1980s up until 1996. BB&S, now operating as the Best Building and Supply Corp., continues to store and market lumber at the Site, located on Speonk-Riverhead Road, in Speonk, Suffolk County. The area of concern in and around the Site is approximately ten acres (see the site location map on Page 4).

During the time BB&S preserved lumber at the Site, the preservative chromate-copper-arsenate (CCA) was used to pressure-treat lumber. CCA entered soil and groundwater at and around the Site through sumps in the former treatment building used to collect excess preservative, and also from around the drip pad where lumber was stacked to dry after treatment.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has listed this site in the NYS Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites as a "Class 2" site, meaning that there is a "significant threat to human health and/or the environment; action is required." Actions taken by NYSDEC to date to address the threat at the BB&S Site have included enforcement efforts to stop contaminant discharges, and conducting the Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study. The Remedial Investigation, completed in 1998, included soil and groundwater sampling, analysis and evaluation to determine the extent of contamination and what risks would exist to people's health and the environment if the Site were left unremediated. The Feasibility Study consisted of the development of cleanup alternatives for soil and groundwater and a comparative evaluation of those alternatives. Following review of the Remedial Investigation results and the Feasibility Study, NYSDEC has proposed implementing one of the options each for soil and for groundwater. The public comment period is to give the concerned or affected public opportunity to comment on the alternatives for cleanup and NYSDEC's proposal.

## Remedial Investigation Results

The Remedial Investigation included many soil and groundwater samples to map the boundaries of CCA contamination at the Site.

**Soil:** Soil concentrations of chromium, copper, arsenic and zinc exceeding NYSDEC recommended soil cleanup levels were found in surface soil and shallow soil up to three feet deep in various sections of the BB&S lumberyard, including around the former treatment

building and drip pad, north of the new hardwood storage building, and in drainageways around the yard. Soil sampling was conducted outside the lumberyard around a culvert that carries drainage from the Site into the woods on the west side of Speonk-Riverhead Road. Along the roadside, and in the wooded area, high concentrations (up to 850 parts per million - ppm) of chromium and up to 600 ppm of arsenic were found in the soil. Arsenic and chromium are the main contaminants of concern in soil.

**Groundwater:** During the RI, the network of fifteen monitoring wells previously installed by BB&S Corporation was sampled and temporary groundwater sampling points installed to map the boundaries of groundwater contamination. Chromium and arsenic were found in groundwater 40 to 100 feet deep beneath the lumberyard and a short distance south, in the direction of regional groundwater flow. Farther south, only chromium was found, up to 416 parts per billion (ppb) in the southernmost monitoring well. This exceeds the NYS ambient groundwater standard of 50 ppb for chromium. The Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS) sampled business and homeowner supply wells south of the site in 1996 and again in early 1999, and has not found exceedances of the groundwater standard for chromium in these private drinking water wells.

The RI concluded that although there is not an immediate threat to human health at the site, people could be exposed to arsenic or chromium at the site through future development or use of lands or groundwater near the site, or from gradual migration of chromium off-site in groundwater. There is a moderate threat to animals from the contaminated soil around the site.

## Cleanup Alternatives

Following the conclusion that threats existed from the Site, the Feasibility Study looked at various technologies and actions to remove or prevent those threats.

For the sake of comparison, the FS considered a "no-action" remedy, where minimal actions such as fence repair, warning signs, deed restrictions and long-term sampling of groundwater would be conducted. The "no-action" remedy would not adequately protect the public or environment and would not meet standards and guidance for site cleanups.

Two scenarios were developed for cleaning up contaminated soil at the Site: **Cleanup Scenario A** targets all soils contaminated above the NYSDEC-recommended cleanup goal for arsenic (7.5 ppm). This scenario would require 14,300 cubic yards of soil to be removed, treated in

# PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN

place or covered. **Cleanup Scenario B** targets all soil contaminated above the chromium cleanup goal (50 ppm). This scenario would only require removing or treating 5300 cubic yards.

The technologies evaluated and compared in the FS for soil remediation included the following:

- **Excavation and off-site disposal:** Soil must be excavated and transported to an approved treatment facility off Long Island.
- **In-situ electrokinetic remediation:** an innovative technology using electric current in the ground to remove metal contamination without having to dig up soil.
- **Soil washing:** excavate soil, mix with cleansing solutions in a mill, replace clean soil in ground.
- **Asphalt cap:** excavate soil outside the lumberyard and ship it to an approved off-site treatment facility. Pave over contaminated areas inside the lumberyard.
- **In-Situ Solidification/ Stabilization:** Mix contaminated soil in the ground with cement or other binders to prevent contaminant metals from leaching out. It would be necessary to excavate soils in the wooded areas and roadside ditches outside the fenced lumberyard and bring them into the yard for treatment and burial in a treatment pit.
- **Ex-Situ Solidification/ Stabilization:** This alternative is the same technology as above, but all contaminated soil inside and outside the yard would be excavated and mixed with binders above ground in a mill. The treated non-hazardous product would be buried in the lumberyard.

These technologies were evaluated and compared in the FS for groundwater remediation:

- **Chemical Precipitation Treatment:** Install pumping wells in the aquifer on BB&S property and south of the site to extract contaminated groundwater under the site and intercept it before it migrates farther off site. Treat the water in an on-site plant using chemicals that remove the chromium and other contaminants, forming a solid contaminant sludge to be disposed of off site. Allow the clean water to infiltrate to the groundwater table through an on-site leach pool.
- **Electrochemical Treatment:** The same pumping, treating and infiltration scheme as in the previous paragraph would be installed, but the treatment process would utilize both chemicals and electric current to remove contaminants.

## NYSDEC's Proposed Remedy

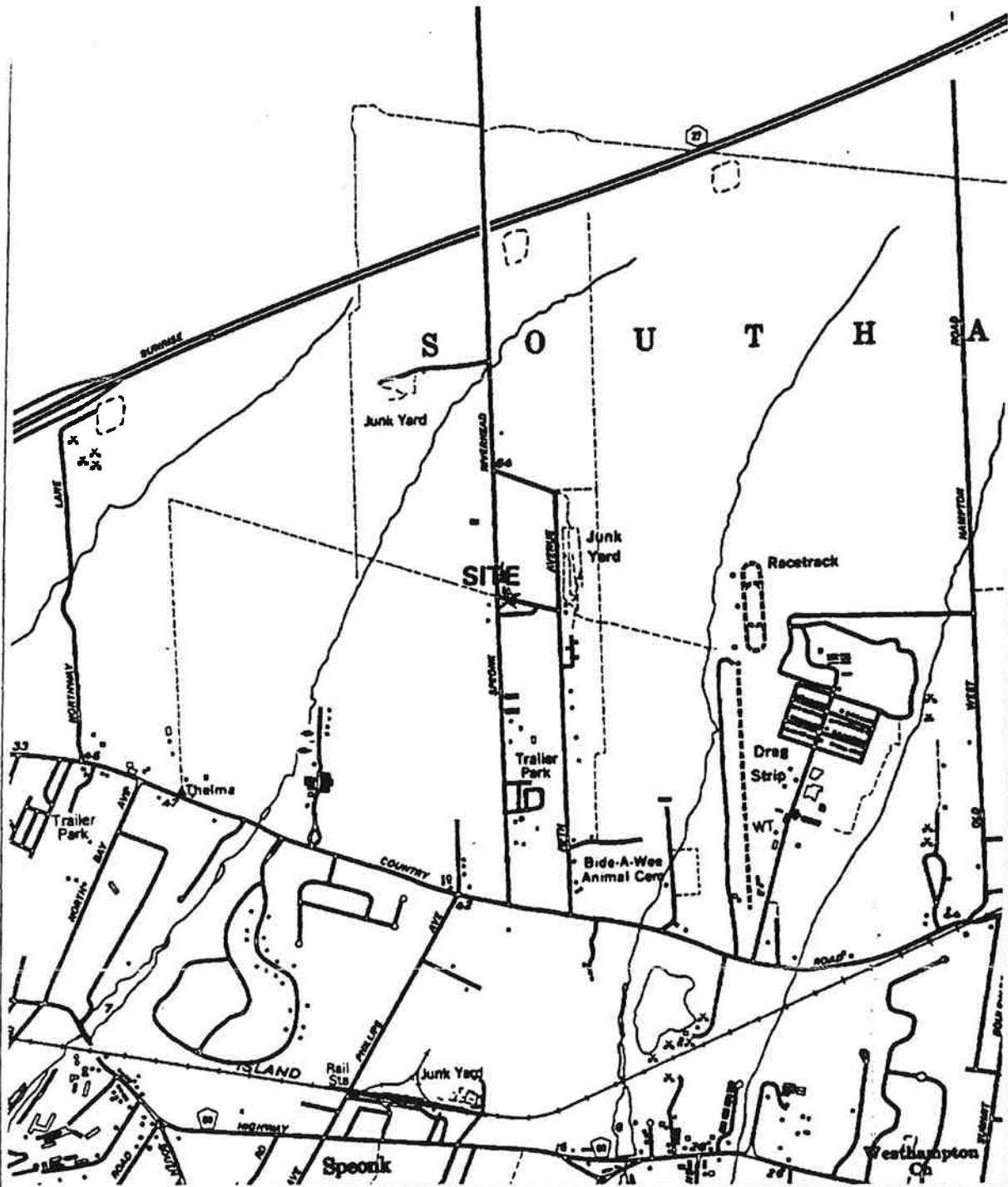
Based on the findings of the RI and the evaluation performed in the FS, NYSDEC proposes **Ex-Situ Solidification/ Stabilization** for soil (Cleanup Scenario B) and **Chemical Precipitation Treatment** for groundwater. The proposed remedy would be protective of public health and the environment, and would meet all applicable laws and standards. It would best balance concerns about removal of hazardous materials, short-term impacts, long-term effectiveness, permanence, ease of implementation, and cost. **The cost of this remedy over thirty years is estimated at \$4.64 million.** This includes \$742,000 for the soil cleanup, \$1.45 million for construction of the groundwater treatment system and \$159,000 per year to operate the groundwater treatment and monitor the site.

## Citizen Participation

Throughout the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study, NYSDEC has conducted efforts to keep interested and affected citizens aware of progress on the project. Public information meetings were held in February 1996 to present plans for the Remedial Investigation, and in December 1996 to present the preliminary results of the RI. The upcoming meeting concerning the Proposed Remedial Action Plan is a vital opportunity for citizens to have input on the selection of cleanup actions for the BB&S Site. Written comments are also welcome and encouraged on or before October 8, 1999. NYSDEC may modify the proposed remedy, or select a different remedy, based on public comments. You are encouraged, therefore, to comment on any of the alternatives discussed above. More details about these alternatives can be found in the full PRAP, and in the FS Report at the document repositories (see page 1) and will be presented at the public meeting on September 21, 1999 (see sidebar on page 1).

**Written responses to all comments received will be published by NYSDEC as part of the Record of Decision for the BB&S Site.** The Record of Decision, a report that describes the final remedial plan for the site, will be placed in the document repositories. Following NYSDEC's selection of the remedy, work will continue to design the selected remedy.

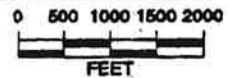
# PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN



## Site Location Map

152123 B.B. & S. Treated Lumber Corporation

NYSDOT Planimetric Quadrangle(s):  
EASTPORT



Scale 1:24,000