



# FACT SHEET

March 2007

Former Duso Chemical

No. 3-14-103

33 Fulton Street, Poughkeepsie, NY

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## Site Investigation to continue at Former Duso Chemical Site

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), is providing this fact sheet as part of the state's citizen participation program for inactive hazardous waste disposal sites.

### Site History and Background

Duso Chemical is the site of a former chemical storage and distribution facility located at 33 Fulton Street in the Town of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, NY. The site is located in a mixed residential and commercial area and is approximately three acres in size. Star Gas Products, a distributor of propane, is currently operating on the property. All nearby residences are served by public water. Figure 1 is a map showing the location of the site.

The site was the subject of several investigations in the mid 1990's to assess environmental conditions at the Mid-Hudson Business Park (MHBP), a parcel of land adjacent to the Duso Chemical site, located at 95 and 125 North Road in Poughkeepsie. A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment conducted in 1993/1994 found high levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the groundwater of the MHBP. Based on this information, a Phase II and Remedial Investigation were conducted, which discovered an area of concern in the southeastern section of the MHBP. Since a source area had yet to be located, a Supplemental Remedial Investigation was conducted to investigate the possibility that the contamination was coming from off-site. The results of this investigation indicated that there was likely a source emanating from the adjacent site, former Duso Chemical. Historical records show that there was a chemical fire at the Duso Chemical Plant in the early 1960's, which is suspected to have released a large quantity of unknown materials. This may have been a contributing factor in causing the contamination at the site.

In 1999, the NYSDEC listed the Duso site on the state's Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites as a Class 2 site. A Class 2 site is defined as having hazardous wastes present at concentrations representing a significant threat to human health and/or the environment, and requires remedial action.

In May of 2005 a state funded Remedial Investigation (RI) began at the site. The goal was to obtain additional soil and groundwater data to delineate the nature and extent of the site's

contamination. Other objectives included the identification of source areas, contaminant transport mechanisms and potential human or ecological resource receptors.

### **Investigation Activities Completed to Date**

To meet these objectives, the following activities were performed:

- The installation of soil borings and analysis of numerous soil samples to obtain subsurface data.
- The conversion of many soil borings into monitoring wells in order to conduct a groundwater investigation.
- A vapor intrusion program to evaluate indoor air quality of buildings on and near the site.

### **Findings of the RI**

The activities completed thus far under the RI have confirmed the presence of VOCs and Semi-Volatile Organic compounds (SVOCs) in the site's soil, groundwater and soil vapor. Additional investigative activities are planned to begin in March to address data gaps. Also, an effort is underway to develop a list of potential remedial approaches for cleaning up the site. Eventually a full scale Feasibility Study (FS) will be completed, which will include a detailed evaluation of potential alternatives.

### **Future Investigation Activities Planned**

- Additional soil borings to further evaluate the contamination in the subsurface soil.
- Installation of more monitoring wells to further delineate the extent of contamination in the groundwater.
- Collection of additional soil vapor samples to assess the potential for exposures to contaminated vapors inside buildings on or adjacent to the site.

### **Citizen Participation**

Based on the results of the RI/FS, the NYSDEC, in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), will develop a Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) which will be made available for review by the public. During a 30 day comment period, a public meeting will be held in the community to present the PRAP in detail, and to receive comments. Following consideration of public comments on the PRAP, the NYSDEC and NYSDOH will issue a Record of Decision (ROD) which formally selects a remedy for the site.

Copies of the work plan are available for your review at the document repositories listed below. As additional documents are created they will be placed in the site's repositories.

### **Document Repositories**

Information and documents pertaining to the site are available for public review at the following locations:

Adriance Memorial Library  
93 Market Street  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
(845) 485-3445  
Hrs: M-Th 9am-9pm;  
F-S 9am- 5pm; Su 1pm-5pm

NYSDEC Region 3 Office  
21 South Putt Corners Road  
New Paltz, New York 12561  
Attn: Mr. Michael Knipfing  
(845) 256-3154  
Hours: M-F, 9-4  
By appointment

NYSDEC Central Office  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12304-7014  
Attn. Mr. John B. Miller  
(518) 402-9564  
Hours: M-F, 9-4  
By appointment

The NYSDEC encourages your participation in the project. Your understanding and involvement can help ensure a cleanup program that effectively protects public health and the environment.

### **For More Information**

#### **The Site Investigation and Work Plan:**

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#### **Citizen Participation:**

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