



Ward Products Site

PROJECT UPDATE

Documents relating to this project may be viewed by contacting the project manager at the following address:

**NYSDEC Central Office
625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7013
Attention: Larry Alden
Mon-Fri: 8:30-4:30
Phone: (518) 402-9813**

PUBLIC INFORMATION FACT SHEET November 2003

Ward Products Site Edson Street Industrial Area City of Amsterdam, Montgomery County Site No. 429004

Introduction

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) in cooperation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) would like to update you on the status of the Ward Products inactive hazardous waste disposal site. The site is located at 61 Edson Street in the City of Amsterdam (see map). Currently, the site is under an Order on Consent to develop and implement a remedial investigation and feasibility study. This legal agreement work is currently underway. New Water Realty (the property owner) has elected to perform an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) to proactively eliminate potential human and environmental exposure to the site's most impacted soils and sediments. This work is not related to the nearby proposed C&D landfill project.

Background

Since 1957, the Ward Products site has been used for the manufacture and assembly of automobile antennas. Until 1973, untreated electroplating wastes were allowed to discharge to an open ditch on the property. Between 1973 and 1985, successive process improvements were made and contaminant discharges to the environment were eliminated. The ditch extends from the site approximately 2,800 feet to the Mohawk River. Measurable concentrations of cadmium, chromium, and other metals still remain in the surface soil around portions of the building and in the ditch. The highest metals concentrations are within the property line and in portions of the ditch north of Sam Stratton Road.

The Next Step

The scope of work for the IRM includes:

- Clearing underbrush and small trees from excavation areas, if necessary;
- Excavating contaminated soil and stockpiling it on-site for additional testing;
- Disposing of the soil at an appropriate landfill, based on the testing results;
- Importing clean soil and stone to fill the excavations; and
- Restoring the ground surface to its previous condition.

New Water Realty hopes to implement the IRM this year after construction contracts are negotiated.

Remedial Goals of the IRM

The intent of the IRM is simply to remove the more heavily contaminated soils and sediments associated with the Ward Products site. The project approach is to excavate and remove soils and sediments with high concentrations of heavy metals. The delineation of the proposed excavation is driven by the occurrence of cadmium; all other known contaminants, such as chromium and nickel, fall within the footprint of the cadmium exceedances.

Selected Action

Contaminated on-site soils are located primarily around the northeast corner of the building but extend sporadically uphill approximately 150 feet. Areas in the ditch targeted for removal are located from the old on-site discharge pipe to approximately 75-feet downstream (south) of Edson Street. Additional downstream locations are at the inlets to the east and west culverts under Sam Stratton Road.

Impacted soil is typically 6- to 18-inches deep, but up to 36-inches deep in isolated spots. Excavation will, however, continue vertically until the excavation bottom is shown by sampling and analysis to comply with the established limit.

The total volume of impacted material to be excavated is estimated to be approximately 650 cubic yards (975 tons).

The following specific performance requirements are key to the proposed remedial measure:

- Reduce exposure of on-site workers and visitors to contaminated soil;
- Provide for adequate site drainage in the final restoration;
- Protect existing structures and properties; and
- Protect human health and the environment during all phases of the work.

This remedial measure is not anticipated to produce rapid reductions in existing contaminant concentrations in site groundwater.

Future Activities

After completion of the ongoing field work required under the Order on Consent, New Water Realty's consultants will complete the remedial investigation and feasibility study, and generate reports which will be made available to the public. The NYSDEC will then issue a Proposed Remedial Action Plan, which will outline the NYSDEC's proposed remedy to address remaining contamination at the site and in the groundwater both on- and off-site. After review and public comment, the NYSDEC will issue a Record of Decision document formally detailing the decision process and the specifics of the selected remedy.

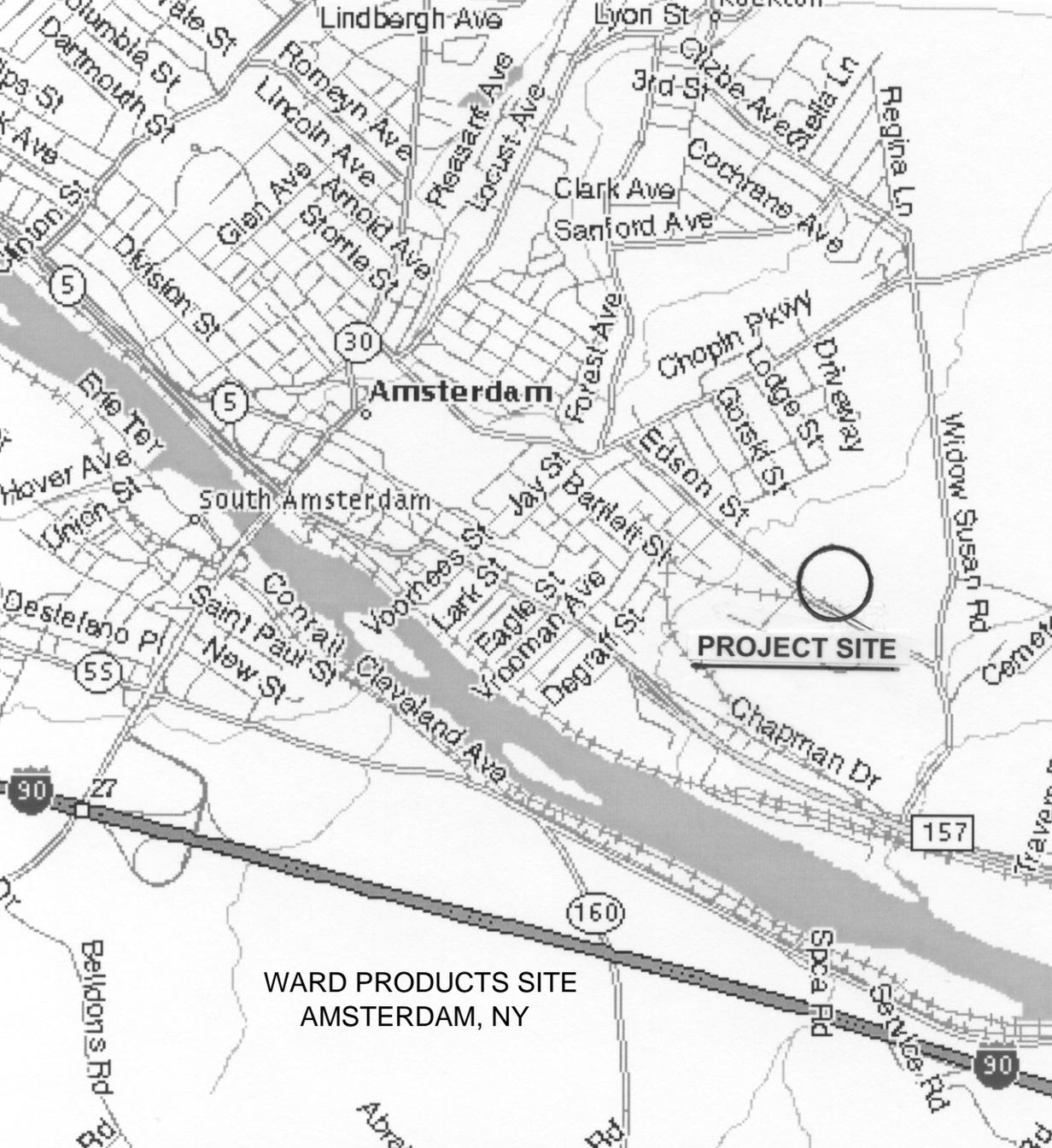
Contacts For Additional Information

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Amsterdam

PROJECT SITE

WARD PRODUCTS SITE
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