



# FACT SHEET

## State Superfund Program

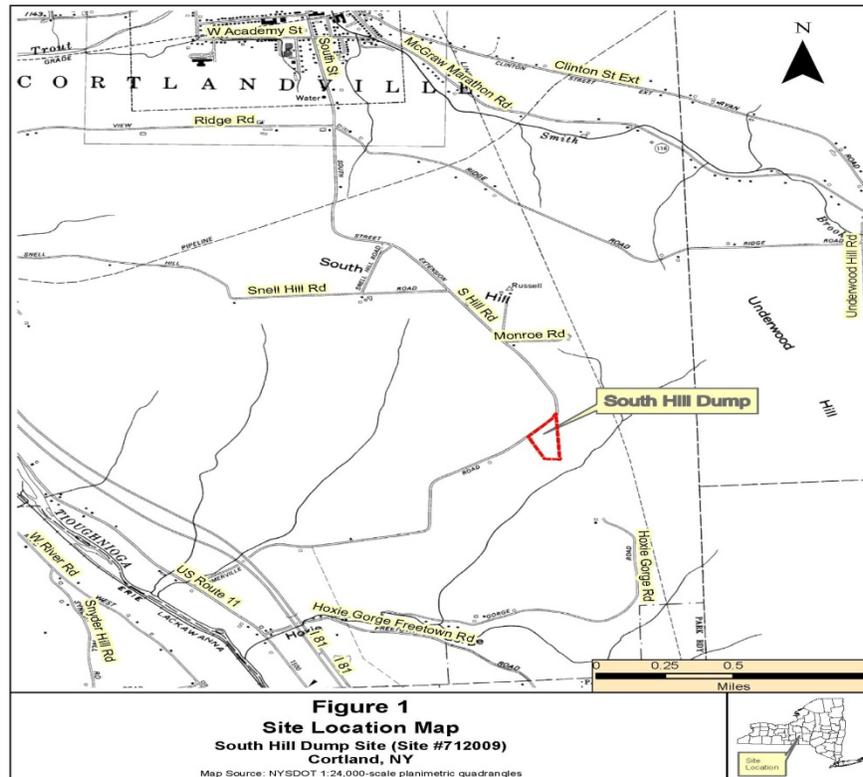
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**South Hill Dump Site**  
**Site Number: 712009**  
**Town of Cortlandville, Cortland County, New York**

**January 2012**

### Update on the Cleanup Action at State Superfund Site

A cleanup action was initiated in the fall of 2011 that is now addressing contamination related to the South Hill Dump site (“site”) located off of South Hill Road, approximately 1.25 miles from Route 81, in the Town of Cortlandville, Cortland County, under the New York State (NYS) Superfund Program. (Refer to the “Site Location Map” below).



The goals of the action for the site are to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment, and to eliminate, to the extent practical, exposure to contamination, and eliminate, to the extent practical, off-site migration of contamination. The cleanup action for the site involves the construction of a soil cover system over existing waste fill areas to prevent exposure of contaminated soils/wastes, and to minimize percolation of stormwater through them. The cleanup activities are being performed by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (“NYSDEC”) representatives funded by the State Superfund Program.

**Progress Highlights of the Cleanup Activities:** On-site cleanup activities began at the site in September 2011. To date, site clearing and grubbing activities, stormwater detention basin construction, and waste removal and consolidation activities have been completed. In addition, the site has been covered in straw to minimize the potential for erosion over the winter.

The construction work is being performed under full-time oversight by MACTEC Engineering and Consulting P.C., the engineering consultant hired by NYSDEC. During cleanup activities, truck traffic to and from the site associated with excavation and off-site disposal activities have been limited to non-residential areas as much as practical. Furthermore, the contractor has been responsible for keeping the transportation route clean of soil and fill materials generated during site cleanup activities.

**Next Steps:** In January 2011, cleanup activities will be temporarily suspended during the remainder of the winter. During the winter months NYSDEC representatives will be conducting regularly scheduled inspections in order to ensure that erosion controls measures are in place and working properly. Construction activities are currently scheduled to resume in early spring 2011, weather dependent. Once resumed, the contractor will complete the following work:

- 1) Construction of the clean soil cover. The soil cover shall consist of placing eighteen (18) inches of clean imported fill and six (6) inches of imported topsoil over the consolidated waste mass. The soil cover system installed will be vegetated, and include runoff control devices to reduce erosion potential.
- 2) Site engineering control measures (i.e., fencing) will be repaired and maintained to restrict access and protect remedial components.

It is anticipated that construction of the remedy will be completed in the fall of 2012. After it completes the cleanup activities, NYSDEC will prepare a Final Engineering Report. The Final Engineering Report will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved.

Long-term site management by the NYSDEC will follow and primarily involve sampling of a select number of groundwater wells to monitor the migration of contaminated groundwater; and imposing an environmental easement to prevent potential exposure to residual on-site soil contamination and groundwater contamination.

**State Superfund Program:** New York's State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

NYSDEC generally attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

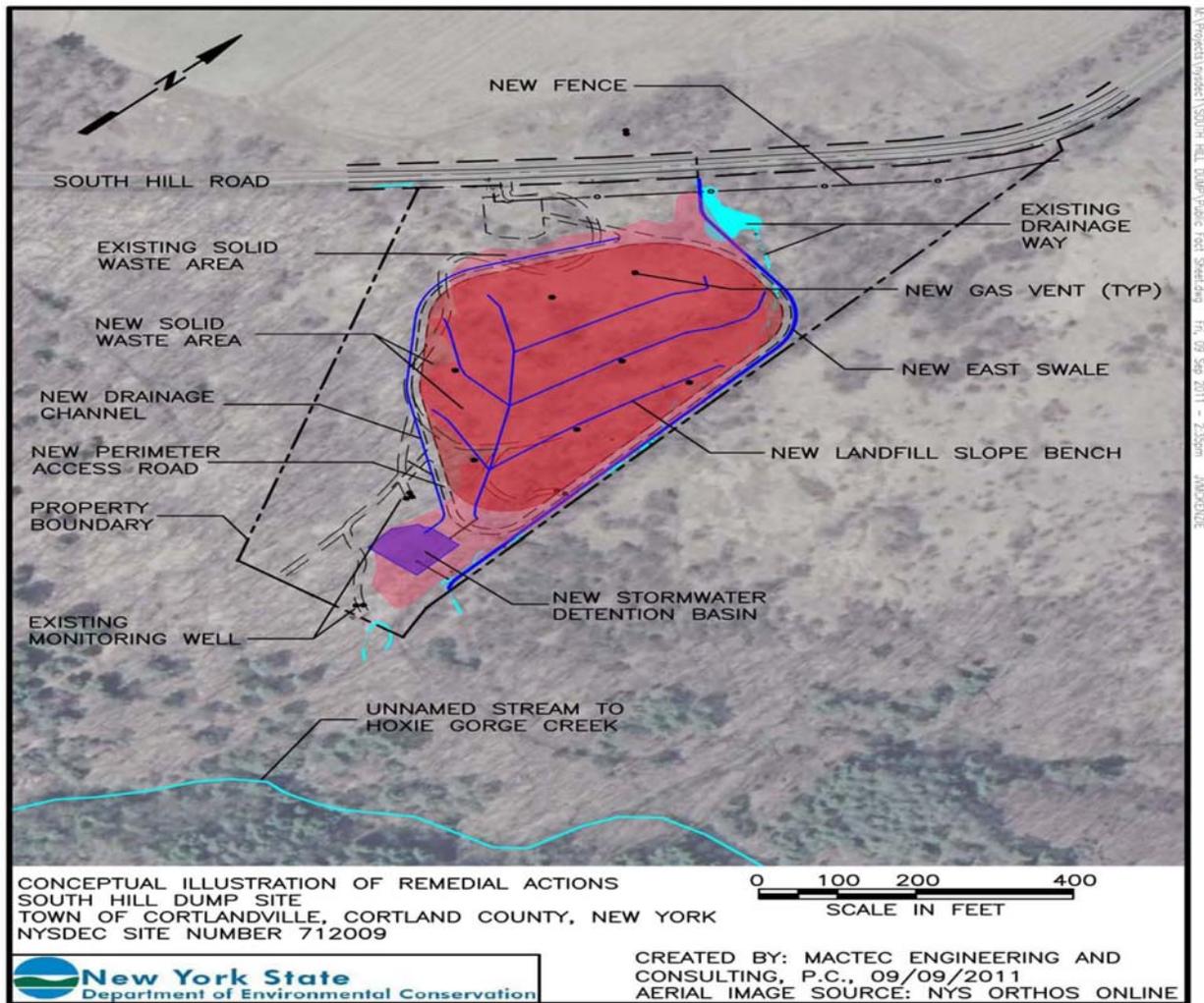
For more information about the SSF, visit:  
[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html)

**Background:** The site was operated as a municipal disposal facility by the Town of Cortlandville from the early 1960's until 1972, although it is reported that local residents used the site for trash disposal as early as 1949. During its years of operation, wastes were received from the Village of McGraw and the Towns of Cortlandville and Solon, as well as local industry.

In 1991, the NYSDEC listed the site as a Class 2 site in the Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites in New York. A Class 2 site is a site where hazardous

waste presents a significant threat to the public health or the environment and action is required. Between 1996 and 2003, the NYSDEC performed a Remedial Investigation (RI) to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the site. Chemical analysis revealed the presence of contamination in subsurface soils, sediment, surface water and groundwater. The primary contaminants of concern at this site are volatile organic compounds. Chemicals that readily evaporate are called "volatile chemicals."

The NYSDEC completed the State-funded investigation and study in 2007 and a final selection of the cleanup action was made and documented in a January 2008 Record of Decision. Remedial design investigations were performed by the NYSDEC from 2008 through 2011. The NYSDEC opened bids on April 19, 2011 for remedial construction. The Environmental Services Group, based out of Tonawanda, New York, was given formal notice to proceed with the cleanup in August 2011.



**For More Information:** Project documents are available at the following locations to help the public stay informed. These documents include the decision document describing the selected remedy for the site, called the "Record of Decision."

Ms. Karen Q. Snyder, R.M.C.  
Town of Cortlandville Clerk's Office  
3577 Terrace Road  
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NYSDEC Region 7 Office  
615 Erie Blvd. West  
Syracuse, NY 13204  
Phone: (315) 426-7403  
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Attn: Harry Warner  
E-Mail: [hdwarner@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:hdwarner@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

**Whom to Contact :** Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project Related Questions

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Site-Related Health Questions

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As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

You may continue also to receive paper copies of site information for a time after you sign up with a county listserv, until the transition to electronic distribution is complete.