

Public Meeting Invitation

Thursday,
March 5, 2009
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Availability Session
2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Ithaca Town Hall
215 North Tioga Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

The New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health (NYSDEC and NYSDOH) will discuss the proposed ROD amendment for the Morse Industrial Corporation Site. At the meeting, representatives from the NYSDEC and NYSDOH will:

- Describe the results of the supplemental site investigation;
- Explain the proposed amendment;
- Answer your questions about the amendment;
- Receive your verbal or written comments about the amendment.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

From: February 19, 2009
To: March 20, 2009

FACT SHEET

February 13, 2009

Morse Industrial Corporation Site
South Aurora Street
Ithaca, NY 14850
Site No. 755010

ROD Amendment Proposed for the Morse Industrial Corporation Site

Public Meeting, Comment Period Announced

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), working cooperatively with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), has proposed an amendment to the December 1994 Record of Decision (ROD) for the Morse Industrial Corporation Site in Ithaca, NY (*see location map on page 4*).

The Proposed Action: Highlights of the proposed amendment include: upgrades to the existing groundwater extraction and treatment system combined with in situ (in place) treatment of groundwater; capping of contaminated soils; sealing/repair of cracks and penetrations in on-site buildings to address soil vapor intrusion; removal of weathered petroleum product from the subsurface in several areas of concern; and completion of an alternatives analysis and selection of remedial actions to address the migration of soil vapor into the surrounding neighborhood. These actions are described in the site's proposed ROD amendment. The amendment was developed following a detailed investigation of the site. The amendment evaluates different options to clean up the site and presents the alternatives preferred by the NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

See pages 2 and 3 of this Fact Sheet for a summary of the proposed amendment, site history, and summary of the supplemental site investigation. The full amendment is available for your review at the locations listed on page 3.

Your Opportunities to Comment on the Proposed Amendment: Release of the proposed amendment begins a process to finalize selection of additional remedial actions for the site. Your comment and input are important and encouraged.

Your oral and written comments about the proposed amendment are welcome at the **public meeting** (see sidebar) and during a **public comment period** which runs until March 20, 2009. Written comments also may be mailed until the end of the comment period to:

Gregg A. Townsend, PE
Regional Hazardous Waste Remediation Engineer
NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
615 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, NY 13204-2400
Phone: (315) 426-7551

What Happens Next: All comments received during the public comment period will be considered as the ROD amendment for the Morse Industrial Corporation Site is finalized. Public input will be factored into the final ROD amendment which will describe the remedial actions selected and why they were chosen. NYSDEC will respond to comments in a Responsiveness Summary included in the final ROD amendment.

Site History

The Morse Industrial Corporation Site occupies 110 acres along the west side of South Aurora Street/Danby Road (Route 96B) in the South Hill section of the Town of Ithaca in Tompkins County. The original building was constructed in 1906 for the manufacture of steel roller chain for the automobile industry. From approximately 1928 to 1983 the property was owned by Borg Warner Corporation, which manufactured automotive components and power transmission equipment. In 1983, the facility was purchased by Emerson Electric Company, and in the late 1980s it became known as Emerson Power Transmission (EPT). EPT currently manufactures industrial roller chain, bearings and clutching for the power transmission industry.

During Borg Warner's ownership, the solvent trichloroethene (TCE) was utilized for cleaning and degreasing metal parts. Used solvents were apparently flushed into the plant's sanitary sewer system and were also discharged to the facility's fire water reservoir.

Site Investigation

Beginning in the late 1980s, numerous investigations were conducted by EPT to characterize the nature and extent of contamination on and around the plant. The primary contaminants of concern identified were chlorinated volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including TCE, perchloroethene (PCE) and their degradation products. The most adverse impacts have been to groundwater and soil vapor.

Interim Remedial Measures

An interim remedial measure (IRM) is conducted at a site when a source of contamination or exposure pathway can be effectively addressed before a ROD (or ROD amendment) is issued. In this instance, the upgrades to the existing groundwater extraction and treatment system were completed in the fall of 2008. In addition, mitigation measures will be implemented in the on-site buildings this winter to address potential human exposures (via inhalation) to volatile organic compounds associated with soil vapor intrusion.

Summary of Proposed ROD Amendment

The proposed ROD amendment identifies the additional remedial actions preferred by the NYSDEC and NYSDOH to remediate the VOC contamination present in soil, groundwater and soil vapor. The proposed actions were chosen following a detailed investigation of the site and an evaluation of alternatives for remediating the contamination. The elements of the proposed ROD amendment include:

- upgrades to the existing groundwater extraction and treatment system combined with in situ treatment of groundwater;
- capping of contaminated soils;
- sealing/repair of cracks and penetrations in on-site buildings to address soil vapor intrusion;
- removal of weathered petroleum product from the subsurface in several areas of concern; and
- completion of an alternatives analysis and selection of remedial actions to address the migration of soil vapor into the surrounding neighborhood.

Implementation of these proposed additional remedial actions is protective of public health

Costs and Funding for the Site Remedy

The total present worth to construct and implement the proposed remedial actions is estimated at \$3.5M, excluding the actions to be selected to address off-site soil vapor migration. EPT and Borg Warner are responsible for these costs.

Health Issues

Health-related concerns include direct contact with contaminated soil or groundwater by construction or utility workers, and inhalation of contaminated vapors by plant personnel or off-site residents or building occupants as a result of soil vapor intrusion into on-site buildings and nearby structures.

Document Locations: *To review the complete ROD amendment and other site information:*

Tompkins County Public Library
101 East Green Street
Ithaca, NY 14850
Phone: (607) 272-4557
Hours: M-Th 10:00 AM - 8:15PM
F-Sa 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Su 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

NYSDEC Region 7
615 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, NY 13204-2400
Phone: (315) 426-7551
Hours: M-F 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8669.html>

<http://www.Ithaca-SHIP.org>

For More Information: *Call or write the following staff for more information about:***Meeting/Comment Period/
Technical Information:**

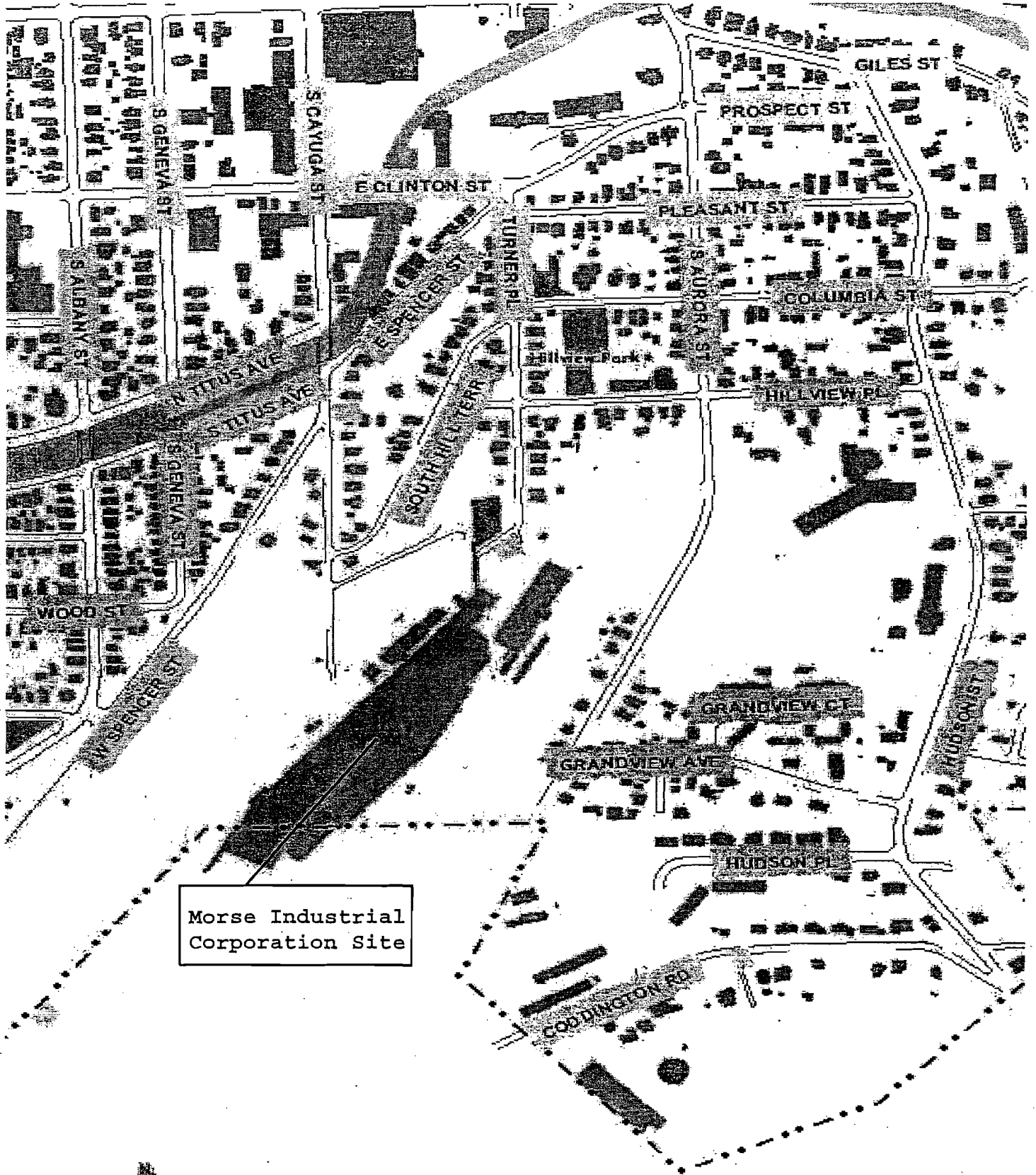
Gregg A. Townsend, PE
Division of Environmental
Remediation
NYSDEC Region 7
615 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, NY 13204-2400
Phone: (315) 426-7551

Health-Related Information:

Susan B. Shearer, PE
NYSDOH
547 River Street, Room 300
Troy, New York 12180-2216
Phone: (518) 402-7860
(800) 458-1158 ext. 27860

Citizen Participation:

Diane Carlton
Division of Public Affairs
NYSDEC Region 7
615 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, NY 13204-2400
Phone: (315) 426-7403



Morse Industrial Corporation Site

