



**ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION**

Dear Interested Citizen:

This Fact Sheet provides an update for the former Rochester Metal Etching site. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact one of the following:

Jeffrey McCullough
Project Manager
NYSDEC

625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7013
(518) 402-9812

Lisa LoMaestro Silvestri
Citizens Participation
Specialist
NYSDEC

Region 8 Office
6274 E. Avon-Lima Rd.
Avon, NY 14414-9519
(585) 226-5326

For site related health questions, please contact the New York State Department of Health's representative:

Cameron O'Connor
NYSDOH

584 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 847-4385

Website:

www.dec.state.ny.us

Fact Sheet

Rochester Metal Etching

Site No. 8-28-100

October 2004

REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION TO BEGIN AT FORMER ROCHESTER METAL ETCHING PROCESSING SITE

INTRODUCTION

The New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and Health (NYSDOH) will begin a detailed environmental study at the building housing the former Rochester Metal Etching (RME) company located at 100 Lake Avenue in the City of Rochester. (see figure 1-1). This work involves conducting a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS). The purpose of the RI/FS is to determine the nature and extent of chemical compounds in groundwater and soil related to the former metal etching and lithograph operations at the site. The field investigation work for the project will begin in October 2004. This informational fact sheet is part of a continuing citizen participation program for the site and provides a summary of remedial activities scheduled for this site.

REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION / FEASIBILITY STUDY

The study to be conducted at the site is called a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study or RI/FS. The RI will determine the nature and extent of the contamination at the site, as well as potential threats to public health and the environment. As part of the investigation, various environmental media (including groundwater, surface water, soil gas vapors and soil) will be sampled and analyzed. The FS will be conducted along with and after completion of the RI. The FS will evaluate possible actions to clean up the site. Based on the RI/FS results, NYSDEC will propose a means for remediating the contamination at the site. Following consideration of public comments on the proposed clean up plan and its alternatives, the NYSDEC will select the remedy and implement it.

The following RI activities are anticipated for the site:

- Indoor Air Sampling - Conduct indoor/subslab and ambient (outdoor) air sampling and analysis to evaluate air quality on and near the site.
- Surface Soil Sampling - Conduct surface soil testing to determine if contaminants are present and if they pose a threat through direct contact.
- Soil Borings - Conduct subsurface soil testing to determine the presence of contaminants and to determine site geologic and geotechnical characteristics
- Groundwater sampling - Conduct sampling and analysis of groundwater taken from existing monitoring wells to confirm the extent and conditions of the contaminant plume emanating from the site.

BACKGROUND

The site is situated in a commercial/light industrial area just northwest of downtown Rochester. The site is located on the side of a hill that slopes downward from Lake Avenue to the east and is mainly covered by a building and pavement. The Genesee River, is approximately 500 feet down gradient to the east. The area is serviced by public water and sewer.

ENVIRONMENTAL BACKGROUND

The former RME manufactured etched and lithographed metal name plates at this location. Ferric chloride was used to etch stainless steel and brass, and hydrofluoric acid and hydrochloric acid solutions were used to etch aluminum. Trichloroethene (TCE), 1,1,1-trichloroethane (TCA), and tetrachloroethene (PCE) were used for degreasing. Nickel plating was also done at the facility approximately 25-30 years ago. A wastewater pretreatment unit was installed in 1976 to treat the spent etching solution before discharging it to the city sewer lines. Prior to 1976, the spent solution went directly to the sewer lines with no pre-treatment. The treatment unit generated brown sludge which was placed in a dumpster prior to off-site disposal. The sludge was dealt with this way until 1990 when a DEC inspector identified the sludge as a listed hazardous waste.

In November of 1989, soil excavation work was done at 10 White Street, an adjacent property to RME. The excavated soil was notably discolored. An investigation revealed that the soil and groundwater at 10 White Street were contaminated with metals and the groundwater was also contaminated with chlorinated solvents. As a temporary measure, an interceptor drain was constructed between RME and 10 White Street which emptied into an outdoor sump. The liquid from the sump was delivered to a tank inside RME for treatment along with RME's usual production waste. RME stopped operating in July of 1996 and all treatment systems were either shut down or removed. In 1998-1999, the DEC conducted an preliminary investigation of the RME facility. The results of the DEC investigation indicated widespread soil contamination by metals on the RME property. The investigation also revealed that the groundwater at the site contained metals and chlorinated solvents at elevated levels above NYS groundwater standards. This NYSDEC placed this site on the Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites as a Class 2 site in 2001. A Class 2 site may present a significant threat to public health or the environment and cleanup action is required.

DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES

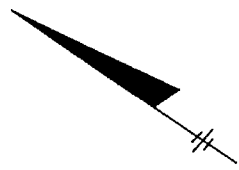
We encourage you to contact the representatives with questions, comments or concerns. If you know someone who would like to be added to the mailing list, have them send in the attached mailer or contact one of the people listed below. You do not have to return the mailer if you received this fact sheet in the mail, your name will automatically remain on the mailing list. Because our mailing list includes property owners, we encourage you and any building owners to share this Fact Sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this Fact Sheet in a prominent area of your building for tenants, employees and visitors to view. Public understanding and involvement are crucial to the success of New York's hazardous waste remedial program. For more information, please contact those listed in the side bar on the previous page. Various site related documents will be available for review at the following locations:

Central Library of Rochester and
Monroe County
Reynolds Information Center
115 South Avenue
Rochester, NY 14604
(585) 428-7300
Hours: Mon - Thurs: 9 AM - 9 PM
Tues - Wed - Fri: 9 AM - 6 PM
Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM
Sun: 1 PM - 5 PM

NYSDEC
Central Office
Division of Environmental
Remediation
625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7013
(518) 402-9812

NYSDEC
Region 8 Office
6274 E Avon-Lima Rd.
Avon, NY 14414
(585) 226-5326
(Contact Lisa LoMaestro Silvestri
for an appointment)

FIGURE 1-1



LEGEND

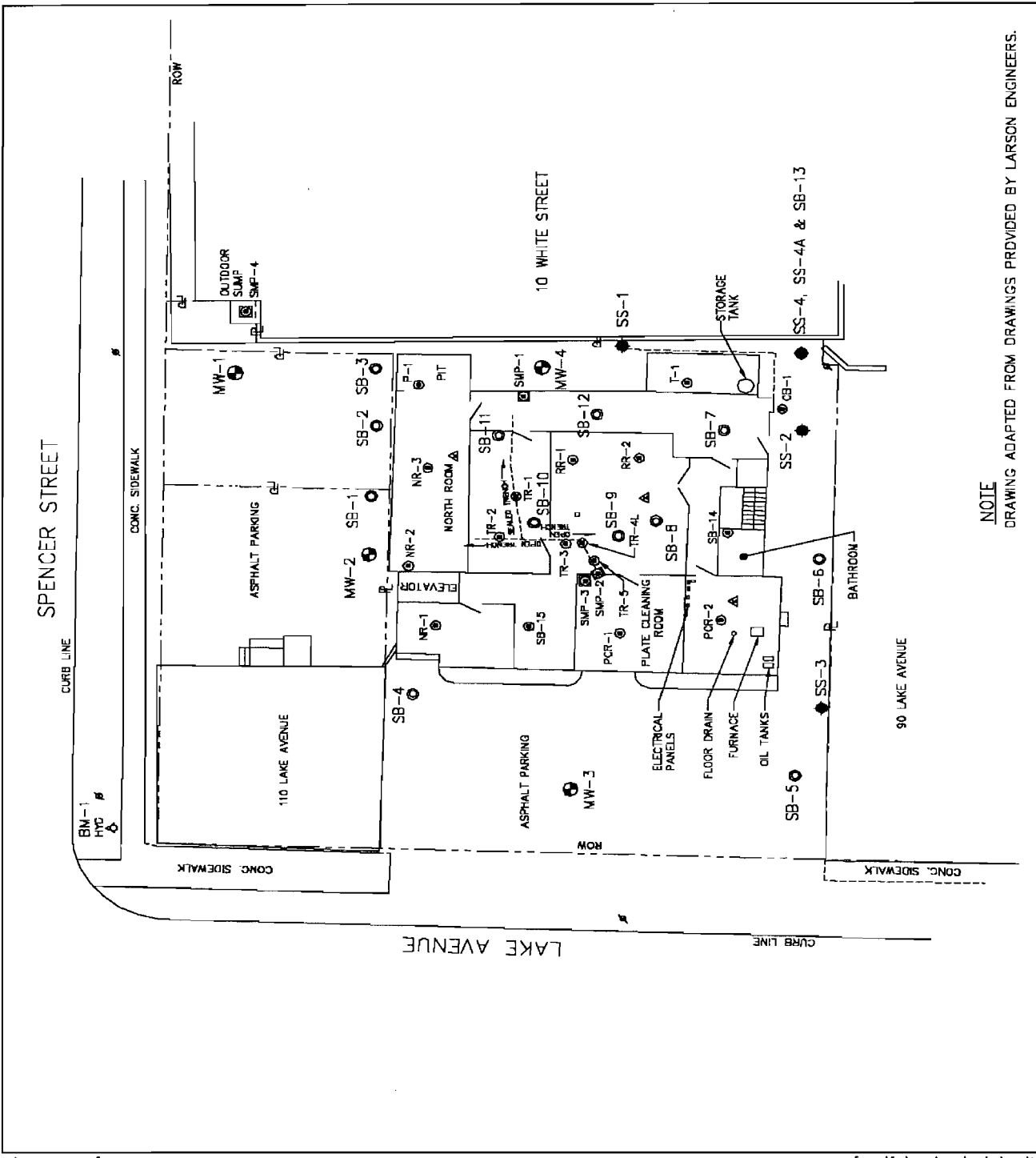
- MONITORING WELL
- ◆ 1998-1999 SOIL SAMPLE
- 1998-1999 SOIL BORING
- ▲ PROPOSED SUBSLAB AND INDOOR AIR SAMPLING LOCATION
- ⚡ UTILITY POLE
- N/F NOW OR FORMERLY
- FLOOR DRAIN PROPOSED
- ⊙ RI SAMPLE LOCATION
- TRENCH
- - - PROPERTY LINE

NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
ALBANY, NEW YORK

**SAMPLE LOCATION
PLAN**



FILE NO. 10653.33909.001
AUGUST 2004



NOTE
DRAWING ADAPTED FROM DRAWINGS PROVIDED BY LARSON ENGINEERS.

NYSDEC Mailer

Please use this mailer for any of the following purposes:

- _____ 1. You would like to be placed on our Rochester Metal Etching mailing list.
- _____ 2. You would like to be taken off our Rochester Metal Etching mailing list.
- _____ 3. You would like to include the name and address of someone you know who may be interested in receiving future fact sheets.
- _____ 4. You would like to provide us with a change of name or address. If you are moving, fact sheets are NOT automatically forwarded unless we are notified by you.
- _____ 5. You would like to provide us with a comment or concern. Please include your address, email address, or phone number if you want us to contact you.
- _____ 6. You would be interested in attending a future public meeting about this site.

FOLD

Please complete the form as indicated below, fold and mail directly to the DEC.

Add the following name(s):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Delete the following name(s):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Make the following changes:

(Old) _____	(New) _____
_____	_____
_____	_____

FOLD

Mr. Jeffrey McCullough
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway - 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233 - 7013