

**NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF**



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION**

**Dear Interested Citizen:**

The purpose of this Fact Sheet is to announce the start of a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study at the Abandoned Chem Sales site. If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact:

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-or-

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# FACT SHEET

## ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION TO BEGIN AT THE ABANDONED CHEM SALES SITE - ROCHESTER, NY Inactive Hazardous Waste Site# 8-28-105 FEBRUARY 2006

### Introduction

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) are issuing this fact sheet to announce the start of an environmental investigation at the Abandoned Chem Sales site, located in the City of Rochester, Monroe County, New York (see map below). As described below, soil and groundwater contamination were identified at the site during previous site investigation activities. Starting in early 2007, the NYSDEC and the NYSDOH will be performing additional investigation work to better understand the extent of contamination and possible human exposures to the contaminants as part of what is called a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS).



### Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

The Remedial Investigation, or RI phase of the upcoming RI/FS will determine the nature and extent of contamination as well as potential threats to public health and the environment. As part of the investigation, various environmental media (including groundwater, soil, air, and soil vapor) will be sampled by an environmental consultant and analyzed by a laboratory. Based on this data collected during the RI, the Feasibility Study or FS, will evaluate possible approaches to cleanup the site. At the conclusion of the RI/FS, the NYSDEC will propose a remedy (or clean up plan) to address site

contamination. Following consideration of public comments on the proposed cleanup plan and its alternatives, the NYSDEC will select a remedy and implement it. Copies of the workplan describing the RI/FS in more detail are located in the Document Repositories listed at the end of this Fact Sheet.

As part of the upcoming RI, the following field activities are expected to occur between February and August of 2007:

1. Shallow Soil Gas Monitoring - Complete a shallow soil gas survey to assist with defining the contamination source area;
2. Direct Push Drilling Program - Complete subsurface soil testing to determine the presence of contaminants and determine the site's geologic and hydrogeologic characteristics;
3. Bedrock Drilling Program - Install additional groundwater monitoring wells to assess groundwater flow conditions and the overall quality of groundwater beneath and near the site;
4. Indoor Air Sampling - Complete indoor, sub-slab, and ambient (outdoor) air sampling and analysis to evaluate indoor air quality at buildings located on and near the site. This is likely to be completed during February - March, 2007;
5. Groundwater Sampling Program - Collection and laboratory analysis of groundwater samples to assess contaminant distribution and migration, and to define the groundwater plume limits; and
6. Underground Sewer Utility Evaluation - To determine what influence the Jay Street sewer line is having on the local groundwater flow direction, the transport of site contaminants, and the overall disposition of contaminants possibly entering the utility trench.

## **Site History and Environmental Background**

The following provides a brief historical overview of the Abandoned Chem Sales Facility and some of the major findings from previous environmental investigations at the site:

- The Abandoned Chem Sales Facility site (ACSF) consists of two properties: 1600 Jay Street and 105 Dodge Street in the City of Rochester;
- During remedial investigation activities conducted at the nearby Lee Road Chemical Sales Facility (approximately 1 mile northeast of the ACSF site), it was determined that the Chemical Sales Corp. operated a similar facility at the 1600 Jay Street and 105 Dodge Street properties;
- A Preliminary Site Assessment (PSA), that included collection and laboratory analysis of surface water, groundwater, sediment, surface soil, and subsurface soil samples, was completed by the NYSDEC in 2001;
- Although the PSA concluded that contamination is present at the ACSF site in all of the materials tested, the highest levels of contaminants were detected in groundwater samples collected from shallow on-site bedrock monitoring wells;
- During the PSA, high levels of cis-1,2-dichloroethene (cis-1,2-DCE), 1,1,1-trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA), 1,1-dichloroethane (1,1-DCA), acetone, toluene, vinyl chloride, and total xylenes were detected in three monitoring wells installed at the 1600 Jay Street property. These compounds are types of degreasing solvents that have commonly been used for industrial purposes;
- The PSA concluded that the main area of contamination appears to be on the 1600 Jay Street property, with lesser amounts of contamination found on the 105 Dodge Street property;
- Based on the PSA results, the ACSF site was listed as a Class 2 site in the New York State Registry for Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites in April of 2002. A Class 2 site could pose a significant threat to the public health or environment, and cleanup action is required; and
- As described above, the NYSDEC will be completing an RI/FS with field activities starting in January 2007.

## Document Repository

Public understanding and involvement are important to the success of New York's hazardous waste remedial program. To keep you informed, NYSDEC distributes fact sheets, similar to this one, and we place site documents for your review in a local repository. Also available in the repository is the Citizen Participation Plan which describes activities to keep you informed and involved during the investigation and cleanup of the site. You are encouraged to give your comments and suggestions. Your understanding and involvement can help ensure a cleanup program that effectively protects public health and the environment. The NYSDEC has established Document Repositories for the Abandoned Chem Sales site at the following locations:

<p>Lyell Branch Rochester Public Library 956 Lyell Avenue Rochester, NY 14606 (585) 428-8218 Hours: M, W, F 1-6, T 12-8, Th 10-8, Sat 10-1 (Contact/reference librarian: Terry Kelly or current branch manager)</p>	<p>By appointment at: NYSDEC Central Office 625 Broadway Albany, N.Y. 12233-7013 (518) 402-9818 -or- (888) 459-8667</p>	<p>By appointment at: NYSDEC Region 8 Office 6274 E Avon-Lima Road Avon, N.Y. 14414 (585) 226-5326 (Contact Lisa LoMaestro Silvestri for an appointment)</p>
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