

NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION

Dear Interested Citizen:

You are invited to participate in an information meeting and a public comment period about a proposal to address contamination at the site.

Public Meeting

January 27, 2003 at 6:00 pm at the
Richard L. Hanson, Jr.
Fire Training Center Classroom

NYSDEC and NYSDOH will:

- describe results of the remedial investigation and feasibility study;
- summarize the proposed remedy;
- answer your questions;
- receive your verbal or written comments about the proposal.

Public Comment Period

From: January 15, 2003
To: March 1, 2003

The following staff may be contacted for more information about:

The Site Cleanup Program:

Mr. Ralph T. Keating
NYSDEC Central Office
625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7016
Phone (518) 402-9775
Hours: Mon. through Fri., 8:30 to 4:45

Health-Related Inquiries:

Mr Greg Rys.
NYSDOH
5665 NYS Route 5
Herkimer, NY 13350
Phone (315) 866-6879
Hours: Mon. through Fri., 8:30 to 4:45

FACT SHEET

January 2003

Richard L. Hanson, Jr.
Fire Training Center
B00138-4
Route 5, Town of Mohawk
NYSDEC, Reg. 4, Montgomery Co.

Remedial Action Proposed for Richard L. Hanson, Jr., Fire Training Center

Public Meeting, Comment Period Announced

Introduction

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in cooperation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), has proposed action to address contamination at the Richard L. Hanson, Jr. Fire Training Center in the Town of Mohawk, New York (*see attached map*).

Hazardous wastes including Volatile Organic Compounds and Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds disposed at the site have contaminated soils and groundwater at the Richard L. Hanson, Jr. Fire Training Center site. These wastes may pose a significant threat to public health or the environment and action is required.

Highlights of the Proposed Action (details on next page)

Major elements include:

- Excavation and off-site disposal of soils contaminated with petroleum and semi-volatile organic compounds in the areas identified to contain such materials north of the Fire Training Center facility;
- Dewatering and treatment of the contaminated groundwater that enters the excavation.
- Imposition of institutional controls including deed restrictions related to the future use of the site.
- Long term groundwater monitoring.

The proposal is described in a "Proposed Remedial Action Plan" (PRAP). The PRAP examines possible ways to address the contamination, and presents the alternative preferred by NYSDEC and NYSDOH. *The PRAP can be reviewed at the document repository(ies) below.*

You're Invited to Comment on the PRAP

Release of the PRAP begins a process to finalize selection of the remedy for the site's contamination. Your verbal and written comments about the PRAP are welcome at a **public meeting** and during a **public comment period** (*see sidebar*). You may send your written comments to:

Mr. Ralph T. Keating
NYSDEC Central Office
625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7016
Phone (518) 402-9775
Hours: Mon. through Fri., 8:30 to 4:45

Document Repositories

NYSDEC Central Office
625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7016
Phone (518) 402-9775
Hours: Mon. through Fri., 8:30 to 4:45

NYSDEC Region 4 Office
1150 Westcott Road
Schenectady, NY 12306-2014
Phone (518) 357-2234
Hours: Mon. through Fri., 8:30 to 4:45

Paul Clayburn
Deputy Commissioner of Public Works
Montgomery County
Dept. of Public Works
Park Street, P. O. Box 1500
Fonda, NY 12068-1500
518-853-3814
Hours: Mon. through Fri., 9:00 to 4:00

Frothingham Free Library
Attn: Reference Desk
28 Main Street
Fonda, NY 12068
Phone (518) 853-3016
Hours:
Mon. 12-7; Tues. 10-7; Wed. 11-7;
Thurs. closed; Fri. 12-7; Sat. 9-1

Proposed Remedial Action

The Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) describes the remedy preferred by NYSDEC and NYSDOH to address hazardous waste contamination at the Richard L. Hanson, Jr. Fire Training Center (**see attached map**). The proposed remedy was chosen following a detailed investigation of the site and study of alternatives to address the contamination. Elements of the preferred action include:

1. A remedial design program would be implemented to provide the details necessary for the construction, operation, maintenance, and monitoring of the remedial program.
2. Excavation of approximately 17,500 tons of soils contaminated above soil clean up levels. For soils below the groundwater table, the saturated soils removed would be dewatered on a liner arranged around a berm-sided collection area adjacent to the excavation. The groundwater would be treated and drained back into the excavation, as long as the treated water was within established standards, criteria and guidance values.
3. These contaminated soils would be characterized and determined whether they are hazardous or not and hazardous waste would be transported to a permitted disposal facility.
4. The site would be restored by grading, placement of topsoil, and seeding of excavated and/or filled areas.
5. An institutional control (deed restriction) would also be imposed in the form of existing use and development restrictions preventing the use of groundwater as a source of potable or process water without necessary water quality treatment as determined by the New York State Department of Health. The property owner would complete and submit to the NYSDEC an annual certification until the NYSDEC notifies the property owner in writing that this certification is no longer needed. This submittal would contain certification that the deed restrictions put in place, pursuant to the Record of Decision, are still in place, have not been altered, and are still effective.
6. Since the remedy results in untreated hazardous substances remaining in the groundwater at the site, a long term groundwater monitoring program would be instituted. Monitoring wells around the site would be sampled semi-annually. This program would allow the effectiveness of the remedy to be monitored and would be a component of the operation, maintenance, and monitoring for the site.

Costs and Funding for the Proposed Remedial Action

The capital cost would be \$997,000 and the annual O&M cost would be \$12,000 per year. The present worth of this alternative is \$1,049,680. This technology would remove approximately 17,500 tons of soils from the site for disposal at a permitted disposal facility. The State would pay for 75% of the funding from the Brownfields Grant and the remainder would be funded by Montgomery County. Legal action may be initiated at a future date by the State to recover State response costs should responsible parties be identified.

What Happens Next

Page 1 describes the upcoming public meeting and public comment period regarding alternatives to remediate the site, and the remedy favored by NYSDEC and NYSDOH. NYSDEC may modify the preferred alternative or select another alternative based on new information or public comments. Comments will be summarized and addressed in the responsiveness summary section of the Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD is NYSDEC's final selection of the remedy for the site. Work will then proceed on the design of the selected action.

Site Investigation

The site investigation included the following activities:

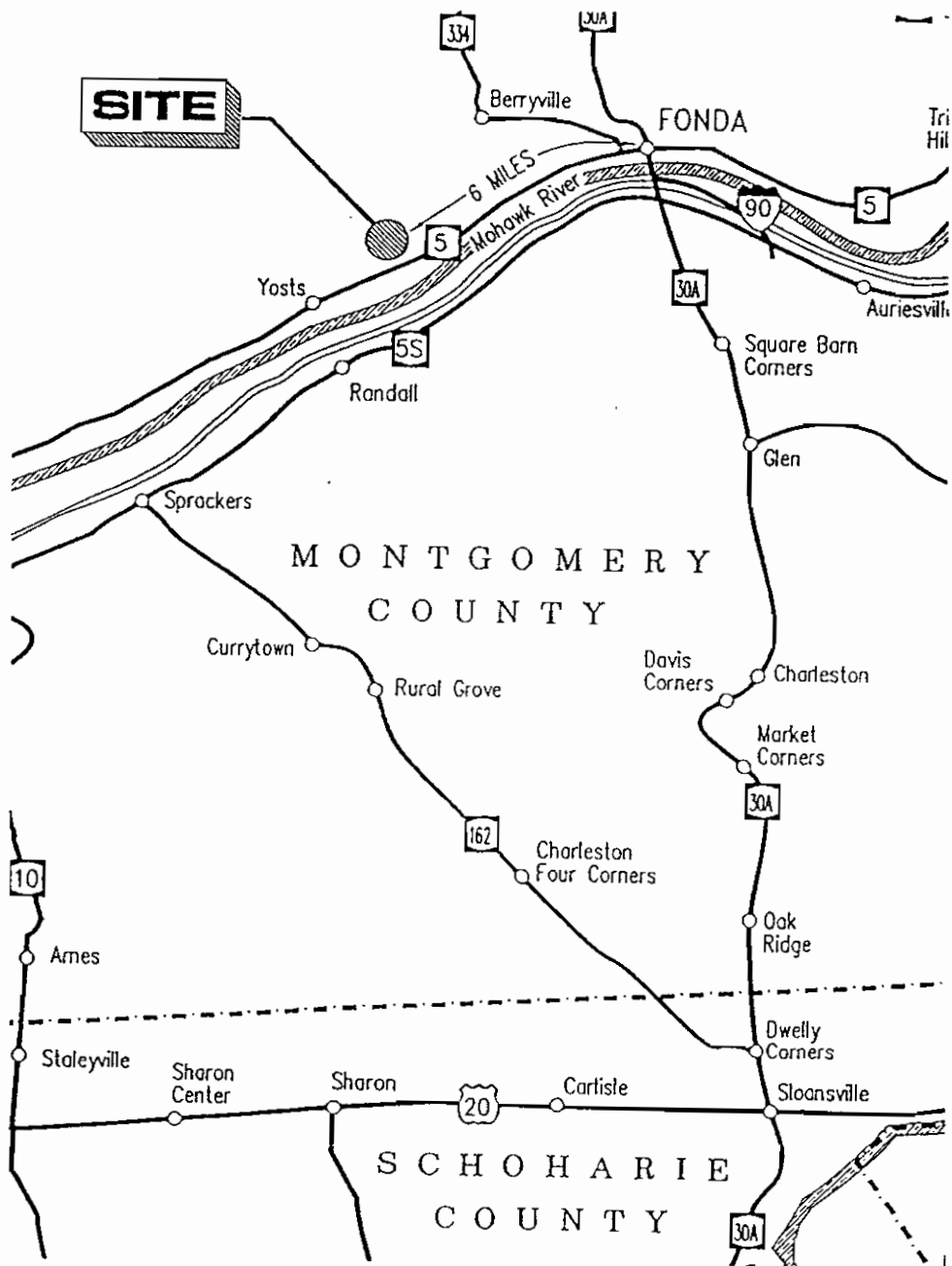
- Geophysical survey to locate possible underground storage tanks and buried drums;
- Installation of soil borings and monitoring wells for analysis of soils and groundwater as well as physical properties of soil and hydrogeologic conditions;
- Monitoring well sampling;
- Surface soil sampling;
- Fish and wildlife impact analysis to determine possible environmental impacts of contaminants;
- Background soil sampling.

Site History

This site was formerly used by New York Central & Hudson Railroad for gravel mining and as a railroad fueling area, and later by Gulf Oil and Peters Oil Co., Inc. as a truck and automotive/truck maintenance garage. Under ownership by the Peters and the lease to the Gulf Oil Corporation, the site was used as a fueling station, truck stop and a diner. Several underground storage tanks were installed during this period. On August 22, 1970, the property was transferred to Montgomery County. The County still maintains ownership of this property. The original use by the County was for highway truck storage and maintenance. The County had the Richard L. Hanson, Jr., Fire Training Center built on this site and the other buildings removed. Today it is still being used as a fire training facility.

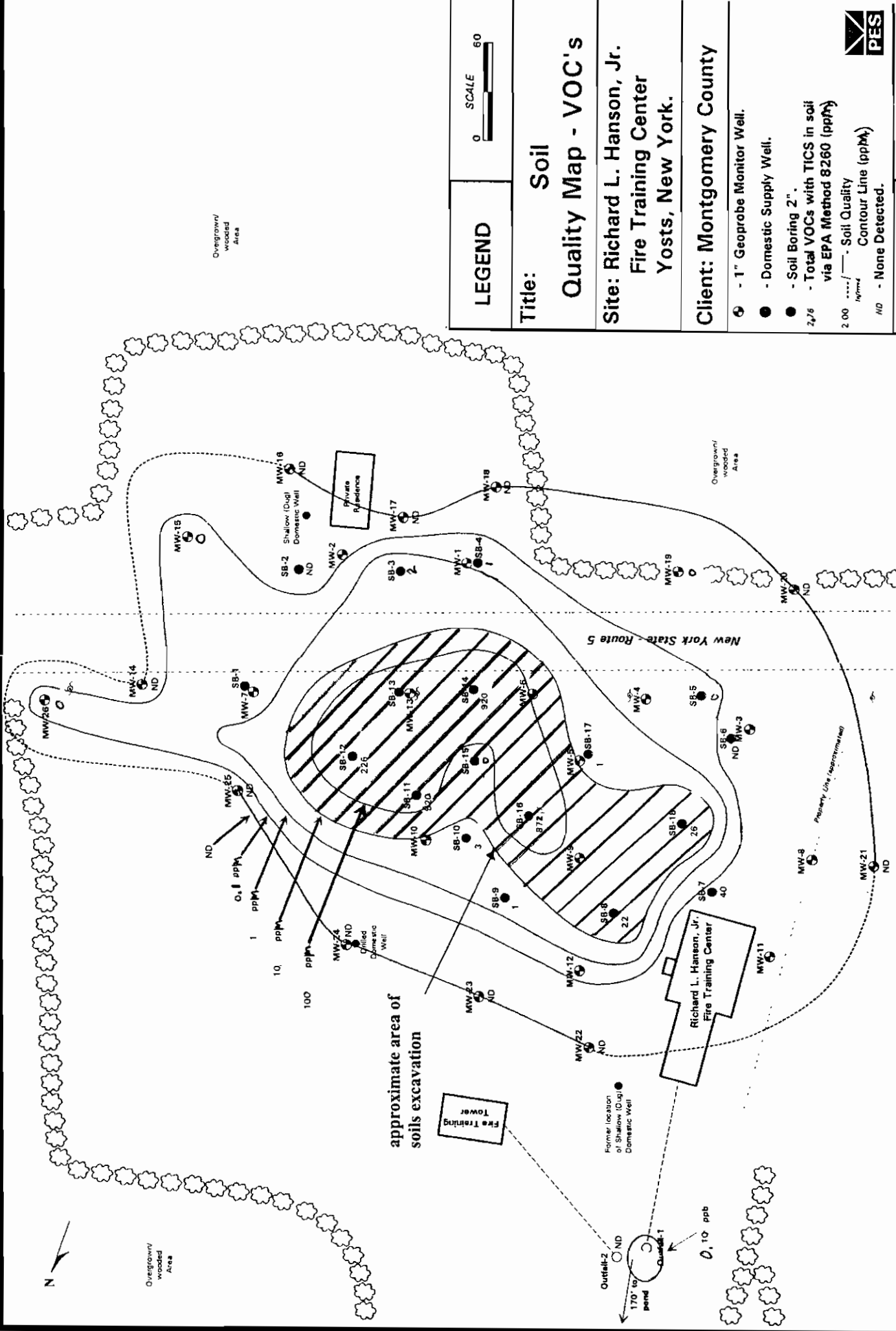
From the known uses of the property, there were at least two known types of spills: petroleum based and solvent based. The solvent spill was determined to be caused while the County owned this property and this area, therefore, could not be included in the Brownfields grant. The acreage for this Brownfields grant is 3.12 acres to address the areas of petroleum contamination caused by previous owners of this site. The cause of the petroleum based contamination was from leaking storage tanks and spillage over the years of operation of the fueling facilities.

These releases resulted in several Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs) being detected during the course of the investigation. The groundwater beneath this site showed the presence of widespread VOC and SVOC contamination. The most prevalent contaminants found were Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, and Xylenes (BTEX). During this investigation, an Underground Storage Tank (UST) for heating oil was discovered that had not been removed from a previous removal operation. This UST and the contents were removed during the site investigation.



Source: Fraser & Associates 10/96 Report.

PRECISION ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.	Date: 7-1998	Project No: MC/HFTA/PES
Site Location Map	Scale: NA	Figure 1A
	Drawn By: NA	



LEGEND



Title: Soil Quality Map - VOC's

Site: Richard L. Hanson, Jr. Fire Training Center
Yosts, New York.

Client: Montgomery County

- - 1" Geoprobe Monitor Well.
- - Domestic Supply Well.
- - Soil Boring 2".
- 2,76 - Total VOCs with TICS in soil via EPA Method 8260 (ppM)
- 2.00 ---/--- - Soil Quality Contour Line (ppM)
- ND - None Detected.

Figure: 4 **Date:** 11/20/01

