



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

# FACT SHEET

## Brownfield Cleanup Program

Vacuum Oil Refinery  
936 Exchange Street/  
22 Flint Street  
Rochester, NY 14608

**SITE No. C828193**  
**NYSDEC REGION 8**

**May 2018**

### Where to Find Information:

*Project documents are available at these location(s) to help the public stay informed.*

**Phillis Wheatley Community Library**  
33 Dr. Samuel McCree Way  
Rochester, NY 14608  
(585) 428-8212

**Plymouth-Exchange (PLEX)  
Neighborhood Assoc.**  
Attn: Dorothy Hall  
Carlson Commons  
70 Coretta Scott Crossing  
Rochester, NY 14608  
(585) 328-6916  
info@PL-EX.org

### Who to Contact:

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

#### **Project-Related Questions**

Frank Sowers- Project Manager  
NYSDEC  
6274 East Avon-Lima Road  
Avon, NY 14414  
585-226-5357  
[frank.sowers@dec.ny.gov](mailto:frank.sowers@dec.ny.gov)

#### **Health-Related Questions**

Sara Bogardus –  
Public Health Specialist  
NYSDOH  
Bureau of Environmental Exposure  
Investigation,  
Corning Tower Room 1787  
Albany, NY 12237  
(518) 402-7860  
[beei@health.ny.gov](mailto:beei@health.ny.gov)

**For more information about New York's  
Brownfield Cleanup Program, visit:**  
[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html)

## Environmental Cleanup to Begin at Brownfield Site

Action is about to begin that will address contamination related to the Vacuum Oil Refinery ("site") located at 936 Exchange Street and 22 Flint Street, Rochester, New York. Please see the map for the site location. The cleanup activities will be performed by Flint Redevelopment LLC ("applicant") with oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). NYSDEC has determined that the Interim Remedial Measure Work Plan (IRMWP) protects public health and the environment and has approved the plan. The approved IRMWP and other documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the locations identified to the left under "Where to Find Information". Remedial activities are expected to begin in May 2018 and be completed over the summer.

**Highlights of the Upcoming Mitigation Activities:** The goal of the mitigative action for the site is to protect public health and the environment. The key component of the upcoming remedial activity is:

- Performing an interim remedial measure (IRM) to install sub-slab ventilation systems in the 936 Exchange Street and 22 Flint Street buildings. The sub-slab ventilation systems will prevent contaminant vapors from entering the buildings.

An IRM is a planned mitigative or remedial action that can be conducted without extensive investigation and evaluation. This IRM is not the final cleanup plan for the site.

Previous environmental investigations performed at the site detected elevated levels of chemicals called trichloroethene (TCE) and tetrachloroethene (PCE) in the soil vapor underneath the 936 Exchange Street and 22 Flint Street buildings. TCE and PCE are volatile organic compounds that are commonly used in industry to remove grease from parts.

Volatile organic compounds in the soil and groundwater may move into the soil vapor (air spaces within the soil), which in turn may move into buildings and affect the indoor air quality. This process, which is similar to the movement of radon gas from the subsurface into the indoor air of buildings, is referred to as soil vapor intrusion.

TCE and PCE were not detected in indoor air at levels above New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) guidance values. However, the

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sub-slab ventilation systems are needed to ensure contaminant vapors will not enter the buildings in the future.

**Next Steps:** After the applicant completes the IRM cleanup activities, they will prepare an Interim Remedial Measure Construction Completion Report that summarizes the results. The applicant will also prepare an interim Site Management Plan that describes how to operate, maintain, and monitor the sub-slab ventilation systems. NYSDEC will review the reports, make any necessary revisions, and, if appropriate, approve the reports.

**Site Description:** The site is located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Flint Street and Exchange Street in the Plymouth-Exchange (PLEX) neighborhood. The 2.9-acre site includes two properties: 22 Flint Street and 936 Exchange Street. The 22 Flint Street property includes a two-story building that contains approximately 25,000 square feet of floor space. The 936 Exchange Street property includes several connected four-story buildings totaling approximately 100,000 square-feet of floor space. The rest of the site is mostly paved.

The site is located wholly within the footprint of the former Vacuum Oil Company refinery which operated from approximately 1866 until 1935.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the Site ID, C828193) at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/EXTAPPS/DEREXTERNAL/INDEX.CFM?PAGEID=3>

**Brownfield Cleanup Program Overview:** New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) encourages the voluntary cleanup of contaminated properties known as "brownfields" so that they can be reused and redeveloped. These uses include recreation, housing, business or other uses. A brownfield site is any real property where a contaminant is present at levels exceeding the soil cleanup objectives or other health-based or environmental standards, criteria or guidance adopted by NYSDEC that are applicable based on the reasonably anticipated use of the property, in accordance with applicable regulations.

For more information about the BCP, visit:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html>

***We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.***

## Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs at:

[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html)

It's quick, it's free, and it will help keep you better informed. As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

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Figure 1 – Site Location

