



## Public Meeting Invitation

Wednesday,  
November 18, 2009  
7:00 pm

Mechanicville Senior Center  
178 North Main St.  
Mechanicville, NY 12118  
(518) 664-5651

The New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health (NYSDEC and NYSDOH) will discuss the proposed remedy for the Mechanicville Light Industrial Park Site. At the meeting, representatives from the NYSDOH and NYSDOH will:

- Describe results of the interim remedial actions and site investigations;
- Explain the proposed remedy;
- Answer your questions about the remedy; and
- Receive your verbal or written comments about the proposal.

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

**From:** October 23, 2009  
**To:** December 6, 2009

# FACT SHEET

October 22, 2009

MECHANICVILLE  
LIGHT INDUSTRIAL  
PARK SITE,  
No. E546050  
Industrial Park Drive  
Mechanicville, NY 12118

## Remedy Proposed for the Mechanicville Light Industrial Park 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 a remedy designed to address contamination identified at the Mechanicville Light Industrial Park Site, an Environmental Restoration Program Project, in Mechanicville, New York (*see location map on page 4*).

**The Proposed Action:** The proposed action includes installing a two-foot thick soil cover over all vegetated areas in the future softball field (restricted residential) area to prevent exposure to contaminated soils and an one-foot thick soil cover over all vegetated areas in the undeveloped portion of the industrial area to prevent exposure to contaminated soils. The proposal includes developing a site management plan and limiting future actions at the site through deed restrictions. The site management plan would include, for example, a requirement that the Department be notified prior to any ground intrusive work on the site. An example of a deed restriction that is proposed is restricting the use groundwater as a source of drinking water. All plans and controls are described in the site's Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP). The PRAP was developed following a detailed investigation of the site. The PRAP evaluates different options to clean up the site and presents the alternative preferred by the NYSDOH and NYSDOH.

*See pages 2 and 3 of this fact sheet for a summary of the PRAP, site background, and summary of the site investigation. The full PRAP is available for your review at the document repositories listed on page 3.*

**Your Opportunities to Comment on the Proposed Remedy:** Release of the PRAP begins a process to finalize selection of the remedy for the site. Your comment and input about the proposed remedy are important and encouraged.

Your oral and written comments about the PRAP are welcome at the **public meeting** (see page 1) and during a **public comment period** which runs until December 6, 2009. Written comments also may be mailed until the end of the comment period to:

Ms. Alicia Thorne, P.E.  
NYSDEC Region 5 Warrensburg Office  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
232 Golf Course Rd, P.O. Box 220  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**What Happens Next:** All comments received during the public comment period will be considered as the remedy for the Mechanicville Light Industrial Park site is finalized. Public input will be factored into the record of decision (ROD) which will describe the remedy selected and why it was chosen. NYSDEC will respond to comments in a responsiveness summary included in the ROD.

## **Site History**

The site is defined as the approximate 25±- acre site is located on Industrial Park Drive in the City of Mechanicville. The site is bisected by Industrial Park Drive. Clement Street borders the site to the south and the surrounding properties are mixed use with limited commercial use, residences, a recreation ball field, and vacant land (former railyard). The site is identified on two tax parcels within both the City of Mechanicville (Section, Block, and Lot #261.-51-1-2) and the Town of Halfmoon Section, Block and Lot#261.-1-3.112). A copy of a portion of the City of Mechanicville and Halfmoon tax maps showing the site and surrounding areas is attached.

A portion of the site is currently occupied by the Mechanicville Department of Public Works (DPW) and includes an office, garage, paved parking area, and Industrial Park Drive. Historically, the site was the southwestern portion of a 200-acre Boston & Maine/Delaware & Hudson railroad yard. The site historically had several structures, including a Round House and turntable, a power house, coal trestle, and railroad tracks. Historical site operations consisted of train engine maintenance, fueling, sanding, and rerouting. Various site structures and operations were removed throughout the railroad's tenure on-site, from circa 1921 to circa 1988.

To date, several environmental investigations, including the installation of test pits and groundwater monitoring wells and analysis of representative soil and groundwater samples have been completed on-site. Site investigations have determined that petroleum compounds are present in the site's soils and groundwater within a contiguous 4- to 5-acre area located on the central and southwest portions of the site.

## **Site Investigation**

The purpose of the remedial investigation (RI) was to define the nature and extent of any contamination resulting from previous activities on the site. The RI was conducted between July 2004 and December 2006. The investigative tasks performed as part of the RI include surface soil sampling and analysis, soil boring and monitoring well installation, subsurface soil sampling and analysis, groundwater sampling and analysis, and the performance of a soil gas survey. As further detailed in the RI reports, the main contaminants of concern detected on site include inorganic compounds (metals), VOCs, and SVOCs subsurface soil contamination and VOC groundwater contamination. The Remedial Investigation reports are available at the document repositories listed on Page 3.

## **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 completion of the remedial investigation. The remedial investigation field work activities performed pursuant to the ERP Remedial Investigation Work Plan detected grossly contaminated subsurface soils and groundwater within a discrete central portion of the site that exhibited evidence of petroleum free product, heavy staining,

and petroleum odors. To address this source of subsurface contamination, in September 2008, a focused soil excavation and dewatering IRM was conducted by the City of Mechanicville. During excavation activities, excavation dewatering and active groundwater treatment via carbon filtration was performed to address petroleum contamination. Approximately 105,200 gallons of contaminated water was evacuated and treated for petroleum contamination from the excavation prior to discharge to the sanitary sewer system. The dimensions of the excavation were approximately 200 ft in length, 70 feet wide, by 6 feet deep. In total, approximately 2,292 tons of contaminated soil was excavated and transported for off-site disposal. The excavation was backfilled with clean, off-site soil. The post-excavation sampling results confirm that a majority of the site's petroleum contamination was addressed through the implementation of the IRM.

## **Summary of the Proposed Remedial Action**

The PRAP identifies the remedy preferred by the NYSDEC and NYSDOH to address the residual surface soil, subsurface soil and groundwater contamination on site. The proposed alternative was chosen following a detailed investigation of the site and evaluation of alternatives for remediating the contamination.

The elements of the proposed remedy include:

- Installation of a two-foot thick soil cover to be constructed over all vegetated areas in the future softball field (restricted residential) area to prevent exposure to contaminated soils;
- Installation of an one-foot thick soil cover to be constructed over all vegetated areas in the undeveloped portion of the future industrial area to prevent exposure to contaminated soils;
- Imposition of an institutional control in the form of an environmental easement that would limit the use of the site to commercial, industrial, or restricted residential use (in accordance with local zoning) and impose groundwater restrictions;
- Development of a site management plan; and
- Periodic certifications that required institutional and engineering controls are in place.

***Document Repositories: To review the complete PRAP and other site information:***

NYSDEC Region 5 Warrensburg Office  
 232 Golf Course Rd, P.O. Box 220  
 Warrensburg, NY 12885  
 Hours: Mon - Fri, 8:30am to 4:45pm  
 (518) 623-1238

City of Mechanicville  
 City Hall  
 36 North Main St.  
 Mechanicville, NY 12118  
 Hours: Mon - Fri, 8am - 4pm  
 (518) 664-7303

Mechanicville Public Library  
 190 North Main Street  
 Mechanicville, NY 12118  
 Hours: Mon, Wed: 11am -8 pm  
 Tues, Thurs, Fri: 11am - 5pm  
 Sun, 9am - 1pm  
 (518) 664-4646

***For More Information: Call or write the following staff for more information about:***

**Meeting/Comment Period/  
 Technical Information:**  
 Ms. Alicia Thorne, P.E.  
 NYSDEC Region 5  
 232 Golf Course Rd, P.O. Box 220  
 Warrensburg, NY 12885  
 Phone: (518) 623-1238

**Health Related Information:**  
 Mr. Nathan Freeman  
 NYSDOH  
 Flanigan Square  
 547 River Street  
 Troy, NY 12180-2216  
 Phone: (518) 402-7880

**Citizen Participation:**  
 Mr. David Winchell  
 NYSDEC Region 5  
 1115 NYS Route 86, P.O. Box 296  
 Ray Brook, NY 12977  
 Phone: (518) 897-1211

PLEASE NOTE: In the event of severe weather conditions on November 18, 2009, the meeting will be rescheduled to December 2, 2009 at the same venue.

