

**NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF**



**ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION**

This Fact Sheet is to inform you about the ongoing investigation and remediation of the Melody Cleaners Site in East Meadow, N.Y. If you have any questions or would like more information, our web site contains the Investigation Report and a list of contacts that can answer questions you may have concerning this site. The website address is:

<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/der/projects>

Mr. Daniel J. Eaton
Project Manager
NYSDEC

625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7015
(518) 402-9620
email:

djeaton@gw.dec.state.ny.us

For Citizen Participation
questions, contact:

Mr. William Fonda
Citizen Participation Specialist
NYSDEC
(631) 444-0249

For site related health
questions, please contact the
following New York State
Department of Health
(NYSDOH) representative:

Mr. Justin Deming
NYSDOH
547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180
1 (800) 458-1158,
Ext. 27870

FACT SHEET

Melody Cleaners Site

Voluntary Clean-up Project
Site No. V00347-1
November 3, 2004

INTRODUCTION

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in cooperation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), would like to inform you that the Lowden Family Trust d/b/a Lowden Properties (the Volunteer) has completed the Interim Remedial Action (IRM), cleaning out the former leaching pools at the Melody Cleaners site which is located at 2050 Hempstead Turnpike, East Meadow, New York. The former NYSDEC project manager, Mr. Joseph White, has accepted a promotion and will be working on sites in the western part of the state. The new NYSDEC project manager is Mr. Daniel J. Eaton. The former NYSDOH project contact, Mr. Ian Ushe, has transferred to a new position. The new NYSDOH project contact is Mr. Justin Deming. The contact information for each is in the box at the left of the fact sheet.

REMOVAL ACTION RESULTS

The April 2004 NYSDEC fact sheet contained two recommended Interim Remedial Measures. One, design and construct a soil vapor extraction system in the vicinity of the dry cleaner building to mitigate the source of the contamination, and two, removal of the contaminated material contained within the laundromat leaching pools. The status of each IRM is:

The first recommended IRM was the design and construction of a Soil Vapor Extraction System (SVE). The design of the SVE system is complete and the construction is underway. Initial start up of the system is on schedule for early November 2004. Once started, it may take several weeks of operation to balance the SVE system for optimum performance.

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The second recommended IRM was to remove the contamination from the laundromat leaching pools. The investigation of Melody Cleaners identified seven old leaching pools in which the levels of tetrachloroethene (PCE) in the soil were as high as 110 parts per million (ppm). The consultant, Impact Environmental, retained by the volunteer has completed a removal action, excavating the soils at the bottom of each of the leaching pools. The levels of PCE which remain in the soil at the bottom of each leaching pool was substantially reduced. In three of the seven, the levels are below the NYSDEC soil clean up objective of 1.4 ppm. In the other four, the levels of PCE in the soil of the leaching pools were: 9.4 ppm, 3.2 ppm, 3.0 ppm and 1.8 ppm. The soil excavation is complete. The remaining PCE will be removed during the next phase of remediation, the soil vapor extraction system IRM.

Site Remedial History

October of 1999:

- * An environmental site assessment indicated soil and groundwater beneath the site was contaminated with tetrachloroethene (PCE), which is utilized in dry cleaning and spot removal processes, as well as its breakdown products trichloroethene (TCE) and cis-1,2-dichloroethene (cis-1,2-DCE).

2000:

- * Additional investigation confirmed that wastes had been discharged to the on-site cesspools prior to the facility's connection to the municipal sewer system.
- * The Volunteer excavated 500 tons of contaminated soil from within three polluted cesspools.

2002:

- * Dry cleaning operations at the property ceased the use of the chemical PCE.

2003:

- * Indoor air treatment systems installed at 3 properties.
- * Indoor air sampling was conducted at McVey Elementary School.
- * Additional investigation of nearby cesspools, downgradient groundwater and soil gas conducted by the Volunteer.
- * A proposal was made for removal of contamination sources at the laundromat cesspools.
- * Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) pilot test conducted.

2004:

- * Completed Supplemental Investigation Report submitted to NYSDEC and NYSDOH and was approved by DEC.
- * Indoor air sampling was conducted at McVey Elementary School by NYSDOH.
- * Excavation of the contaminated soil at the laundromat cesspools was completed achieving a substantial reduction in the contaminant levels at this source.
- * Design and construction of the SVE system. Expected start up in November of 2004.