New York State Department of Environmental Conservation February 2013

FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

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Site Name: RUCO Polymer Corp. (Hooker Chem)
DEC Site #: 130004 Operable Unit 04 *
Address: 125 New South Road
Hicksville, NY 11801

Have questions? See "Who to Contact" Below

Cleanup Action to Begin at State Superfund Site

Action is about to begin that will address the contamination related to the RUCO Polymer Corp. (Hooker Chemical) site ("site") located at 125 New South Road, Hicksville, Nassau County under New York's State Superfund Program. Please see the map for the site location.

The site is listed as a Class "2" site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; action is required.

Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." The cleanup activities will be performed by Bayer MaterialScience LLC (Bayer) with oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities
The goal of the cleanup action for the site is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment. The cleanup action for the site includes:

*Excavation of soils contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and metals (arsenic and cadmium).
*Approximately 10,762 cubic yards of PCB-contaminated soil, 70 cubic yards of PAH-contaminated soil, and 577 cubic yards of metal-contaminated soil will be excavated and disposed off-site.
*Imported clean fill or reusable onsite fill will be used to backfill the excavations.
*A cover system will be required to allow for commercial use of the site. The cover system (soil, concrete, asphalt/concrete pavement, buildings, etc.) will be installed as an active exposure prevention method over remaining areas of soil which are not clean enough for commercial use.*Any future on-site buildings will be required to have an engineered system to prevent the migration of vapors into the building.
*An Environmental Easement will be placed on the property restricting future use to commercial purposes and restricting the use of groundwater from under the property.
*A DEC approved Site Management Plan will include an Excavation Plan which details the provisions for management of future excavations in areas of remaining contamination and also a Monitoring Plan for the cover system.

**Operable Unit:* An administrative term used to identify a portion of a site that can be addressed by a distinct investigation and/or cleanup approach. An operable unit can receive specific investigation, and a particular remedy may be proposed.

Next Steps
After completion of the cleanup activities, Bayer will prepare a Final Engineering Report. The Final Engineering Report will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved.

The DEC will keep the public informed throughout the cleanup of the site.

Background
Location -
The site consists of a 14-acre triangular-shaped parcel located just southeast of the intersection of New South Road and Commerce Place in Nassau County, Town of Oyster Bay, and City of Hicksville, New York.

Site Features -
The manufacturing site originally consisted of several buildings:
* Plant 1 building and adjoining warehouse formerly located in the southern portion of the site (used for production of polyester from 1982 until 2002).
* Plant 2 building formerly located east of the Plant 1 building (used to produce polyester as polyurethane in solvent and polyurethanes in water).
* Plant 3 building formerly located north of the Plant 1 building (used as a warehouse for accumulation of materials generated in connection with manufacturing operations, and included adipic acid silos).
* Pilot Plant formerly located between Plants 1 and 2 (used to produce small volume solid polyurethane and polyesters).
* Administration building located in the northern area of the site (used for offices and non-hazardous storage).
* A large asphalt-paved parking area is located in the western portion of the site, and a series of rainwater runoff sumps/recharge basins are located along the eastern property boundary.
* The Long Island Railroad tracks run just south of the site.
* Sanitary wastewater from the site was formerly conveyed via underground piping to septic tanks and cesspools/leachate pits. The leachate pits were abandoned in-place when piping was installed to convey the sanitary wastewater to the municipal sewer system.
* Access to the site is limited by a chain-link fence and locking gates.

Current Zoning/Use -
The site is currently zoned light-industrial. The land uses permitted under the current zoning regulations for the Town of Oyster Bay include, but are not limited to: helipads, light manufacturing uses, lumber yards, research and development uses, and warehouse, distribution and storage uses. The site is bordered to the north by industrial properties, to the south and west by Long Island Railroad (LIRR) tracks and commercial/industrial properties, and to the east by commercial properties. Southwest of the site and LIRR tracks are some residences.

Historical Uses -
The site was originally constructed in 1945 and was previously owned/operated by Hooker Chemical and Plastic Corporation/Occidental Chemical Corporation (HCPC/OCC) from 1966 to

1982. The site produced polyester resins, polyurethane dispersions, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), latex and ester. From 1951 to 1975, three onsite sumps were used to dispose of wastewaters from PVC, latex and ester manufacturing processes. Wastewaters contained resin solids, vinyl chloride (VC), trichloroethylene (TCE) and vinyl acetate. Styrene and butadiene were also discharged from the latex process. Two sumps received wastewater containing an unknown amount of mixed glycols and alcohols from the ester processes at Plant 1. Between 1946 to 1978, the pilot plant used a heat transfer fluid that contained PCBs. The incidental release of this fluid to the ground resulted in soil contamination. Soils under a former underground fuel oil tank were also contaminated with PCBs.

The site was designated a Superfund site and placed on the National Priorities List (NPL) established under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) in 1984. Various soil and groundwater investigations were implemented in the mid-1980s, including: (1) former discharge of plant wastewater containing volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and heavy metals into onsite recharge basins; and (2) past release of heat transfer fluids containing PCBs. An initial soil vapor assessment was completed in 1989, but the results were not reliable because the lab methods were outdated. The site was purchased by Bayer in 2000, and Bayer decided to close the facility in 2002. Bayer entered into a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Closure Order on Consent with DEC in December 2002.

OU2: PCB Soil Removal -
This OU consists of soil/debris within four areas, including a “direct-spill area” in the vicinity of the Pilot Plant where heat transfer fluid was released, the area surrounding the Pilot Plant where fluid was spread by onsite truck traffic, a sump/recharge basin that received surface water runoff from the vicinity of the Pilot Plant (sump No. 3, also referred to as AOC 30), and former soil stockpile areas east and south of the Pilot Plant. PCBs and organic constituents were the primary contaminants of interest for OU2. A Record of Decision (ROD) for OU2 was signed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) in 1990 (ROD R02-90/121). The ROD required excavation and offsite treatment and disposal of soils with PCBs at concentrations greater than 10 ppm. Remedial activities within OU2 were presumed to be completed in December 2001 by HCPC/OCC. However, later sampling as part of the RCRA Corrective Action Program identified additional PCB impacts that are discussed under OU4.

OU4, Onsite Soils and Soil Vapor -
This OU includes all on-site soils not previously addressed by the Record of Decision (ROD) issued for OU2. OU4 work is being done under the RCRA Program and includes soils contaminated with PCBs, VOCs, PAHs, and metals. Currently, there are no buildings at the site, except for the Administration building. However, development of the site is planned, with construction of new buildings. Therefore, a site-wide soil gas sampling program was completed to determine the potential for soil vapor intrusion at future buildings.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology -
The site is underlain by unconsolidated coastal plain deposits, mainly sands and gravels intermixed with lenses and types of clay, which ultimately overlie bedrock. Hicksville is located on a generally featureless glacial outwash plain of well-sorted and stratified sand and gravel that slopes gently to the south. The closest body of water is South Oyster Bay, about 12 miles south of the site. The general groundwater flow direction in the vicinity of the site is north to south. Locally, the flow direction is influenced by the range in lithology of the Pleistocene deposits and by municipal and industrial pumping centers and recharge basins.

The upper aquifer, or Upper Glacial Aquifer, in the area of the site, is composed of sand, gravel, and till deposited by two advances of ice from most recent ice age. Two formations lie below the glacial formation including the Magothy Formation and the underlying Raritan Formation. The Magothy Formation is composed of sand inter-bedded with silt and clay. The Magothy aquifer is bounded at the top by the Upper Glacial Aquifer and at the bottom by the relatively impermeable Clay Member of the Raritan Formation. The upper part of the Magothy aquifer, consisting of a range glacial outwash sand, gravel, and till, contains water mostly in unconfined conditions. Perched and semi-perched water occurs in many places. The lower part of the Magothy aquifer, consisting of heterogeneous sands and gravels, becomes increasingly confined with depth due to numerous discontinuous lenses of silt and clay in the Magothy Formation.

The Magothy aquifer is the primary source of water for municipal and industrial use in the vicinity of the site. The aquifer is recharged by infiltration of precipitation, industrial discharges, and storm water runoff collected via recharge basins. The clay member of the Raritan Formation confines the Lloyd in most of the area. Bedrock forms the lower boundary of the deep confined aquifer. Based on available information, groundwater at the site is located at depths greater than 50 feet below ground surface (bgs).

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on DEC's website at:
http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=130004

State Superfund Program: New York's State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

DEC attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit: http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

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

HICKSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
169 Jerusalem Ave
Hicksville, NY 11801
phone: 516-931-1417

Project documents are also available on the DEC website at:
http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8431.html

Who to Contact
Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project Related Questions
Steven Scharf
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7015
518-402-9620
sxscharf@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions
Renata Ockerby or Fay Navratil
New York State Department of Health
Emire State Plaza-Corning Tower Room 1787
Albany, NY 12237

BEEI@health.state.ny.us

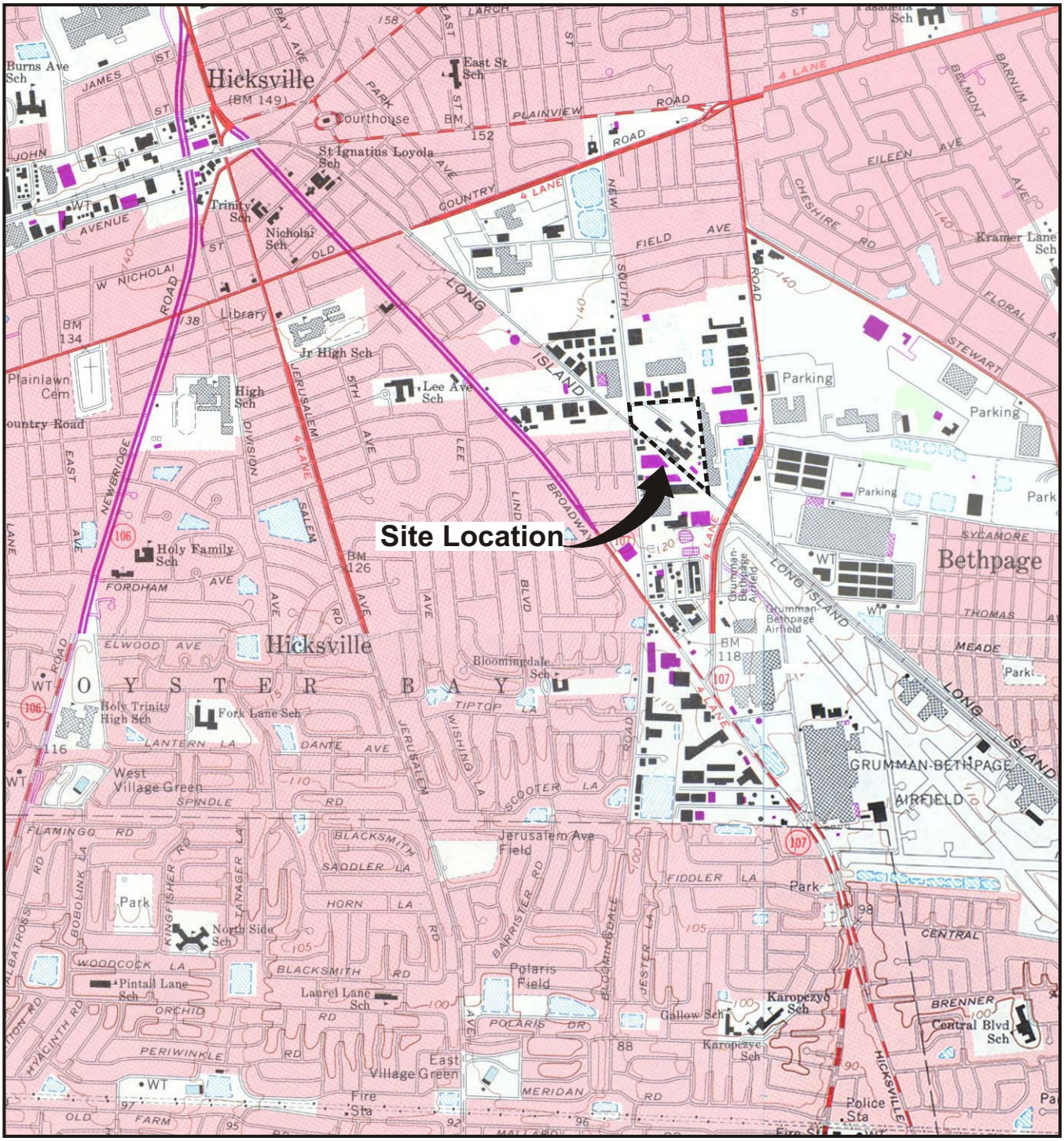
We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.

Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

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

Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.



REFERENCE: BASE MAP USGS 7.5 MIN. QUAD., HICKSVILLE, N.Y. 1967, PHOTOREVISED 1979.

2000' 0 2000'

Approximate Scale: 1" = 2000'

BAYER MATERIALSCIENCE LLC
125 NEW SOUTH ROAD
HICKSVILLE, NEW YORK

SITE LOCATION MAP

ARCADIS

FIGURE
1

01/27/09 SYRACUSE-NY-ENV141-DJH
B0032305/0001/00004/CDR/32305N01.cdr