



# FACT SHEET

## State Superfund Program

**Receive Site Fact Sheets by *Email*.** See "For More Information" to Learn How.

**Site Name:** Bayer OXY Hooker RUCO Polymer Corp.

**DEC Site #:** 130004 Operable Unit 05 (OU5)

**Address:** 125 New South Road  
Hicksville, NY 11801

Have questions?  
See  
"Who to Contact"  
Below

### Remedy Proposed for State Superfund Site; Public Comment Period and Public Meeting Announced

**Public Meeting, January 18, 2017 at 7:00 PM**

**Bethpage Community Center, Grumman Road West, Bethpage, NY**

NYSDEC invites you to a public meeting to discuss the remedy proposed for the site. You are encouraged to provide comments at the meeting, and during the 30-day comment period described in this fact sheet.

The public is invited to comment on a remedy proposed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) related to the former RUCO Polymer site ("site") located at 125 New South Road, Hicksville, Nassau County. Please see the map for the site location.

Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." The estimated cost to implement the OU5 remedy is: \$350,000. Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/x/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=130004>

#### **How to Comment**

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed plan for 30 days, from **January 9, 2017 through February 8, 2017**. The proposed plan is available for review at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area below.

**\*Operable Unit (OU):** 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 where action is required.

#### **Proposed Remedial Action Plan**

The warehouse building immediately to the east of the site, also known as former Grumman Plant 37, will be outfitted with a sub-slab depressurization system, or similar engineered system, to mitigate the potential migration of vapors into the building from soil under the building. The proposed remedy will also include periodic monitoring to confirm that the remedial program remains effective.

### **Summary of the Investigation**

The data have identified contaminants of concern in the soil vapor. A "contaminant of concern" is a substance that is sufficiently present in frequency and concentration in the environment to require evaluation for remedial action. Not all contaminants identified on the property are contaminants of concern. The nature and extent of contamination and environmental media requiring action are summarized in this Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP). The RI Report contains a full discussion of the data. The contaminant(s) of concern identified for this Operable Unit at this site is/are trichloroethylene, tetrachloroethene (PCE) and vinyl chloride.

NYSDEC developed the proposed remedy after reviewing the detailed investigation of the site and evaluating the remedial options in the "feasibility study" submitted under New York's State Superfund Program by the responsible party(ies) Occidental Chemical Corp and Bayer MaterialScience.

### **Next Steps**

NYSDEC will consider public comments as it finalizes the remedy for the site. The selected remedy will be described in a document called a "Record of Decision" that will explain why the remedy was selected and respond to public comments. A detailed design of the selected remedy will then be prepared, and the cleanup will be performed. NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the site.

### **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, Hicksville, New York.

### **Site Features**

The manufacturing site consisted of a number of buildings, now demolished. There is an asphalt-paved parking area located in the western portion of the site and the Long Island Railroad tracks run just south of the site. Access to the Site is limited by a chain-link fence and locking gates.

**Site Geology and Hydrogeology:** The site is underlain by unconsolidated coastal plain deposits, mainly sands and gravels intermixed with clay lenses of varying types over 1,000 feet thick that ultimately overlie bedrock. Hicksville is located on a generally flat glacial outwash plain 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.

### **Current Zoning/Use:**

The site is currently zoned industrial. The Site is bordered to the north by industrial properties; to the south and west by LIRR tracks and commercial/industrial properties; and to the east by commercial properties. Currently, there are no buildings at the site as all previously used onsite buildings have been demolished.

### **Historic Uses:**

The site was originally developed in 1945 and was previously owned/operated by Hooker Chemical and Plastic Corporation/Occidental Chemical Corporation from 1966 to 1982. The facility on the site produced polyester resins, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), latex and ester compounds. 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 (VCM), trichloroethylene (TCE) and vinyl acetate. Two sumps received wastewater containing glycols and alcohols from the ester processes. From 1946 to 1978, the pilot plant used a heat transfer fluid that contained polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The release of this fluid to the ground resulted in soil contamination. Soils under a former underground fuel oil tank were also contaminated with PCBs. In 1982 the site was sold to the employees and operated as Ruco Polymer Corporation. In 1998, Sybron Chemicals, Inc. purchased Ruco Polymer Corporation

The Site was purchased by Bayer Material Science LLC (Bayer) in 2000 and was closed in 2002. As part of the closure process, Bayer entered into a RCRA Closure Order on Consent with NYSDEC in December 2002.

The site was designated a Federal Superfund site and placed on the National Priorities List (NPL) established under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) in 1984. The site is also 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 required. There are 5 operable units for this site.

**Operable Unit 1 (OU1)-USEPA:** A Record of Decision (ROD) for this OU (OU1) was signed by the USEPA in 1993. The remedy called for soils flushing of residual VOCs and downgradient pump and treat of the impacted groundwater. OU1 Remedial actions were completed in 2007.

**Operable Unit 2 (OU2)-USEPA PCB Soil Removal:** The OU2 ROD was signed by the USEPA in 1990. The ROD required excavation and offsite treatment and disposal of soils with PCBs at concentrations greater than 10 ppm. Remedial activities within OU2 were completed in December 2001 to the specifications required by the remedial design.

**Operable Unit 3 (OU3)-USEPA:** The OU3 remedy included the offsite Groundwater remediation and VOC monitoring and treatment. The 2000 OU3 ROD called for biosparging to destroy VCM in the offsite groundwater. The biosparge system and offsite monitoring have been operational for more than five years. Any questions on the USEPA program for this site can be directed to Mr. Michael Negrelli, the USEPA project manager, at (212)637-4278 or by email at [Negrelli.Mike@epa.gov](mailto:Negrelli.Mike@epa.gov).

**Operable Unit 4 (OU4)-NYSDEC-Onsite Soils and Onsite Soil Vapor:** This OU includes all on-site soils not previously addressed by the OU2 EPA ROD. This work started under the RCRA Program and eventually a ROD for OU4 was executed in 2012. The OU4 ROD includes soils contaminated with PCBs, VOC, SVOCs and metals. Onsite soil vapor was addressed by this OU to include sub-slab depressurization systems in any new onsite structures.

**Operable Unit 5 (OU5)-NYSDEC:** OU5 is now the final operable unit for this site. Four Soil Vapor investigation (SVI) phases for on-site soil (OU4) were completed from 2007 to 2009. An initial off-site SVI was completed in May 2011 at the off-site commercial building located just east of the site. PCE was detected in some sub-slab soil vapor samples above NYSDOH guidance values. The complete OU5 soil vapor investigation was completed in April 2016.

**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.

**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**

NYSDEC 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

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

<u>Project Related Questions</u>	<u>Site-Related Health Questions</u>
Steven Scharf Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Environmental Remediation 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233-7015 518-402-9620 <a href="mailto:steven.scharf@dec.ny.gov">steven.scharf@dec.ny.gov</a>	Renata Ockerby New York State Department of Health Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation Empire State Plaza-Corning Tower Room 1787 Albany, NY 12237 518-402-7867 <a href="mailto:renata.ockerby@health.ny.gov">renata.ockerby@health.ny.gov</a>

**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**

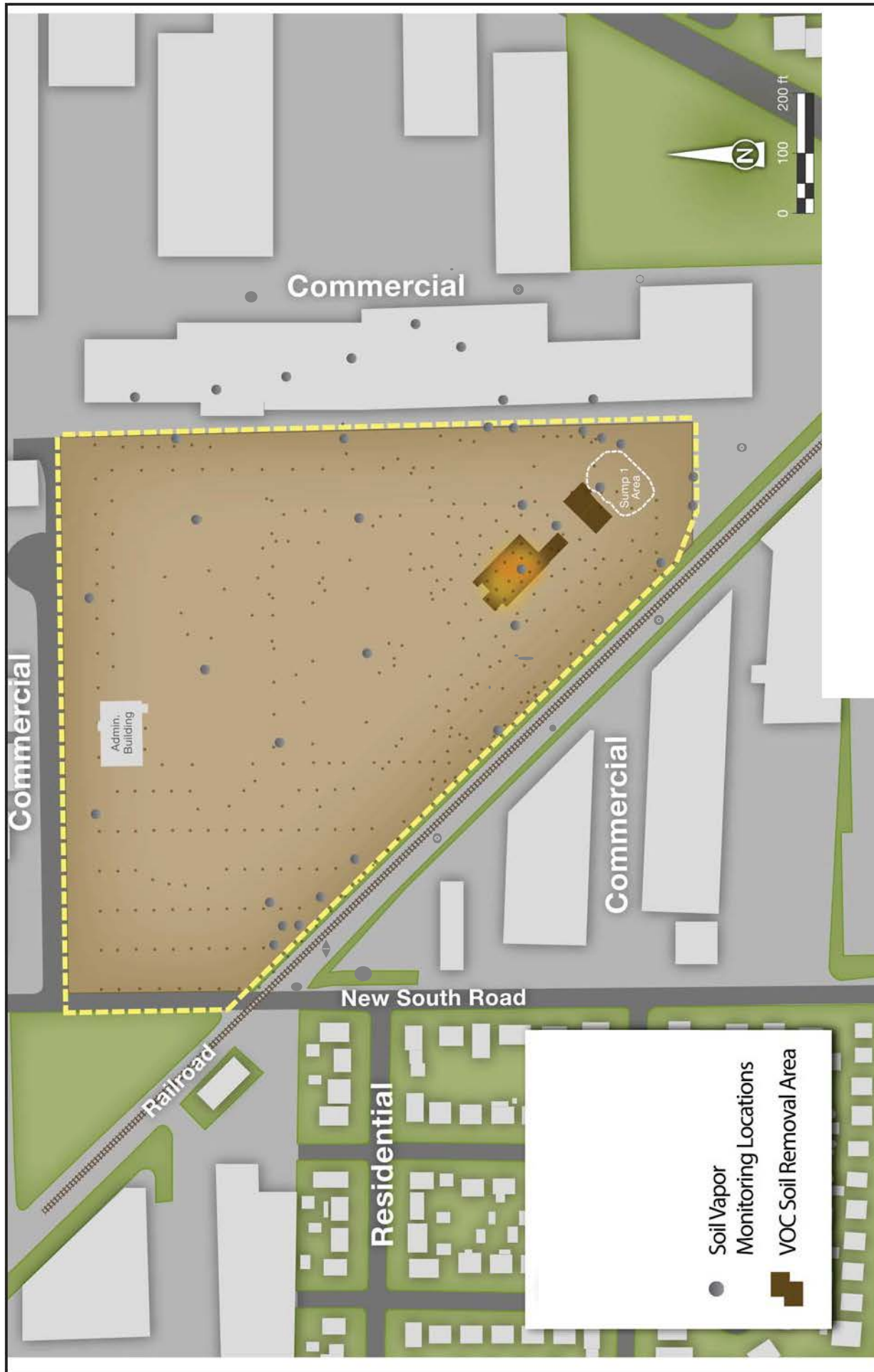
### **Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email**

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 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.



The Bayer OXY Hooker RUCO Site, NYSDEC Site No. 130004

*Ruco Polymer Corporation Site, Hicksville, New York*



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

