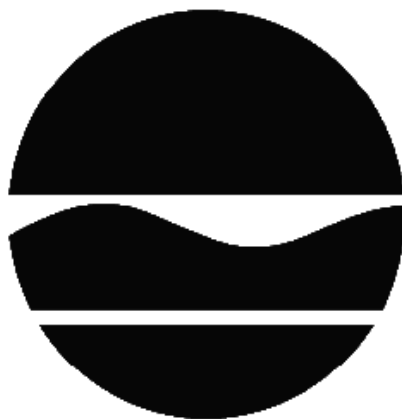


# RECORD OF DECISION

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Plaza Cleaners  
Operable Unit Number 02: Off-Site Groundwater  
Contamination and Soil Vapor Intrusion  
State Superfund Project  
Port Washington, Nassau County  
Site No. 130108  
July 2012



Prepared by  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

# **DECLARATION STATEMENT - RECORD OF DECISION**

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Plaza Cleaners  
Operable Unit Number: 02  
State Superfund Project  
Port Washington, Nassau County  
Site No. 130108  
July 2012

## **Statement of Purpose and Basis**

This document presents the remedy for Operable Unit Number: 02: Off-Site Groundwater Contamination and Soil Vapor Intrusion of the Plaza Cleaners site, a Class 2 inactive hazardous waste disposal site. The remedial program was chosen in accordance with the New York State Environmental Conservation Law and Title 6 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York (6 NYCRR) Part 375, and is not inconsistent with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan of March 8, 1990 (40CFR300), as amended.

This decision is based on the Administrative Record of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (the Department) for Operable Unit Number: 02 of the Plaza Cleaners site and the public's input to the proposed remedy presented by the Department. A listing of the documents included as a part of the Administrative Record is included in Appendix B of the ROD.

## **Description of Selected Remedy**

During the course of the investigation certain actions, known as interim remedial measures (IRMs), were undertaken at the above referenced site. An IRM is conducted at a site when a source of contamination or exposure pathway can be effectively addressed before completion of the remedial investigation (RI) or feasibility study (FS). The IRM(s) undertaken at this site are discussed in Section 6.2.

Based on the implementation of the IRM(s), the findings of the investigation of this site indicate that the site no longer poses a threat to human health or the environment; therefore No Further Action is the selected remedy. The remedy may include continued operation of a remedial system if one was installed during the IRM and the implementation of any prescribed institutional controls/engineering controls (ICs/ECs) that have been identified as being part of the remedy for the site.

The IRM(s) conducted at the site attained the remediation objectives identified for this site in Section 6.5 for the protection of public health and the environment.

## **New York State Department of Health Acceptance**

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) concurs that the remedy for this site is protective of human health.

### **Declaration**

The selected remedy is protective of human health and the environment, complies with State and Federal requirements that are legally applicable or relevant and appropriate to the remedial action to the extent practicable, and is cost effective. This remedy utilizes permanent solutions and alternative treatment or resource recovery technologies, to the maximum extent practicable, and satisfies the preference for remedies that reduce toxicity, mobility, or volume as a principal element.

July 5, 2012

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Date



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Robert W. Schick, P.E., Acting Director  
Division of Environmental Remediation

# **RECORD OF DECISION**

Plaza Cleaners  
Port Washington, Nassau County  
Site No. 130108  
July 2012

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## **SECTION 1: SUMMARY AND PURPOSE**

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (the Department), in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), has selected a remedy for the above referenced site. The disposal of hazardous wastes at the site resulted in threats to public health and the environment that were addressed by actions known as interim remedial measures (IRMs), which were undertaken at the site. An IRM is conducted at a site when a source of contamination or exposure pathway can be effectively addressed before completion of the remedial investigation (RI) or feasibility study (FS). The IRMs undertaken at this site are discussed in Section 6.2.

Based on the implementation of the IRM(s), the findings of the investigation of this site indicate that the site no longer poses a threat to human health or the environment. The IRM(s) conducted at the site attained the remediation objectives identified for this site, which are presented in Section 6.5, for the protection of public health and the environment. No Further Action is the remedy selected by this Record of Decision (ROD). A No Further Action remedy may include site management, which will include continued operation of any remedial system installed during the IRM and the implementation of any prescribed controls that have been identified as being part of the remedy for the site. This ROD identifies the IRM(s) conducted and discusses the basis for No Further Action.

The New York State Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Site Remedial Program (also known as the State Superfund Program) is an enforcement program, the mission of which is to identify and characterize suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites and to investigate and remediate those sites found to pose a significant threat to public health and environment.

The Department has issued this document in accordance with the requirements of New York State Environmental Conservation Law and 6 NYCRR Part 375. This document is a summary of the information that can be found in the site-related reports and documents.

## **SECTION 2: CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

The Department seeks input from the community on all remedies. A public comment period was held, during which the public was encouraged to submit comment on the proposed remedy. All comments on the remedy received during the comment period were considered by the Department in selecting a remedy for the site. Site-related reports and documents were made

available for review by the public at the following document repository:

Port Washington Public Library  
Attn: Ms. Janet West  
1 Library Drive  
Port Washington, NY 11050  
Phone: 516-883-4400

A public meeting was also conducted. At the meeting, the findings of the remedial investigation (RI) and the feasibility study (FS) were presented along with a summary of the proposed remedy. After the presentation, a question-and-answer period was held, during which verbal or written comments were accepted on the proposed remedy.

Comments on the remedy received during the comment period are summarized and addressed in the responsiveness summary section of the ROD.

### **Receive Site Citizen Participation Information By Email**

Please note that the Department's Division of Environmental Remediation (DER) is "going paperless" relative to citizen participation information. The ultimate goal is to distribute citizen participation information about contaminated sites electronically by way of county email listservs. Information will be distributed for all sites that are being investigated and cleaned up in a particular county under the State Superfund Program, Environmental Restoration Program, Brownfield Cleanup Program, Voluntary Cleanup Program, and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Program. We encourage the public to sign up for one or more county listservs at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>

### **SECTION 3: SITE DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY**

**Location:** The Plaza Cleaners site is located in a mixed commercial and residential area at 966 Port Washington Blvd, Port Washington, NY, near the intersection of Main Street and Port Washington Boulevard in Nassau County. Munsey Cleaners (Site No. 130081) is located approximately 200 feet to the northeast.

**Site Features:** The site (OU1) is a one-story concrete building surrounded by parking lot on approximately 0.25 acre lot. The off-site (OU2) groundwater plume is a co-mingled plume from both Former Munsey Cleaners and Plaza Cleaners.

**Current Zoning/Use(s):** The site is zoned commercial (OU1) and OU2 is zoned residential and commercial.

**Historic Use(s):** The Site is an active dry-cleaner that was constructed in 1964. In 1998, a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment indicated recognized environmental conditions associated with an underground storage tank (UST) on-site and the long-term operation of a dry cleaner. Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) was subsequently identified in a floor drain within the building and in sub-slab soils during a Phase II Environmental Audit. In 1998, under the oversight of the Nassau

County Department of Health, approximately 103 tons of contaminated soil was excavated and disposed of off-site at a permitted disposal facility. In 1999, a further 837 tons of contaminated soil was removed and disposed of properly. An Order on Consent was negotiated between NYSDEC and the responsible party in March 2001. A soil and groundwater investigation conducted in 2003 revealed PCE in on-site groundwater and subsurface soil. A Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) was initiated by the responsible party and, in February 2007, a Remedial Action Plan/Feasibility Study (RAP/FS) plan was submitted to NYSDEC; however, in May 2007, the Consent Order was terminated by NYSDEC due to non-responsiveness. In Fall 2007, the site was listed as Class 2 on the Registry for Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Site (i.e., State Superfund) and the completion of the RI/FS was referred to State Superfund. A Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) system was installed at the Plaza Cleaners site by the responsible party without state oversight or approval. The system became operational in May 2012.

**Operable Units:** The site was divided into two Operable Units to facilitate remediation. An operable unit represents a portion of the site remedy that for technical or administrative reasons can be addressed separately to eliminate or mitigate a release, threat of release or exposure pathway resulting from the site contamination.

OU1 consists of the parcel which is the site of the building where dry cleaning operations were conducted. Additional investigations will be conducted to determine the nature and extent of on-site contamination.

OU2 is the area beyond the dry cleaner property where contaminants have migrated from the site. The area consists of the commercial properties and residences extending from the site along the direction of Main Street to the bay. Residual contamination remains in the off-site groundwater, surface water and off-site soil vapor.

**Site Geology and Hydrogeology:** The site is situated at an elevation of approximately 125-feet above mean sea level in the village of Port Washington, Town of North Hempstead in northern Nassau County, Long Island on Manhasset Neck. Manhasset Neck is a 13.4 square mile peninsula that is bounded on the west, north and east by Manhasset Harbor, Long Island Sound and Hempstead Harbor. Regional topography irregularly slopes towards these bodies of water from the higher inland areas, but gently slopes away from the site to the west and more steeply upward from the site to the east. Surface run-off is controlled by gently sloping pavement towards on-site storm drains.

The local potable water supply is the underlying groundwater, which is supplied by the Port Washington Water District. Most active public supply wells extract water from deeper aquifers below silt and clay units. There are no existing drinking water supply wells at the site, nor is groundwater used for any purpose at the site. Public water supply wells exists approximately 3000 feet downgradient of the site, but have not been impacted to date by site-related contamination. Groundwater flow is to the west at a depth of 25 ft below ground surface.

Operable Unit (OU) Number 02 is the subject of this document.

A Record of Decision will be issued for OU 01 in the future.

A site location map is attached as Figure 1.

#### **SECTION 4: LAND USE AND PHYSICAL SETTING**

The Department may consider the current, intended, and reasonably anticipated future land use of the site and its surroundings when evaluating a remedy for soil remediation. For this site, alternatives (or an alternative) that restrict(s) the use of the site to restricted-residential use (which allows for commercial use and industrial use) as described in Part 375-1.8(g) were/was evaluated in addition to an alternative which would allow for unrestricted use of the site.

A comparison of the results of the investigation to the appropriate standards, criteria and guidance values (SCGs) for the identified land use and the unrestricted use SCGs for the site contaminants is included in the Tables for the media being evaluated in Exhibit A.

#### **SECTION 5: ENFORCEMENT STATUS**

Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) are those who may be legally liable for contamination at a site. This may include past or present owners and operators, waste generators, and haulers.

The PRPs for the site, documented to date, include:

Long Island Sound, LLC

The PRP for the site, Long Island Sound, LLC, declined to implement a remedial program when requested by the Department. After the remedy is selected, the PRPs will again be contacted to assume responsibility for the remedial program. If an agreement cannot be reached with the PRPs, the Department will evaluate the site for further action under the State Superfund. The PRPs are subject to legal actions by the state for recovery of all response costs the state has incurred.

#### **SECTION 6: SITE CONTAMINATION**

##### **6.1: Summary of the Remedial Investigation**

A Remedial Investigation (RI) has been conducted. The purpose of the RI was to define the nature and extent of any contamination resulting from previous activities at the site. The field activities and findings of the investigation are described in the RI Report.

The following general activities are conducted during an RI:

- Research of historical information,
- Geophysical survey to determine the lateral extent of wastes,

- Test pits, soil borings, and monitoring well installations,
- Sampling of waste, surface and subsurface soils, groundwater, and soil vapor,
- Sampling of surface water and sediment,
- Ecological and Human Health Exposure Assessments.

The analytical data collected on this site includes data for:

- groundwater
- surface water
- soil vapor
- indoor air

#### **6.1.1: Standards, Criteria, and Guidance (SCGs)**

The remedy must conform to promulgated standards and criteria that are directly applicable or that are relevant and appropriate. The selection of a remedy must also take into consideration guidance, as appropriate. Standards, Criteria and Guidance are hereafter called SCGs.

To determine whether the contaminants identified in various media are present at levels of concern, the data from the RI were compared to media-specific SCGs. The Department has developed SCGs for groundwater, surface water, sediments, and soil. The NYSDOH has developed SCGs for drinking water and soil vapor intrusion. The tables found in Exhibit A list the applicable SCG in the footnotes. For a full listing of all SCGs see: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/61794.html>

#### **6.1.2: RI Results**

The data have identified contaminants of concern. A "contaminant of concern" is a hazardous waste 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 Exhibit A. Additionally, 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:

TETRACHLOROETHYLENE (PCE)

Based on the investigation results, comparison to the SCGs, and the potential public health and environmental exposure routes, certain media and areas of the site required remediation. These media were addressed by the IRM(s) described in Section 6.2. More complete information can be found in the RI Report and the IRM Construction Completion Report.

#### **6.2: 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 issuance of the Record of Decision.

The following IRM(s) has/have been completed at this site based on conditions observed during the RI.

#### IRM - Indoor Air Sampling and Mitigation

More than eight soil vapor intrusion sampling events have been conducted off-site at or in the vicinity of the Munsey and Plaza Cleaners sites since 2002. The investigation area of each successive sampling event was extended so that property owners in all areas above the PCE plume were notified of the opportunity to have indoor air and sub-slab samples collected and analyzed.

Based on the results of the indoor air and sub-slab vapor sampling effort, sub-slab depressurization systems (SSDS) were installed at six locations in Port Washington between 2008 and 2009. One to five sub-slab vapor extraction points were installed in each building. A centrifugal in-line fan was installed to provide sub-slab ventilation. Before leaving each property following installation, the installation contractor explained the system operation to the property owner. Vacuum gauges and labels were installed on each fan system. Occupants were reminded to check these periodically for proper fan operation.

Pressure monitoring points were installed in structures with SSD systems to verify the effectiveness of the systems. A digital micro-manometer, capable of measuring the sub-slab to indoor air differential pressure to 0.001 of an inch of water column, was used as part of each communication test. The sub-slab vacuum was measured at three test points at each location. The measured pressures indicated that the SSD systems were providing adequate sub-slab influence for the structures in which they were installed. Five of the six locations in which a SSD system was installed had an adjoining building or structure next to them. Based on physical communication tests at these five locations, the SSD systems were mitigating vapors from adjoining structures in addition to vapors at the location where the systems were installed.

Indoor air and sub-slab vapor samples were collected by Malcolm Pirnie from 21 additional properties between January 26 and 29, 2010. Based on the data, annual monitoring was recommended at nine of the properties and no further actions were warranted at the remaining 12 properties.

### **6.3: Summary of Environmental Assessment**

This section summarizes the assessment of existing and potential future environmental impacts presented by the site. Environmental impacts may include existing and potential future exposure pathways to fish and wildlife receptors, wetlands, groundwater resources, and surface water.

The Fish and Wildlife Resources Impact Analysis (FWRIA) for OU 02, which is included in the RI report, presents a detailed discussion of the existing and potential impacts from the site to fish and wildlife receptors.

## Nature and Extent of Contamination

The main contaminant of concern is tetrachlorethylene (PCE), which is a compound used in dry cleaning operations. The site is divided into two operable units (OUs). OU1 is for on-site contamination and OU2 focuses on off-site contamination.

The OU1 RI/FS is pending.

### Operable Unit 2 (OU2)

The groundwater originates from OU1 extends from the site into off-site areas. The groundwater plume from the nearby Former Munsey Cleaners site is also extending off-site and co-mingling with the Plaza groundwater plume.

The last groundwater samples collected in October 2010 from several off-site monitoring wells show that the PCE concentration in shallow wells ranged from non-detect (ND) to 240 µmicrograms per liter (ug/L), the intermediate wells from ND to 410 µg/L and the deep wells from ND to 290 µg/L. The highest PCE concentration was detected at shallow monitoring well MC-3 which is located approximately 800 feet northwest of the site and the highest concentration detected in intermediate and deep wells in MC-7 which is located approximately 1500 feet south west of the site.

The dissolved-phase volatile organic compounds (VOC) concentrations of primarily PCE and TCE vary spatially both horizontally and vertically, with a general trend of decreasing concentrations with increasing distance or depth from the site. An underlying, low permeability zone was tentatively identified at well locations across the investigation likely limits deeper downward migration of groundwater contamination.

The results of the RI show that the off-site groundwater contaminant concentrations are higher closer to the site and tends to decrease in concentration in the down-gradient locations. The monitoring wells installed closer to the public supply wells show contaminant concentrations either below the groundwater standard or marginally exceeding the standard. The raw water to the public supply wells were sampled two times during the investigation and the site-related contaminants were non-detect in the water. The review of sample results of the raw water to the public supply wells from 2003 through 2011 from the water district show that the site-related contaminants were never detected. Additionally, concentrations of PCE in groundwater monitoring wells installed during the investigation generally show a decreasing trend over the time that they have been monitored.

Analysis of surface water collected at four locations from Baxter Brook northwest of the site indicates that the surface water quality may be affected by the dissolved-phase VOC plume. Baxter Brook's channel intersects the potentiometric surface of shallow groundwater. This suggests Baxter Brook is receiving groundwater along its course, and that the stream can be a discharge point for VOCs within the upper portion of the water table across the investigation

area. The last sampling of surface water samples obtained in October 2010 detected PCE from 5.1 to 6.7 µg/L.

A fish and wildlife impact analysis was conducted internally by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Bureau of Habitat regarding the potential impacts of site-related contamination in Baxter Brook to fish and wildlife resources. The Bureau of Habitat determined that the levels of the contamination in Baxter Brook do not represent a concern for fish and wildlife resources.

PCE, the primary contaminant present in the sub-slab vapor and indoor air samples, was detected in off-site sub-slab vapor samples at concentrations as high as 61,098 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The PCE concentration in sub-slab vapor was greater than 1,000 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at 14 of the 53 off-site properties where indoor air and/or sub-slab vapor samples were collected. The highest concentrations of PCE were found in sub-slab vapor samples collected from Main Street properties located between Port Washington Boulevard and North Bayles Avenue. This area of Main Street is located west of the site. The concentrations of PCE in indoor air ranged from non-detect to 67 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in a sample collected on Port Washington Boulevard during the March 2008 air sampling event.

#### Post Remediation

Based on the indoor air and sub-slab sampling results from off-site properties, six SSD systems were installed in 2008 and 2009 to address vapor intrusion in ten commercial buildings and nine properties require annual monitoring. No residential homes included in the sampling programs required the installation of SSD systems.

#### **6.4: Summary of Human Exposure Pathways**

This human exposure assessment identifies ways in which people may be exposed to site-related contaminants. Chemicals can enter the body through three major pathways (breathing, touching or swallowing). This is referred to as *exposure*.

Measures are in place to control the potential for coming into contact with residual subsurface soil contamination remaining on the site. People are not drinking the contaminated groundwater because the area is served by a public water supply that has not been affected by this contamination. People may have incidental contact with surface water contaminants found in Baxter Brook. Volatile organic compounds in contaminated groundwater or soil may move into the soil vapor (air spaces within the soil), which in turn may move into overlying buildings and affect 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. Based on environmental sampling, the potential exists for people to inhale site contaminants in indoor air due to soil vapor intrusion at the on-site building. Sub-slab depressurization systems (systems that ventilate/remove the air beneath a building) have been installed in six off-site locations. The potential exists for inhaling site-related contaminants via soil vapor intrusion at additional off-site locations, however, these locations are being currently monitored to determine if additional actions are needed to prevent soil vapor intrusion into these buildings.

## **6.5: Summary of the Remediation Objectives**

The objectives for the remedial program have been established through the remedy selection process stated in 6 NYCRR Part 375. The goal for the remedial program is to restore the site to pre-disposal conditions to the extent feasible. At a minimum, the remedy shall eliminate or mitigate all significant threats to public health and the environment presented by the contamination identified at the site through the proper application of scientific and engineering principles.

The remedial action objectives for this site are:

### **Groundwater**

#### **RAOs for Public Health Protection**

- Prevent ingestion of groundwater with contaminant levels exceeding drinking water standards.
- Prevent contact with, or inhalation of volatiles, from contaminated groundwater.

#### **RAOs for Environmental Protection**

- Restore ground water aquifer to pre-disposal/pre-release conditions, to the extent practicable.
- Prevent the discharge of contaminants to surface water.
- Remove the source of ground or surface water contamination.

### **Surface Water**

#### **RAOs for Public Health Protection**

- Prevent ingestion of water impacted by contaminants.
- Prevent contact or inhalation of contaminants from impacted water bodies.
- Prevent surface water contamination which may result in fish advisories.

#### **RAOs for Environmental Protection**

- Restore surface water to ambient water quality criteria for the contaminant of concern.

### **Soil Vapor**

#### **RAOs for Public Health Protection**

- Mitigate impacts to public health resulting from existing, or the potential for, soil vapor intrusion into buildings at a site.

## **SECTION 7: SUMMARY OF SELECTED REMEDY**

Based on the results of the Remedial Investigation conducted at off-site areas and interim remedial measures completed at off-site areas, the NYSDEC concludes that No Further Action with Monitoring is appropriate for off-site groundwater and surface water and development and implementation of a Site Management Plan (SMP) which includes operation, maintenance and monitoring (OM&M) of the sub slab depressurization systems is appropriate for off-site soil vapor. The main components of the remedy are:

1. A site Management Plan is required, which includes the following:
  - a. an Engineering Control Plan that identifies all use restrictions and engineering controls for the site and details the steps and media-specific requirements necessary to ensure the following institutional and/or engineering controls remain in place and effective:  
Engineering Controls: Monitoring of the groundwater, surface water and the sub-slab depressurization system.  
This plan includes, but may not be limited to:
    - provisions for the management and inspection of the identified engineering controls;
    - maintaining site access controls and Department notification; and
    - the steps necessary for the periodic reviews and certification of the engineering controls.
  - b. a Monitoring Plan to assess the performance and effectiveness of the remedy. The plan includes, but may not be limited to:
    - monitoring of groundwater and surface water to assess the performance and effectiveness of the remedy;
    - a schedule of monitoring and frequency of submittals to the Department; and
  - c. an Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Plan to ensure continued operation, maintenance, monitoring, inspection, and reporting of any mechanical or physical components of the remedy. The plan includes, but is not limited to:
    - compliance monitoring of sub-slab systems to ensure proper O&M as well as providing the data for review;
    - annual monitoring of the nine residential/commercial properties for a period of three years. Based on the data, the State will determine if additional actions are needed to prevent soil vapor intrusion into these buildings or if this monitoring can be discontinued; and
    - maintaining site access controls and Department notification.
2. The sub slab depressurization systems will be operated continuously and will be monitored on a periodic basis.
3. Groundwater will be sampled from select monitoring wells, sentinel wells and the public water supply wells every year for a period of five years. Each year the Department will consult with the Port Washington Water District to review the groundwater data obtained to ensure that the groundwater concentrations continued the current downward trend and do not impact the groundwater water supply. Every five years the data would be reviewed, evaluated and would be included in a report that makes recommendations for future activities and any necessary actions. At any time during this monitoring and data review, if sentinel wells show an increase in groundwater contamination appropriate measures would be implemented to protect the public supply wells prior to the five year review period. The evaluation of five year review will also include whether to continue or discontinue monitoring. The periodic monitoring of the groundwater will continue until the remedial objectives have been achieved, or until the NYSDEC determines that continued monitoring is not needed because the remedial goals were achieved or the concentration of contaminants are asymptotic as referenced in Technical Guidance Document, DER 10, Section 6.6.
4. Surface water samples will be collected periodically for five years and the results will be reviewed and an evaluation will be made whether to continue or discontinue monitoring.

5. Green remediation principals and techniques will be implemented to the extent feasible in the site management of the remedy per DER-31. The major green remediation components are as follows:

- Considering the environmental impacts of treatment technologies and remedy stewardship over the long term;
- Reducing direct and indirect greenhouse gas and other emissions;
- Increasing energy efficiency and minimizing use of non-renewable energy;
- Conserving and efficiently managing resources and materials;
- Reducing waste, increasing recycling and increasing reuse of materials which would otherwise be considered a waste.

## **Exhibit A**

### **Nature and Extent of Contamination**

This section describes the findings of the Remedial Investigation for all environmental media that were evaluated. As described in Section 6.1, samples were collected from various environmental media to characterize the nature and extent of contamination.

For each medium, a table summarizes the findings of the investigation. The tables present the range of contamination found at the site in the media and compares the data with the applicable SCGs for the site. The contaminants are arranged into volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and inorganics (metals and cyanide). For comparison purposes, the SCGs are provided for each medium that allows for unrestricted use. For soil, if applicable, the Restricted Use SCGs identified in Section 6.1.1 are also presented.

The groundwater samples collected during the OU2 investigation were analyzed for VOCs, semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) and inorganics. The SVOCs and inorganics were not detected above the groundwater standard. The primary VOCs present in groundwater throughout the dissolved-phase plume are PCE and its breakdown products such as TCE and cis 1,2 DCE and MTBE. As such, the analytical data from various media (i.e. soil vapor, surface water, and groundwater) are discussed herein with specific evaluation of these VOCs. Although MTBE was detected at several locations, this compound is not attributable to the site

### **Soil Vapor Intrusion Sampling Results**

The evaluation of the potential for soil vapor intrusion resulting from the presence of site related soil or groundwater contamination was evaluated by the sampling of soil vapor, sub-slab soil vapor under structures, and indoor air inside structures. Due to the presence of buildings in the impacted off-site area a full suite of samples were collected to evaluate whether soil vapor intrusion was occurring.

The presence of VOCs in soil vapor in OU-1 of the former Plaza Cleaners and the OU-1 of the former Munsey Cleaners site indicated the potential for soil vapor intrusion in off-site areas. The soil vapor and indoor air at the Munsey Cleaners OU1 were addressed by the installation of the SVE and SSD systems. Since 2006, several soil vapor intrusion sampling events have been conducted at properties located to the west and north of the Munsey and Plaza Cleaners sites.

Indoor air and/or sub-slab vapor samples were collected from approximately 63 properties as shown on Figure 3. Off-site indoor air sampling using "PCE" badges was conducted by the NYSDEC in February 2006 at 16 properties located across from the Munsey Cleaners site. A total of 32 "PCE" badge samples were collected from basements and first floors of the 16 properties. The results of the "PCE" badge analysis ranged from <1.4 to 89 ug/m3 of PCE. Malcolm Pirnie conducted soil vapor intrusion sampling with canisters at a total of 12 properties between March 12 and March 21, 2008 and May 6 and May 7, 2008. EnviroTrac Ltd. collected soil vapor intrusion samples with canisters from 13 properties between February 17 and 20, 2009. Indoor air and sub-slab vapor samples were collected with canisters by Malcolm Pirnie from 21 properties between January 26 and 29, 2010.

Air samples were collected from the following locations: Crawl space air; Sub-slab vapor; Basement air; First floor air; and ambient (outdoor) air.

PCE, the primary VOC present in the sub-slab vapor and indoor air samples, was detected in off-site sub-slab vapor samples at concentrations as high as 61,098  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . The PCE concentration in sub-slab vapor was greater than 1,000  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  was found at 14 of the 46 off-site properties where samples were collected. The highest concentrations of PCE were found in sub-slab vapor samples collected from Main Street properties located between Port Washington Boulevard and North Bayles Avenue. This area of Main Street is located west of the former Munsey and Plaza Cleaners sites. The concentrations of PCE in indoor air ranged from not detected to 67  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  in a sample collected on Port Washington Boulevard during the March 2008 air sampling event.

Based on a comparison of the sub-slab soil vapor concentrations to indoor air concentrations, six SSD systems were installed to address potential for indoor air impacts via soil vapor intrusion. The results also indicated that nine residential/commercial properties will be monitored annually for a period of three years. Based on the results from these sampling events a determination will be made to discontinue sampling or implement remedial measures. The buildings where indoor air and/or sub-slab vapor samples have been collected are shown on Figure 3.

Soil vapor contamination identified during the RI was addressed during the IRM described in Section 6.2.

### **Potential Source Area Investigations**

Previous investigations completed at the Plaza Cleaners site had identified the former Plaza Cleaners as one potential source area for PCE and TCE contamination. An additional PCE plume has likely originated from the former Munsey Cleaners site. Based on the available information, eight other currently operating or former dry cleaning facilities have been identified within the investigation area. These facilities have been addressed by the County DOH through the Federal Underground Injection Control (UIC) program. At a minimum, the dry wells existed at these sites were removed along with contaminated soil identified in the dry wells area. The residual contamination from these facilities could be contributing contamination to the groundwater.

### **Delineation of the VOC Plume**

Previous investigations conducted at the former Munsey site included limited tasks to define the off-site groundwater contamination. Monitoring wells installed during the OU2 RI were extended to the North Shore confining clay unit and approximately 0.75 miles from the likely sources to areas where groundwater either discharges to surface water bodies or is eventually migrating to off-site areas. Although concentrations of PCE were detected in samples from the boundaries of the investigation area, these observed concentrations are relatively low in magnitude (not detected to 81  $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$ ) or are along primary groundwater flow paths that have known surface water bodies or wells, such that delineation can be considered achieved given the context of likely remedial strategies for the dissolved-phase VOC plume. Potentiometric groundwater contours indicate groundwater flow direction is generally toward the north and northwest. Figure 4 shows the locations of the monitoring wells installed and figure 5 shows the results from 2008 and 2010 sampling events.

### **Shallow Zone Groundwater**

The highest concentration of PCE in groundwater collected from the shallow monitoring wells was observed at MC-7A (380  $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$ ) in September 2008. Well MC-7A is downgradient from the former Plaza Cleaners site and cross-gradient from the former Munsey Cleaners location. The concentration of PCE (290  $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$ ) in the groundwater sample collected from MC-7A in May 2010 was less than the September 2008 sample. The October 2010 groundwater sample collected at this location contained a PCE concentration of 150  $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$ , indicating a decreasing trend in PCE concentrations over time at MC-7A. Groundwater collected in September 2008 from a previously installed shallow well (MC-3) contained a PCE concentration of 670  $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$ ; however,

these concentrations decreased in subsequent sampling events. Concentrations of PCE in groundwater were greater than NYS standards at six of the shallow monitoring wells (MC-3, MC-5, MC-7A, PC-7A, MC-8A and MC-11A). Three of these wells (MC-3, PC-7A, and MC-7A) are located within 1,000 feet of both the former Munsey and Plaza Cleaners sites. MC-5 and MC-8A are located within 2,000 feet of both sites, and MC-11A within 3,000 feet.

Concentrations of PCE in shallow groundwater decrease with distance from the former Munsey and Plaza Cleaners sites.

Groundwater collected from shallow-zone monitoring wells also contained concentrations of contaminants including TCE, cis 1,2 DCE and MTBE. The highest concentrations of total VOCs in groundwater collected from the shallow-zone monitoring wells was observed at MC-7A (388.7 µg/L – Sept. 08, 290.66 µg/L – May 10 and 150.53 µg/L – Oct. 10) and PC-7A (245.83 µg/L – May 10, 53.83 µg/L – October 2010). PCE was detected in all of the shallow boundary wells (PC-3, PC-4A, PC-6A, PC-8A, PC-9 and PC-11A). With the exclusion of PCE in PC-8A (6.2 µg/L – October 2010), no PCE concentrations in the shallow boundary wells exceeded NYS standards.

The concentration of PCE in groundwater sampled from the shallow zone wells during 2010 decreased, remained the same concentration, or remained undetected in approximately 80 percent of the shallow zone wells. Only 2 of the 17 shallow zone wells show a slight increase in concentrations of PCE from May to October during 2010. The only two off-site wells that showed increasing concentrations of PCE during 2010 were MC-5 (located on North Maryland Avenue) and PC-8, which is located on South Bayles Avenue.

### **Intermediate Zone**

The highest concentration of PCE in groundwater collected from the intermediate wells installed for this remedial investigation was observed at PC-6B (820 µg/l) in May 2010. PC-6B is located approximately 2,550 and 2,600 feet northwest of the former Munsey and Plaza Cleaners sites respectively. The October 2010 sample collected at this location (240 µg/l) showed a significant decrease in PCE. Elevated concentrations of PCE in groundwater were also observed at artesian well, MC-12B. The September 2008, May 2010, and October 2010 groundwater samples collected from intermediate well MC-12B contained concentrations of PCE greater than NYS standards (420 µg/L, 640 µg/L, and 390 µg/L respectively). Monitoring well MC-12B is located approximately 2,450 and 2,400 feet northwest of the former Munsey and Plaza Cleaners sites, respectively. Groundwater collected from intermediate-zone wells located between these wells and the former cleaners sites have concentrations of PCE ranging from non-detect (MC-10B and PC-11B) to 430 µg/L (PC-5B). Monitoring wells PC-5B and MC-10B are screened within zones of overlapping elevations.

Groundwater collected from intermediate-zone groundwater monitoring wells also contained concentrations of other contaminants including TCE, cis 1,2 DCE and MTBE. Intermediate-zone groundwater monitoring wells PC-6B (491 µg/L – September 2008, 680.1 µg/L – May 2010 and 304.8 µg/L – October 2010) and MC-12B (881 µg/L – May 2010 and 443.3 µg/L – October 2010) contained the highest concentrations of total VOCs in groundwater collected, although concentrations of MTBE did not exceed NYS standards at either location.

Similar to shallow zone wells, concentrations of PCE in groundwater samples collected from intermediate wells during 2010 decreased or remained undetected in approximately 80 percent of the intermediate zone wells. Only 2 of the 17 intermediate zone wells showed a slight increase in PCE concentrations from May 2010 to October 2010, while one of the intermediate wells (MC-7B) showed a moderate increase during this time period. Although the concentration of PCE in PC-12B increased from May to October 2010, the concentration

is still less than the NYS Standard. The concentration of PCE in groundwater sampled from MC-7 however, increased 150 µg/L from the May 2010 sample (260 µg/L) to the October 2010 sample (410 µg/L). MC-7 is located approximately 650 feet west of the former Plaza Cleaners site.

### **Deep Zone**

The highest concentration of PCE detected in monitoring wells screened in the deep zone was observed at MC-7C (870 µg/L – September 2008, 580 µg/L – May 2010 and 290 µg/L – October 2010). This well is also located approximately 800 feet west of the Plaza Cleaners Site. With the exception of monitoring well PC-12C (1.4 µg/L), PCE was present at levels that exceeded NYS standards in all of the deep-zone boundary wells. PC-5C (390 µg/L – May 2010 and 260 µg/L – October 2010) and MC-12C (170 µg/L – September 2008, 170 µg/L – May 2010 and 130 µg/L – October 2010) also had notable concentrations of PCE detected in groundwater samples. PC-5 is located on Delaware Avenue near Port Washington Boulevard, and MC-12 is located on Overlook Drive near Baxter Estates.

Groundwater collected from deep-zone monitoring wells also contained concentrations of contaminants in addition to PCE, including TCE, cis 1,2 DCE and MTBE. The highest concentrations of total VOCs in groundwater collected from deep-zone monitoring wells occurred at PC-5C (462.2 µg/L – May 2010 and 325.7 µg/L – October 2010) and MC-7C (889.5 µg/L – September 2008, 602.1 µg/L – May 2010 and 313.3 µg/L in October 2010).

Concentrations of PCE in groundwater sampled from deep zone wells during 2010 decreased, remained relatively stable, or remained undetected in all of the deep zone wells. The only two wells which showed slight increases in concentrations of PCE in groundwater collected from the deep zone were MC-8 and MC-9. The concentration of PCE in the groundwater samples collected from MC-8 increased from 17 µg/L (May 2010) to 20 µg/L (October 2010). The concentration of PCE in the groundwater samples collected from MC-9 increased from 30 µg/L (May 2010) to 40 µg/L (October 2010). Seasonal fluctuations of concentrations within these ranges are common.

### **Public Water Supply**

As part of this remedial investigation, groundwater samples were collected from the Port Washington Water District (PWWD) supply wells in the Sandy Hollow Well Field. No PCE was detected in the groundwater samples collected from the Sandy Hollow Well Field. In addition to these samples, the PWWD routinely samples water within its district. PCE was non-detect in the PWWD data obtained from 2003 through 2011.

### **Off-site Groundwater Contamination and its Impacts**

Groundwater in the vicinity of the Munsey and Plaza Cleaners sites generally flows northwest toward Baxter Estates and the Sandy Hollow municipal well field. The water table is influenced by shallow groundwater discharge to Baxter Brook, which flows generally from east to west across the study area. The dissolved-phase VOC plume consists primarily of PCE, TCE, and cis-1,2 DCE. Degradation products of PCE include TCE, cis-1,2 DCE, and vinyl chloride (VC). TCE and cis-1,2 DCE were detected at relatively lower concentrations in groundwater and VC was not detected, indicating that little natural attenuation of PCE is occurring within the aquifer.

The VOC concentrations vary spatially both horizontally and vertically, with a general trend of decreasing concentrations with increasing distance or depth from the former Munsey and Plaza Cleaners sites. One likely factor on the vertical variability in VOC concentrations is the presence of discontinuous silt and clay zones

throughout the upper glacial aquifer. VOCs were detected in intermediate- and deep-zone groundwater in the northwestern section of Baxter Estates. This indicates that the VOCs within the plume have not only migrated laterally from the Munsey and Plaza Cleaners sites, but also migrated vertically downwards. An underlying, low permeability zone was tentatively identified at well locations across the investigation area at depths ranging from 90 to 120 feet bgs and slopes upward to the northwest. This unit likely limits deeper downward migration of groundwater contamination.

The results of the RI shows that the off-site groundwater contaminant concentration is higher closer to the Munsey and Plaza cleaners sites and tends to drop down in the down-gradient locations but it picks up in the locations between the site and the public supply well. This could be attributed to the following:

1. existing geological condition in the vicinity of these sites,
2. removal of source area at Munsey site and continued operation of the Munsey Cleaners soil vapor extraction system and sub-slab depressurization systems and,
3. partial removal of the source area at the Plaza site

The wells installed closer to the supply well shows contaminant concentration either below the standard or marginally exceeding the standard. Additionally, concentrations of PCE in groundwater monitoring wells generally show a decreasing trend over time. The last groundwater samples collected in October 2010 from several off-site monitoring wells show that the PCE concentration in shallow wells ranged from non-detect (ND) to 240 µg/L, the intermediate wells from ND to 410 µg/L and the deep wells from ND to 290 µg/L. The municipal supply wells have not been impacted by the site-related contaminants. The raw water to the supply wells were sampled two times during the investigation and the site-related contaminants were non-detect in the water. The review of sample results of raw water from 2003 through 2011 from the water district show that the site-related contaminants were never detected.

Table 1 - Groundwater

Detected Constituents	Concentration Range Detected (ppb) <sup>a</sup>	SCG <sup>b</sup> (ppb)	Frequency Exceeding SCG
<b>VOCs</b>			
Tetrachloroethene (PCE)	ND - 870	5	59/121
Cis-1,2 Dichloroethene	ND - 49	5	22/121
Trichloroethene	ND - 47	5	23/121
1,2 - Dichloroethane	ND - 3.6	5	1/121

a - ppb: parts per billion, which is equivalent to micrograms per liter, µg/L, in water.

b- SCG: Standard Criteria or Guidance - Ambient Water Quality Standards and Guidance Values (TOGs 1.1.1), 6 NYCRR Part 703, Surface water and Groundwater Quality Standards, and Part 5 of the New York State Sanitary Code (10 NYCRR Part 5).

Based on the findings of the RI, the past disposal of hazardous waste at the site has resulted in the contamination of groundwater. The site contaminants that are considered to be the primary contaminants of concern which will drive the remediation of groundwater to be addressed by the remedy selection process are: PCE and its breakdown products.

## Surface Water

Concentrations of PCE in Baxter Brook were evaluated by surface water sampling at four locations (Figure 4) along its course. All surface water samples contained PCE concentrations that exceeded the NYS Class C surface water standard. The highest concentration of PCE in the surface water samples was observed in the most

upgradient surface water sampling location, MC-SFC-1 (15 µg/L). At this sampling location, the stream is discharged from a storm sewer outfall. Although the stream's origin is upgradient of this location, there is no access further upgradient to collect a sample. The concentration of PCE in surface water collected at MC-SFC-2 (12 µg/L) was slightly less than at MC-SFC-1. Surface water concentration of PCE at MC-SFC-3 (2.8 µg/L) was similar to surface water concentrations at MC-SFC-4 (3 µg/L). Two additional surface water sampling locations were added during the October 2010 sampling event (PC-SFC-1 and PC-SFC-2). PCE was detected in both PC-SFC-01 (5.1 µg/L) and PC-SFC-02 (0.82 µg/L), although only PC-SFC-01 exceeded NYS Standards. In general, the concentrations of PCE in surface water samples decrease in a downgradient direction. This decreasing trend may be a factor of dilution. Figure 4 show the location of the surface water samples obtained.

Table 2 - Surface Water

Detected Constituents	Concentration Range Detected (ppb) <sup>a</sup>	SCG <sup>b</sup> (ppb)	Frequency Exceeding SCG
<b>VOCs</b>			
Tetrachloroethene (PCE)	0.82 – 15.0	1	16/17
Cis-1,2 Dichloroethene	ND – 3.7	NS	NA
Trichloroethene	ND – 1.4	40	0/17

a - ppb: parts per billion, which is equivalent to micrograms per liter, ug/L, in water.

b-SCG: Ambient Water Quality Standards and Guidance Values (TOGs 1.1.1) and 6 NYCRR Part 703: Surface Water and Groundwater Quality Standards.

NS - No Standard; NA - Not Applicable

Based on the findings of the Remedial Investigation, the disposal of hazardous waste at the site has resulted in the contamination of surface water. The site contaminant that is considered to be the primary contaminant of concern which will drive the remediation of surface water to be addressed by the remedy selection process is PCE.

Exhibit B

Description of Remedial Alternatives

The following alternatives were considered based on the remedial action objectives (see Section 6.5) to address the contaminated media identified at the site as described in Exhibit A.

1. No Further Action with Monitoring

A no further action with monitoring alternative would involve no active remediation in the former Plaza and Munsey OU-2 area, but would monitor the effectiveness of active remediation systems, which are currently operating at the former Munsey Cleaners site (OU1). To address the indoor air contamination at off-site properties several SSD systems were installed as IRMs. This alternative would also include the maintenance of the SSD systems installed as IRMs and continued monitoring of nine residential/commercial properties. If this alternative is selected for implementation, the dissolved-phase CVOC plume would be addressed with natural processes such as dilution, dispersion and natural attenuation.

This alternative would rely on a long-term monitoring program to ensure plume stability and the natural reduction of the CVOC contamination over time. Groundwater samples would be collected annually for 30 years (unless altered based on five-year reviews) from select wells within the plume, two sentinel wells and the public supply wells to assess if groundwater containing site-related compounds is migrating to the public supply wells. The groundwater data obtained from every sampling event would be reviewed. Every five year the data would be reviewed, evaluated and would be included in a report. At any time during this monitoring and data review, if any sentinel well show increase in groundwater contamination appropriate measures would be implemented to protect the public supply wells.

Present Worth:	\$538,000
Capital Cost:	\$37,000
Annual Costs:	\$23,000

2. Targeted In-situ Chemical Oxidation (ISCO)

An oxidant such as sodium permanganate or sodium persulfate would be injected into the subsurface within a localized treatment zone. Groundwater monitoring upgradient, downgradient, and within the treatment area would be required to evaluate the effectiveness of the ISCO injections at reducing contaminant concentrations. ISCO injections would treat the plume as the affected groundwater flows through the treatment area. However, areas of the plume downgradient of the treatment area would continue to migrate toward the Sandy Hollow well field.

Since ISCO relies on direct contact between the oxidant solution and the contaminant, the success of the ISCO treatment would be highly dependent on the ability to effectively distribute the oxidant through the treatment area. If such distribution can be achieved, it is anticipated that the ISCO treatment is capable of meeting the RAOs for targeted areas within the Munsey and Plaza Cleaners investigation area. Multiple injections are required to sustain the oxidants in the subsurface, commonly 3 to 6 months apart. An ISCO pilot study would be conducted to evaluate the implementability, effectiveness, and feasibility of this technology at the Munsey and Plaza Cleaners investigation area.

Development and implementation of Site Management and Soil Vapor Intrusion Action Plans as well as potential institutional controls would be included in this alternative. The Site Management Plan could mandate the operation and maintenance of engineered mitigation systems. Performance monitoring would be implemented to evaluate treatment effectiveness would involve periodic sampling and analysis of groundwater.

<i>Present Worth:</i> .....	<i>\$1,392,000</i>
<i>Capital Cost:</i> .....	<i>\$618,000</i>
<i>Annual Costs:</i> .....	<i>\$36,000</i>

3. Targeted Enhanced In-situ Bioremediation

This alternative is similar to in-situ chemical oxidation except biostimulants such as emulsified oils, lactate, or molasses would be injected in the targeted areas. Since in-situ bioremediation relies on direct contact between bacteria and the contaminant, the success of the in-situ bioremediation treatment would be highly dependent on the ability to effectively distribute the biostimulant or bacteria through the treatment area. If such distribution can be achieved, it is anticipated that in-situ bioremediation is capable of meeting the RAO. A bioremediation pilot study would be conducted to evaluate the implementability, effectiveness, and feasibility of this technology.

Multiple injections, commonly one to two years apart for emulsified oils or lactate and up to monthly for molasses, are required to sustain anaerobic conditions and microbial populations in the subsurface. Development and implementation of Site Management and Soil Vapor Intrusion Action Plans would be included in this alternative. The Site Management Plan could mandate the operation and maintenance of engineered mitigation systems at the site and off-site.

Groundwater monitoring both upgradient and downgradient from the treatment area would be required to evaluate the effectiveness of the in-situ bioremediation injections at reducing contaminant concentrations and protecting downgradient areas from further dissolved-phase CVOC plume migration.

<i>Present Worth:</i> .....	<i>\$1,269,000</i>
<i>Capital Cost:</i> .....	<i>\$495,000</i>
<i>Annual Costs:</i> .....	<i>\$36,000</i>

4. Restoration to Pre-disposal Conditions

ISCO could be employed to restore the off-site investigation area to pre-disposal conditions by reducing groundwater contaminant concentrations so as to be in compliance with SCGs. Oxidants would be injected over an approximately 2,000,000 square foot area. A series of directionally drilled injection wells could be installed from two locations above the dissolved-phase CVOC plume. Because ISCO injections would be needed directly upgradient of the Sandy Hollow well field, these public water supply wells would need to be deactivated because of the likelihood of reduced water quality at these wells. Given the limited availability of onsite space to stage equipment and materials necessary for ISCO injection wells, access would need to be granted by adjacent landowners. Directionally-drilled injection wells would need to be placed down gradient of existing contamination, with injection depths targeted at the intervals with the known highest concentration of contaminants.

Since ISCO relies on direct contact between the oxidant solution and the contaminant, the success of the ISCO treatment would be highly dependent on the ability to effectively distribute the oxidant through the treatment area. If such distribution can be achieved, it is anticipated that the ISCO treatment is capable of meeting the RAOs for targeted areas within the Munsey and Plaza Cleaners investigation area. Multiple injections are required to sustain the oxidants in the subsurface, commonly 3 to 6 months apart. An ISCO pilot study would be conducted to evaluate the implementability, effectiveness, and feasibility of this technology at the Munsey and Plaza Cleaners investigation area.

Development and implementation of Site Management and Soil Vapor Intrusion Action Plans would be included in this alternative. Groundwater monitoring both upgradient and downgradient from the treatment area would be required to evaluate the effectiveness of the in-situ bioremediation injections at reducing contaminant concentrations and protecting downgradient areas from further dissolved-phase CVOC plume migration.

<i>Present Worth:</i> .....	\$6,770,000
<i>Capital Cost:</i> .....	\$6,269,000
<i>Annual Costs:</i> .....	\$23,000

**Exhibit C****Remedial Alternative Costs**

<b>Remedial Alternative</b>	<b>Capital Cost (\$)</b>	<b>Annual Costs (\$)</b>	<b>Total Present Worth (\$)</b>
1. No Further Action with Monitoring	37,000	23,000	538,000
2. Targeted In-Situ Chemical Oxidation	618,000	36,000	1,392,000
3. Targeted In-Situ Bioremediation	495,000	36,000	1,269,000
4. Restoration to Achieve Pre disposal Conditions	6,269,000	23,000	6,770,000

## **Exhibit D**

### **SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED REMEDY**

The Department is proposing Alternative 1, No Further Action with Monitoring as the remedy for this site. Alternative 1 has achieved remediation goals for soil vapor contamination in off-site properties and would achieve the remediation goals for off-site groundwater by collecting groundwater samples from select monitoring wells, sentinel wells and the public water supply wells every year for a period of five years. The groundwater data obtained from every sampling event would be reviewed. Each year the groundwater data obtained will be reviewed to insure that the groundwater concentrations continued the current downward trend and do not impact the groundwater water supply. Every five years the data would be reviewed, evaluated and would be included in a report that makes recommendations for future activities and any necessary actions. At any time during this monitoring and data review, if sentinel wells show an increase in groundwater contamination appropriate measures would be implemented to protect the public supply wells prior to the five year review period. The evaluation of five year review will also include whether to continue or discontinue monitoring. The elements of this remedy are described in Section 7.

### **Basis for Selection**

The proposed remedy is based on the results of the RI and the evaluation of alternatives. The criteria to which potential remedial alternatives are compared are defined in 6 NYCRR Part 375. A detailed discussion of the evaluation criteria and comparative analysis is included in the FS report.

The first two evaluation criteria are termed "threshold criteria" and must be satisfied in order for an alternative to be considered for selection.

1. Protection of Human Health and the Environment. This criterion is an overall evaluation of each alternative's ability to protect public health and the environment.

Alternative 1 is less protective of human health and the environment compared to Alternatives 2, 3 and 4 because it does not include active groundwater remediation. Alternatives 2, 3 and 4 would be effective at minimizing groundwater VOC concentrations by chemically degrading VOCs to its breakdown products. In addition to that Alternatives 2, 3 and 4 would produce vinyl chloride as a break down product which needs to be carefully monitored because it might be transported downgradient to the public supply wells. Alternatives 2 and 3 would be minimally more protective of human health and the environment relative to alternative 1 because they would treat only a portion of the total volume of the dissolved-phase VOC plume. Alternative 4 has the potential to impact operations or water quality at the Sandy Hollow well field public supply wells and the prohibitively high cost of Alternative 4 it would not be an appropriate remedial alternative at the site.

2. Compliance with New York State Standards, Criteria, and Guidance (SCGs). Compliance with SCGs addresses whether a remedy will meet environmental laws, regulations, and other standards and criteria. In addition, this criterion includes the consideration of guidance which the Department has determined to be applicable on a case-specific basis.

Alternative 1 would not actively treat the dissolved-phase contaminant plume and would take significantly longer to be in compliance with SCGs compared to other alternatives. Alternatives 2 and 3 would treat contaminated groundwater in the vicinity of the injection wells. However, these alternatives would treat only a

portion of the total volume of the dissolved-phase plume, leaving some of the dissolved-phase plume out of compliance with SCGs. Alternatives 2 and 4 would be more effective than Alternative 3 at complying with SCGs because ISCO would more quickly degrade the VOCs to non-toxic compounds. Alternative 4 would comply with SCGs for the entire groundwater plume but it has the potential to impact operations or water quality at the Sandy Hollow well field public supply wells. Under Alternatives 1 through 4, the SCGs for surface water would be achieved with the reduction of contaminant concentration in groundwater but the time to achieve the SCGs is not predictable. The most recent sampling of surface water has a maximum concentration of 7.7 ppb which is only slightly above the standard of 1 ppb. At this magnitude of marginal exceedence it is not practical to implement a remedy for concentrations that are continuing to decrease and only marginally exceed the standard. Monitoring is sufficient to verify that the concentrations continue to decrease over time.

The next six "primary balancing criteria" are used to compare the positive and negative aspects of each of the remedial strategies.

3. Long-term Effectiveness and Permanence. This criterion evaluates the long-term effectiveness of the remedial alternatives after implementation. If wastes or treated residuals remain on-site after the selected remedy has been implemented, the following items are evaluated: 1) the magnitude of the remaining risks, 2) the adequacy of the engineering and/or institutional controls intended to limit the risk, and 3) the reliability of these controls.

Alternative 1 would be effective in the long term if source area remediation and control at OU1 are operated and maintained at the site. Alternatives 2, 3 and 4 are considered to be effective in the long-term because VOC concentrations in groundwater would be reduced within the treatment area. Alternatives 2 and 4 would effectively reduce groundwater VOC concentrations quickly. However, additional injection events may be necessary if there is incomplete treatment or to treat upgradient groundwater that flows into the treatment area. If distribution of the biostimulant or bacteria can be achieved, alternative 3 is considered to be effective in the long-term because groundwater VOC concentrations would be reduced within the treatment area as long as subsurface conditions amenable to bioremediation are maintained. To maintain these conditions, multiple injection events would likely be needed.

4. Reduction of Toxicity, Mobility or Volume. Preference is given to alternatives that permanently and significantly reduce the toxicity, mobility or volume of the wastes at the site.

Alternative 1 would reduce the toxicity and mobility of the dissolved-phase plume with natural processes such as dilution, dispersion and natural attenuation but would take longer to achieve compared to other alternatives. Alternatives 2 and 3 would reduce the toxicity and mobility of the plume by treating the groundwater within the treatment area. These alternatives would limit plume migration and reduce contaminant concentrations in the treatment area, thereby reducing the toxicity and mobility of the plume. The toxicity, mobility, and volume of the dissolved-phase VOC plume outside of the treatment area would be reduced at a slow rate as a result of natural processes. Alternative 4 would reduce the mobility, toxicity or volume but has the potential to impact operations or water quality at the Sandy Hollow well field public supply wells. Alternatives 2, 3 and 4 have uncertainties related to the ability to achieve uniform treatment because it is difficult to do injection in the subsurface to distribute the chemical compounds for the treatment of the groundwater throughout the plume area.

5. Short-term Impacts and Effectiveness. The potential short-term adverse impacts of the remedial action upon the community, the workers, and the environment during the construction and/or implementation are evaluated.

The length of time needed to achieve the remedial objectives is also estimated and compared against the other alternatives.

There would be no short term impacts to the community associated with alternative 1. Alternatives 2, 3 and 4 have the potential for exposure to construction workers to oxidants and to contaminated soils and groundwater during well and equipment installation but are readily controlled using standard work practices and engineering controls. Air emissions, which could impact the community, during implementation are also monitored and can be controlled within acceptable levels with standard work practices and engineering controls.

Alternative 1 would not have short-term effectiveness compared to other alternative but would be effective on a long-term basis with natural processes such as dilution, dispersion and natural attenuation. Alternative 3 would not be as effective in the short-term as alternatives 2 and 4 because contaminant degradation using enhanced bioremediation is a slower process compared to chemical oxidation.

6. Implementability. The technical and administrative feasibility of implementing each alternative are evaluated. Technical feasibility includes the difficulties associated with the construction of the remedy and the ability to monitor its effectiveness. For administrative feasibility, the availability of the necessary personnel and materials is evaluated along with potential difficulties in obtaining specific operating approvals, access for construction, institutional controls, and so forth.

Alternative 1 is easily implementable and requires periodic groundwater sampling from select wells to monitor the contaminant concentration in groundwater. Alternatives 2, 3 and 4 are all technically feasible and may be affected differently by site-specific geologic and hydrogeologic characteristics. As such, pre-design studies and/or pilot tests are recommended prior to remedy implementation to evaluate the feasibility of alternatives 2, 3 and 4. Obtaining permits and access will be necessary for the implementation of alternatives 2, 3 and 4. Drilling and installing injection or monitoring wells in the road right-of-ways is feasible but would be logistically challenging as the streets located above the dissolved-phase plume are heavily populated and narrow.

7. Cost-Effectiveness. Capital costs and annual operation, maintenance, and monitoring costs are estimated for each alternative and compared on a present worth basis. Although cost-effectiveness is the last balancing criterion evaluated, where two or more alternatives have met the requirements of the other criteria, it can be used as the basis for the final decision.

The relative order of probable present value for the four alternatives from least to most expensive are No further action with monitoring, In-situ enhanced bioremediation, ISCO and Restoration to pre-disposal conditions. Alternative 1 would cost significantly less than any of the alternatives. Alternative 4 which is restoration to pre-disposal conditions would be prohibitively expensive.

8. Land Use. When cleanup to pre-disposal conditions is determined to be infeasible, the Department may consider the current, intended, and reasonable anticipated future land use of the site and its surroundings in the selection of the soil remedy.

Since the groundwater is not used in this area and public water supply is available the implementation of any of the remedial alternatives would have no impact on the current and future use of the site or the off-site properties. Based on the indoor air sampling conducted six SSD systems were installed to address the contamination in indoor air. The impact on the on the current and future use of the off-site properties from soil

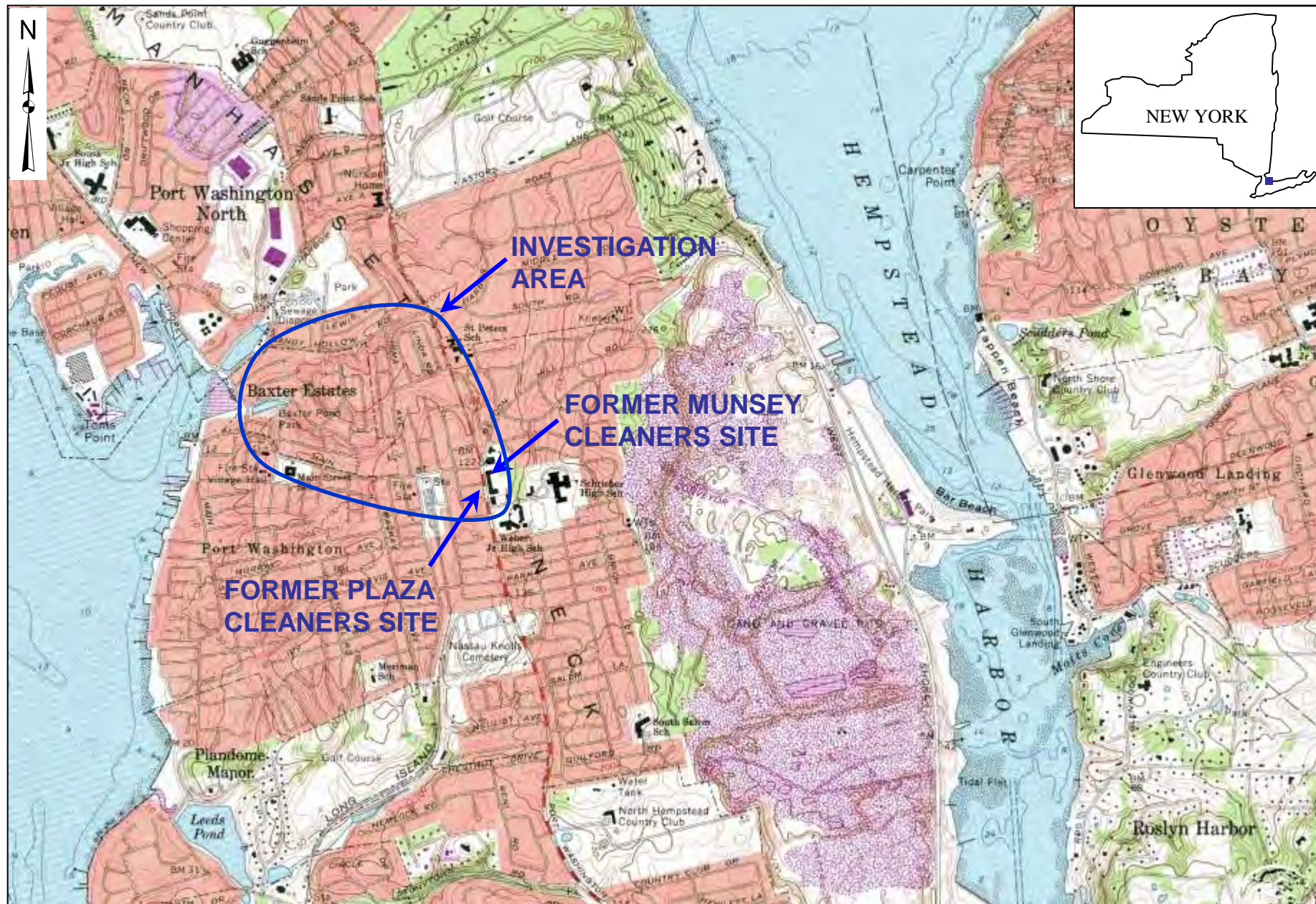
vapor intrusion have been addressed with the implementation of the IRMs.

The final criterion, Community Acceptance, is considered a "modifying criterion" and is taken into account after evaluating those above. It is evaluated after public comments on the Proposed Remedial Action Plan have been received.

9. Community Acceptance. Concerns of the community regarding the investigation, the evaluation of alternatives, and the PRAP are evaluated. A responsiveness summary will be prepared that describes public comments received and the manner in which the Department will address the concerns raised. If the selected remedy differs significantly from the proposed remedy, notices to the public will be issued describing the differences and reasons for the changes.

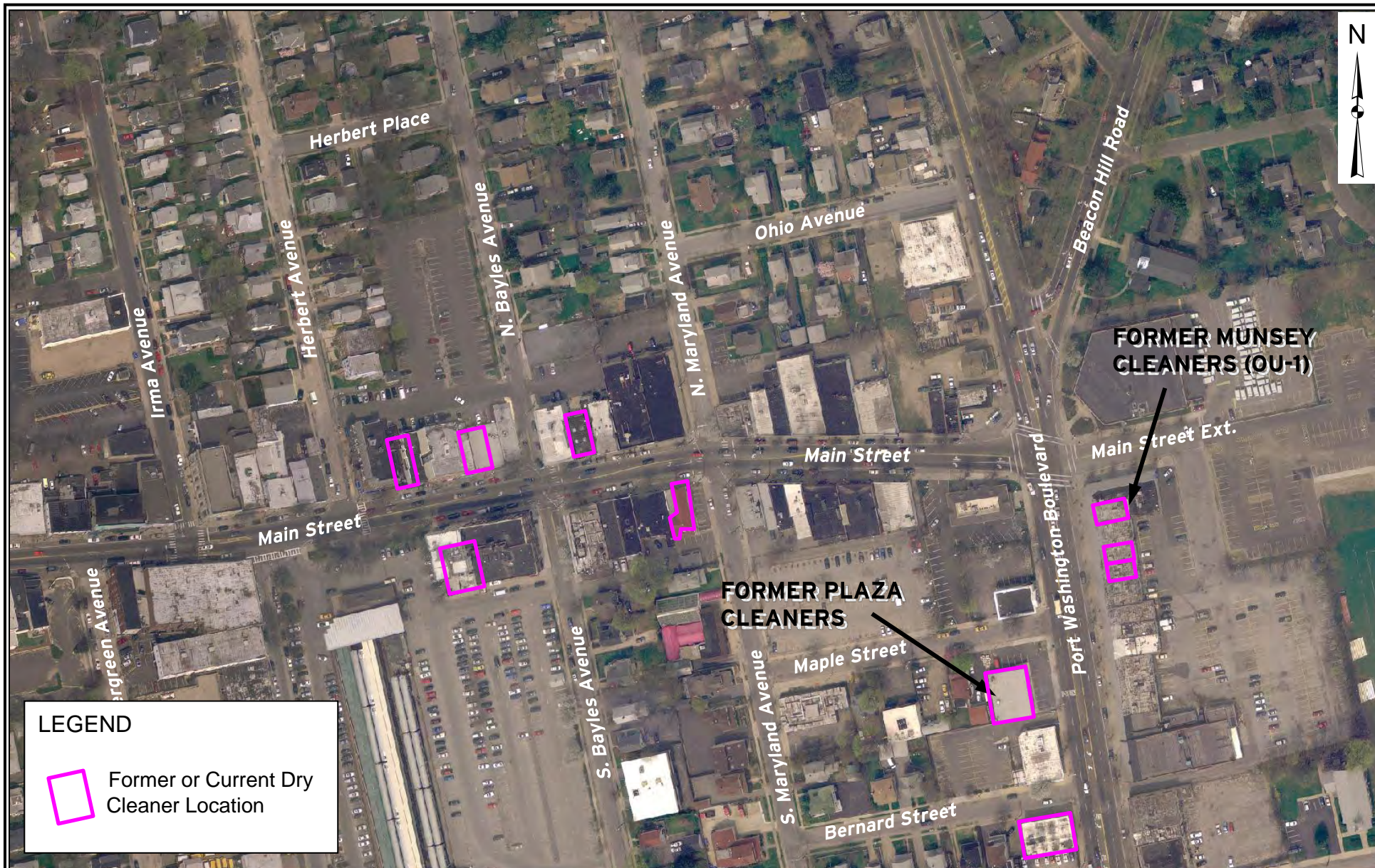
Alternative 1 is being proposed because, as described above, it satisfies the threshold criteria and provides the best balance of the balancing criterion.

<b>Remedial Objectives</b>	<b>Remedial Action</b>
1. Prevent ingestion of groundwater with contaminant levels exceeding drinking water standards.	The area is served by a public water supply. Monitoring wells will continue to be sampled to verify that the water supply is unaffected by contamination from the Site.
2. Prevent contact with, or inhalation of volatiles, from contaminated groundwater/surface water.	Off-site properties tested and properties exhibiting vapor intrusion have been mitigated through the installation of sub-slab Depressurization Systems. Additional properties continued to be monitored periodically.  The marginal exceedence of surface water will continue to be monitored to verify that concentrations continue to decrease.
3. Restore ground water aquifer and surface water to pre-disposal/pre-release conditions, to the extent practicable.	A Site Management Plan that includes monitoring of groundwater and surface water to insure that contaminant concentration continue to decrease.
4. Prevent discharge of contaminants from groundwater to surface water.	The source at the Site was removed and treatment continues at that location.
5. Remove the source of groundwater or surface water contamination.	Contaminated soil at the source area has been removed and the residual contamination will be addressed in the OU-1PRAP and ROD.
6. Prevent surface water contamination	Contaminated soil at the source area has been removed and the residual contamination will be addressed in the OU-1 PRAP and ROD.
7. Mitigate impacts to public health resulting from existing, or the potential for, soil vapor intrusion into buildings.	The impacted properties from soil vapor have been mitigated by the installation of sub-slab depressurization systems. Additional properties continued to be monitored periodically.



MAP SOURCE: USGS 7.5 MINUTE TOPOGRAPHIC SERIES, SEA CLIFF QUADRANGLE (PHOTOREVISED 1979)

APPROXIMATE SCALE: 1" = 1500'

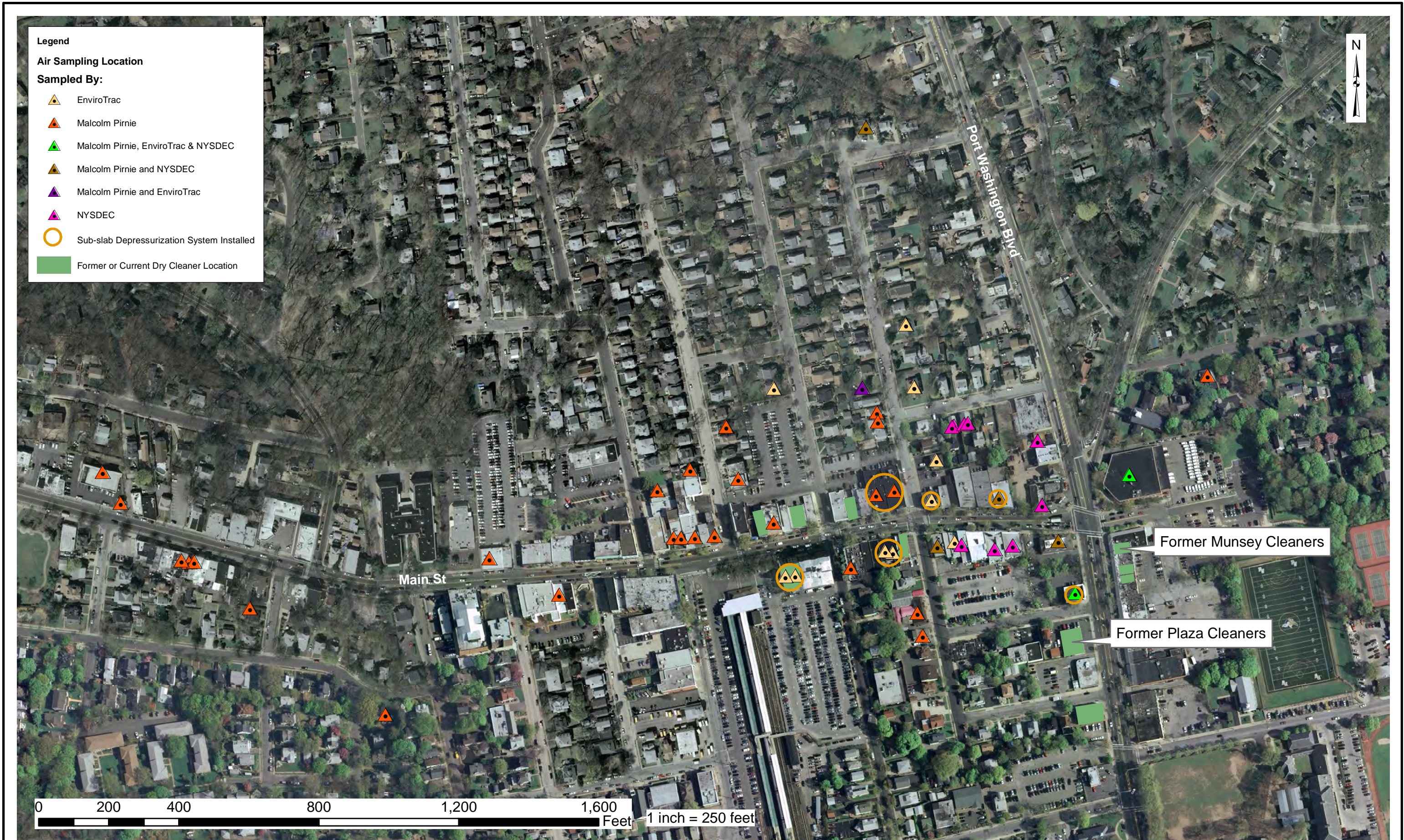


SOURCE: NYSDOP 2-FT Resolution Natural Color Orthoimagery, 2004;  
New York State GIS Clearinghouse.

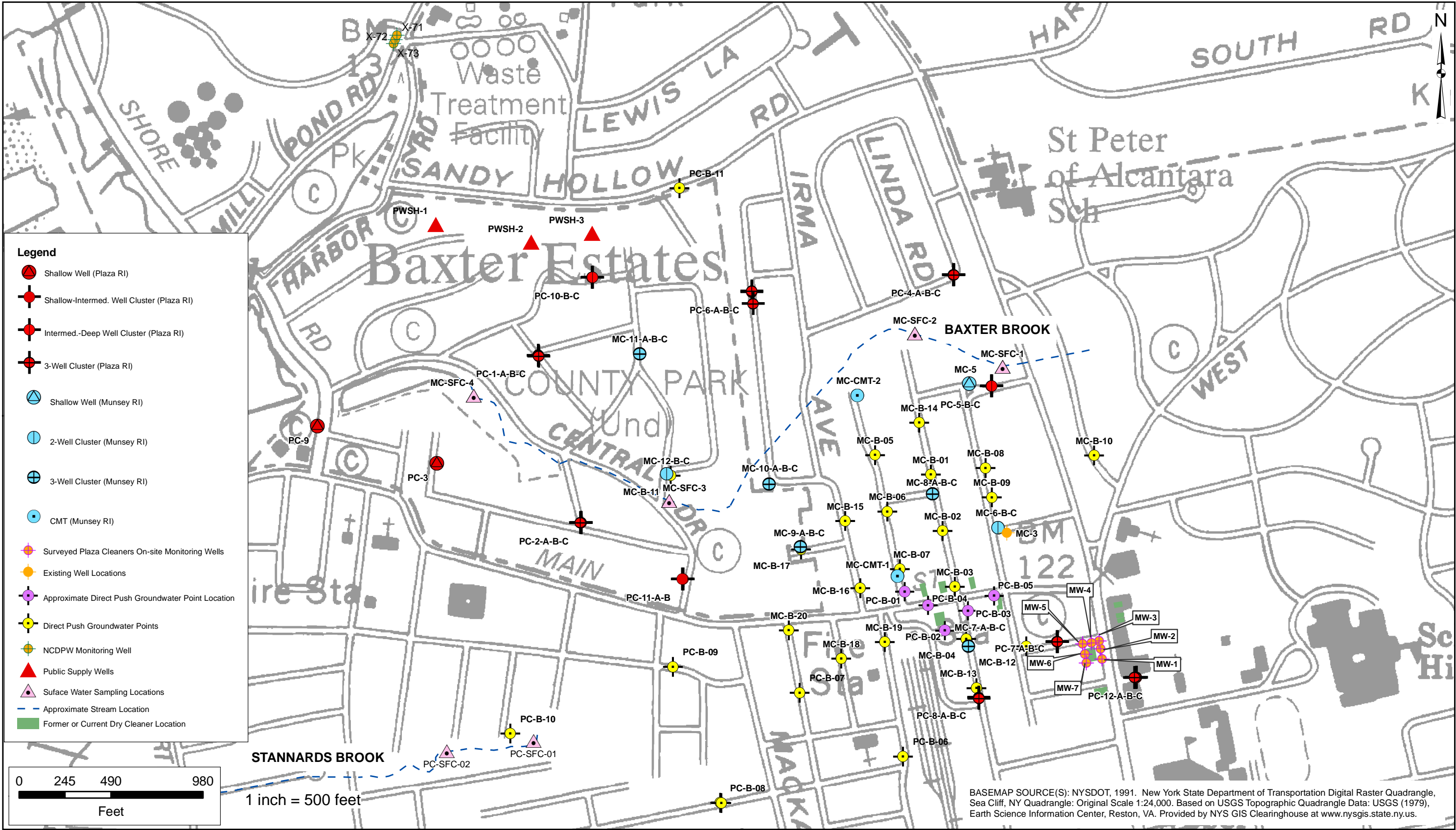
0 100 200 400

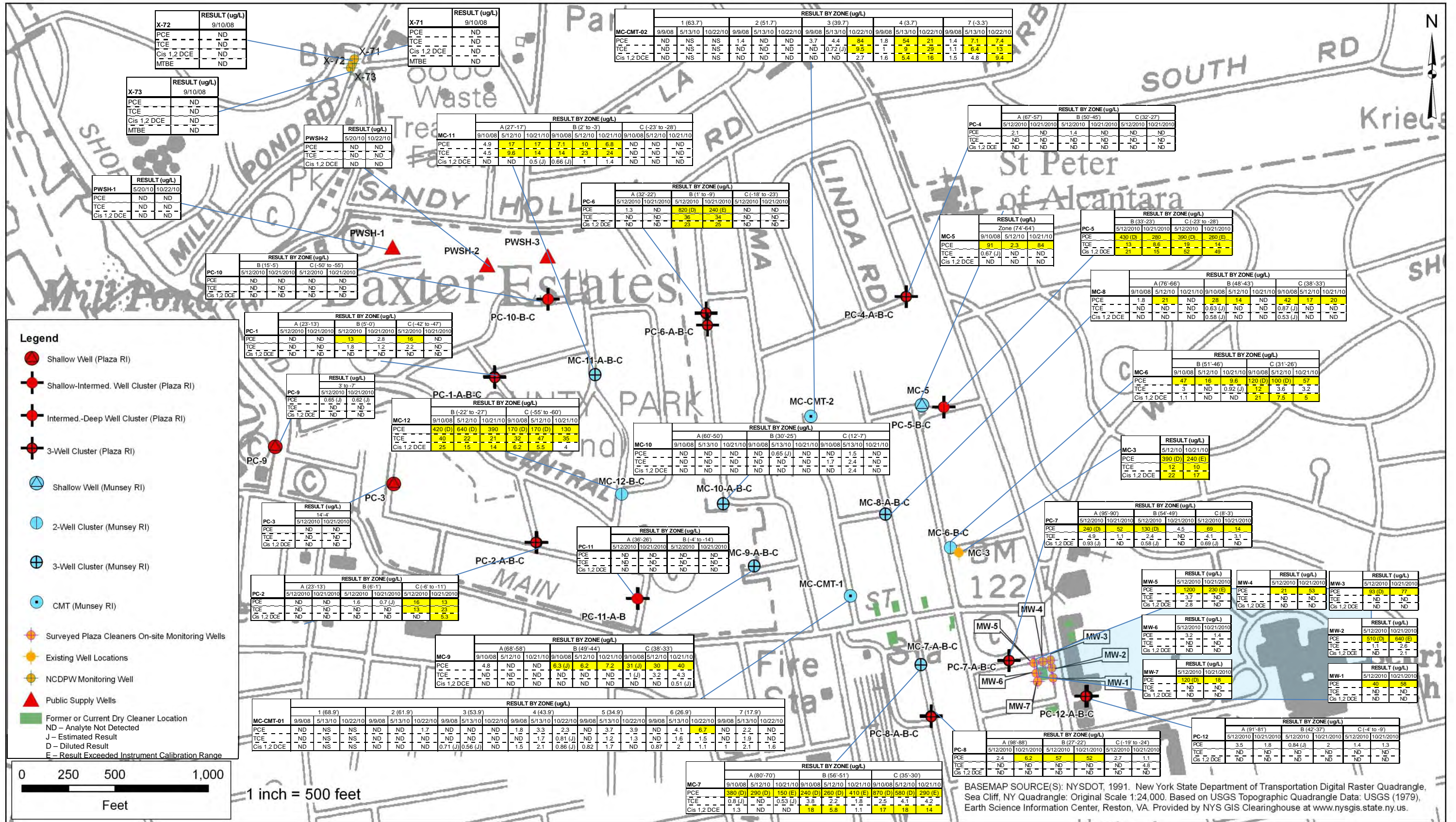
APPROXIMATE SCALE IN FEET

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# **APPENDIX A**

## **Responsiveness Summary**

**Plaza Cleaners Site OU2  
State Superfund Project  
Town of North Hempstead, Nassau County, New York  
Site No. 130108**

The Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) for the Plaza Cleaners site OU2 was prepared by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (the Department) in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and was issued to the document repositories on February 24, 2012. The PRAP outlined the remedial measure proposed for the contaminated sediment and groundwater at the Plaza Cleaners site OU2.

The release of the PRAP was announced by sending a notice to the public contact list, informing the public of the opportunity to comment on the proposed remedy.

A public meeting was held on March 13, 2012, which included a presentation of the remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) for the Plaza Cleaners Site OU2 as well as a discussion of the proposed remedy. The meeting provided an opportunity for citizens to discuss their concerns, ask questions and comment on the proposed remedy. These comments have become part of the Administrative Record for this site. The public comment period for the PRAP ended on March 28, 2012. Based on a request from the “Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington”, a local civic association, the comment period was extended for two weeks. The comment period ended on April 11, 2012.

This responsiveness summary responds to all questions and comments raised during the public comment period. The following are the comments received, with the Department's responses:

**COMMENT 1:** Were the approximately 50 or so properties tested for indoor air quality mixed residential and commercial properties? Why would people who were offered indoor air sampling and/or a sub-slab venting system decline them?

**RESPONSE 1:** Both residential and commercial properties were tested during the soil vapor intrusion investigation. The soil vapor intrusion study involves obtaining indoor air and sub-slab vapor samples to determine whether actions are needed to address exposures. The State offered to conduct this study on all the properties potentially affected as a result of the groundwater contamination. It is the decision of the individual property owners to volunteer for sampling at their property. If a property owner does not volunteer to allow sampling, the State will inform the property owner about the importance of this study and that they may contact DEC if they change their mind.

COMMENT 2: What is the depth of the public supply wells and what aquifer the supply wells are located?

RESPONSE 2: The two public supply wells in operation at the Sandy Hollow well field are approximately 100 feet below ground surface, and are screened near the base of the Upper Glacial aquifer.

COMMENT 3: The USGS should determine if the public supply wells are in the same aquifer as the plume as part of their study of the Port Washington area.

RESPONSE 3: The Department will share the data from the remedial investigation conducted in the study area (OU2) with USGS and will request their data to evaluate and define the nature, extent and pathway of the contamination in the study area at the annual evaluation.

COMMENT 4: Is the ground water contamination above the local confining layer?

RESPONSE 4: All groundwater monitoring wells installed during the remedial investigations were located above the Port Washington Confining Unit, sometimes referred to as the North Shore Confining Unit. Consequently, analytical results from groundwater monitoring wells correspond to the groundwater above the local confining layer.

COMMENT 5: Does the DEC have any vertical gradient information for these monitoring wells that were installed?

RESPONSE 5: At most monitoring locations across the site, the hydraulic gradients are downward, however there is one location that exhibits an upward gradient.

COMMENT 6: Is there a case for doing an active remediation at OU2?

RESPONSE 6: Active remediation technologies such as in-situ bio-remediation and in-situ chemical oxidation were evaluated in the feasibility study report. These technologies were not selected primarily due to the space constraints and low concentrations of the contaminants present in the groundwater resulted in uncertainty with the effectiveness of these technologies on these low concentrations. In addition given the proximity of the site to the public supply wells, there is a possibility that the injected material could find its way through the subsurface and impact these wells which ruled against this option. Since the source remedies implemented at the dry cleaner properties are having a favorable impact on groundwater with the concentrations in the groundwater plume appearing to be decreasing over time, additional actions were not warranted. The contaminants of concern have not been detected at the public water supply wells.

COMMENT 7: Why doesn't DEC do a pilot study remediation type project for this site instead of only monitoring the plume?

RESPONSE 7: Please refer to response 6.

COMMENT 8: How will the DEC check for future contaminated ground water migration in this area to make sure it will not spread?

RESPONSE 8: The remedy for OU2 requires periodic groundwater and surface water monitoring and the results evaluated; to determine whether the groundwater plume is spreading and/or if concentrations of contaminants continue to decrease.

COMMENT 9: What does the monitoring well (MC-5) results mean in front of my house?

RESPONSE 9: The current groundwater results from MC-5 shows PCE contamination above groundwater standards. Since the groundwater is not used for potable purposes in the study area and the public water supply is readily available there is no potential for exposure to the contaminated groundwater. The results obtained from soil vapor intrusion tests conducted in the properties located in the vicinity of MC-5 also did not indicate any potential for indoor air impacts.

COMMENT 10: Is the brook considered to be shallow groundwater?

RESPONSE 10: Baxter Brook is a surface water body that receives runoff and shallow groundwater in the OU2 area, at locations where its channel intersects the water table.

COMMENT 11: What are my air sample results that were taken in my house in November 2011 by DEC?

RESPONSE 11: DOH correspondence to individual property owners, indicating the results of the November 2011 monitoring event, was mailed on April 12, 2012.

COMMENT 12: When is the comment period over?

RESPONSE 12: The comment period ended on April 11, 2012.

COMMENT 13: Will there be responsiveness summary?

RESPONSE 13: Yes.

COMMENT 14: Do you have wells east of the site?

RESPONSE 14: Yes, a well cluster was installed east of the site during the Remedial Investigation. Groundwater elevations obtained from all the wells installed during the investigation indicate groundwater flows primarily to the northwest.

**The following are the responses to written comments received during the comment period:**

The Department received a comment letter dated April 09, 2012 from David Brackett, Commissioner of the Port Washington Water District (PWWD). The comments included in the letter and the corresponding responses are listed below:

COMMENT 15: The investigations performed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) have indicated that two PWWD supply wells may be impacted by the plumes from these sites. While the facilities for these wells do include granular activated carbon (GAC) treatment, we are concerned that an increase in raw water VOC concentrations will result in a significant increase in the operation cost. It is possible that raw water VOC concentrations will eventually exceed a threshold over which GAC treatment is no longer practical, requiring the construction of a packed tower aeration system. This burden of the capital construction cost will be upon the consumers of the PWWD.

RESPONSE 15: As indicated in the RI report, we understand that the two PWWD wells may be threatened by the proximity of the contaminated groundwater plume and its direction, however, based on the removal actions taken thus far at the sources of contamination and the overall declining concentrations in the groundwater plume observed during the investigation, it appears unlikely that the water supply wells will contravene groundwater standards.

Based on the results from the RI report the contaminant concentration in the monitoring wells installed in the vicinity of the supply wells is non-detect or marginally exceeding the groundwater standards. The raw water sampled from the public supply wells during the RI was non-detect for site-related contaminants. Groundwater results from the periodic sampling conducted by the Water District from April 2003 thru July 2012 show that site related contamination was not detected in the public supply wells, prior to any of the source removal and treatment actions conducted at the Munsey and Plaza sites. The contaminant concentration in groundwater would have been highest in the 1970s thru 1980s when the disposal activities occurred at several dry cleaners located upgradient of the public supply wells and no impacts were identified in the PWWD wells. Since that time, the Nassau County Department of Health has removed the contaminated soil from the dry cleaners located in the vicinity of the intersection of S. Bayles and Main Street via the Underground Injection Control Program (UIC). Additionally, contaminated soil removal has been performed at the Plaza site in 1998 thru 1999 and Munsey Site in early 2000. Also, a Soil Vapor Extraction system was installed at the Munsey site and has operated continuously since 2005.

Should groundwater contamination be identified in the sentinel wells, appropriate measures such as; supplying carbon to the existing treatment system, installation of a supplemental activated carbon system at the supply wells and/or installation of an air stripper system at the supply wells would be undertaken by the Department to address the contamination.

COMMENT 16: The Fact Sheet distributed in February 2012 indicates that the Proposed Remedial Action Plan is "The No Further Action with Monitoring remedy". We hereby object to this proposed action and request that NYSDEC consider an appropriate method for treating the contamination to prevent it from reaching our wells.

RESPONSE 16: During the three groundwater sampling events conducted between 2008 and 2010, the trend of concentrations in groundwater was either stable or decreasing. These data indicate that significant increases in concentrations upgradient of the Sandy Hollow well field are highly unlikely. These data also indicate that changes in concentration would occur over a sufficient duration to allow an appropriate response to be planned and implemented before potential impacts to the Sandy Hollow well field would be detected.

The remedy includes provision for groundwater monitoring and evaluation of potential impacts to the wellfield and has been modified from the PRAP to specifically include consultation with the Port Washington Water District during the data evaluation, as follows:

“Each year the Department will consult with the Port Washington Water District to review the groundwater data obtained to ensure that the groundwater concentrations continued the current downward trend and do not impact the groundwater water supply wells.”

COMMENT 17: PWWD takes exception to the NYSDEC eliminating groundwater extraction and treatment as a viable alternative to treat the dissolved groundwater plume migrating towards the PWWD water supply wells in the Feasibility Study prepared in February 2012. Elimination of this technology for further evaluation due to "space constraints related to the highly populated area above the dissolved-phase CVOC plume and extensive above ground infrastructure and operations and maintenance required" is an unacceptable screening criteria. In fact, if the PWWD water supply wells see an increase in raw water VOC concentrations, the PWWD would be responsible for implementing this technology and would be required to find the required space and provide the operations and maintenance.

RESPONSE 17: The remedial alternative of pump and treat was not retained for the detailed analysis of alternatives since it would not be an effective or feasible alternative for the entire approximately 100-acre area impacted by site-related contaminants. The area is densely populated and given the number of wells, piping, and treatment systems that would be required, there were other more viable remedial alternatives to evaluate. In addition to space constraints in the vicinity of the plume, associated pumping potentially could alter existing groundwater flow paths and may unintentionally induce salt water intrusion closer to the Sandy Hollow supply wells. Furthermore, treated groundwater from a pump and treat system must be discharged to a surface water body or a sanitary sewer. The NYSDEC believes the overutilization of the treated groundwater resource and potential adverse effects resulting in salt water intrusion were sufficient criteria to exclude pump and treat as a remedial alternative.

COMMENT 18: Although the NYSDEC has indicated that it will perform monitoring of the sentinel wells to provide early warning to potential impacts to the PWWD water supply wells, the NYSDEC does not provide a discussion on the estimated time for contaminated water to migrate from the sentinel wells to the public water supply wells. PWWD has not been provided with the assurance that NYSDEC would be able to implement appropriate measures to treat this contamination prior to it reaching the water supply wells. The NYSDEC also does not indicate which remedial technology would be implemented to protect the water supply wells if contaminants are detected in the sentinel wells. Many of the technologies evaluated in the Feasibility Study report could not be implemented in the vicinity of the public water supply

wells because the technologies could "adversely impact" the water supply wells.

RESPONSE 18: Please refer to Response 15.

The Department received a comment letter dated April 11, 2012 from Paul P. Stewart, Vice President of the "Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington". The comments included in the letter and the corresponding responses are listed below:

COMMENT 19: The RI indicates that Tetrachloroethylene was discharged into floor drains in the basements of the Plaza Cleaners and former Munsey Cleaners buildings over the period of their operations as dry cleaners, which began as early as 1947 for Munsey Cleaners and 1964 for Plaza Cleaners. Tetrachloroethylene, also known as PCE, is a dry cleaning fluid that is extremely volatile and binds to soil, dissolves in groundwater and infiltrates air spaces above building foundation floors.

A floor drain at Munsey Cleaners was partially cleaned out in 1996 when 31 tons of PCE-contaminated soil was excavated from the basement. The limited amount of soil removed from the confines of the basement did not get everything and residual soil contamination has been documented. The NYSDEC indicates that the existing soil vapor extraction and sub-slab depressurization systems currently operating at the Munsey Cleaners site are controlling the residual soil contamination. The RI acknowledges, however, that the most recent test results indicate that the existing remedial systems are not even meeting NYSDOH guidelines for air quality inside the building.

Floor drains at the Plaza Cleaners site were remediated with the removal of 941 tons of PCE-contaminated soil in 1998. However, contaminated soil was reportedly not excavated below the water table and a soil vapor extraction system was installed to remediate what was left in the ground. In May 2007, the NYSDEC lost the responsible party's cooperation and the SVE system was never turned on. The NYSDEC has indicated that it plans to complete a Remedial Investigation of the Plaza Cleaners over the next year. The FS states under the heading "Comparative Evaluation of Alternatives": "At least one known source area (at the former Plaza Cleaners site) still exists in the area of investigation. As this source area remains uncontrolled or not remediated, implementation of any remedy for the Plaza and Plaza Cleaners OU-2 area would be problematic." (FS, p. 56)

RESPONSE 19: Munsey Site: As stated, an IRM at the site removed approximately 31 tons of contaminated soils from the basement and two floor drains. The results from the end point samples after the soil removal showed contamination above clean up goals, therefore a soil vapor extraction system was installed at the site in February 1997 and was operated intermittently until 2005. Based on the 2005 Record of Decision, the SVE system has been operated continuously since 2005. The results from the March 1998 end point samples collected from the basement showed that contamination in soil was below the clean up goals.

Based on the February 2007 indoor air samples collected at the Munsey site, data indicated that PCE concentrations in the first floor indoor air samples were within typical background levels. PCE concentrations in the basement samples ranged from typical background levels to slightly

above background. All levels of PCE detected were below the NYSDOH Air Guidance value of 100 ug/cu.m.

Plaza Site: The Plaza Cleaners source area has been fully delineated and is under control. The investigations conducted during the RIFS have delineated the OU1 (source area) and the OU2 (off-site area) contamination. The source area was remediated by excavation of soils to non-detect endpoint above the water table. Below the water table all soil samples had PCE concentrations below the soil clean-up objective and therefore did not require excavation.

At the time the FS was released the Plaza Cleaners on-site treatment system was not running and therefore was not controlled. However, the PRP is now operating an on-site SVE/AS system to address any remaining PCE found in the on-site soil and groundwater. The DEC intends to complete the RIFS at the OU1 source area to select a final on-site remedy.

COMMENT 20: Residents understand that PCE has entered the ground water flow system beneath both former dry cleaners and traveled toward the Sandy Hollow well field. The PWWD has assured RESIDENTS that ground water entering the supply wells is not impacted by PCE and is filtered as an added precaution. The RI confirms that no PCE was detected in water samples from the supply wells since 2003. NCDOH required the PWWD to install a carbon treatment system at the Sandy Hollow well field because of the presence of volatile organic compounds in well water. In fact, NCDOH has confirmed that trace concentrations of PCE and another unrelated solvent were detected below water quality standards in well water in 1990.

Residents request to exercise extreme diligence in monitoring ground water quality in the vicinity of the Sandy Hollow supply wells and notify the PWWD and the community of any undesirable changes to water quality upgradient of the well field and to develop and be prepared to implement, a comprehensive remediation plan if it is more likely than not that PCE contaminated ground water will enter the Sandy Hollow well field.

RESPONSE 20: Please refer to Response 15.

COMMENT 21: The RI documents the presence of high concentrations of PCE in vapor directly beneath the foundation floors of buildings on both sides of Main Street between Port Boulevard and the train station. The NYSDEC and NCDOH have expended extensive time and resources trying to contact businesses and homeowners over the ground water plume, and even eliciting the help of Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel. Unfortunately, less than 20% of the addresses contacted agreed to have air inside and below their buildings tested. Of those tested, 6 sub-slab depressurization systems were installed to protect 10 buildings along Main Street and 21 other properties will be asked to have follow-up testing in the future. The NYSDEC has stated that no ventilation systems have been required for any residential buildings. In fact, the indoor air quality results provided in Table 5B of the RI indicate that 50% of the buildings tested contained detectable concentrations of PCE in basement or first floor air and that two of those buildings also contained Trichloroethylene, a biological breakdown product of PCE, at concentrations above NYSDOH guidance values. The NYSDEC has also stated that soil borings installed in some of the existing and former dry cleaners along Main Street verified the absence of additional sources of soil contamination. However, no effort has been made to map or control the soil

vapor plume other than by operating ventilation systems in a few buildings. Sub-slab vapor and indoor air samples have only been collected from a small number of buildings. The NYSDEC believes that a soil vapor survey of public right of ways will have no benefit. Residents disagrees.

Given the lack of voluntary testing of private locations, the NYSDEC should attempt to delineate the soil vapor plume by collecting soil vapor samples around buildings where high levels of PCE have been found in sub-slab soil vapor and then expanding to other areas as the results dictate. The NYSDEC should also request state and local officials to review and, if necessary, amend existing disclosure laws to facilitate the testing of more potentially exposed buildings.

RESPONSE 21: Based on the data provided by the soil vapor intrusion investigations, the majority of the properties sampled required no additional action. A total of six (6) sub-slab depressurization systems were installed in 10 structures to address the potential for soil vapor intrusion to impact indoor air quality and nine (9) property owners were contacted for follow-up sampling (i.e. monitoring). Based on the data in Table 5B of the RI report, PCE was not detected in 17 out of 22 indoor air samples. PCE was at concentrations ranging from 1.1 micrograms per cubic meter (ug/cu.m.) to 8.5 ug/cu.m. in the remaining 5 indoor air samples. These levels are within typical background levels and are below the NYSDOH Air guideline value of 100 ug/cu.m., which was developed to be protective of public health. TCE was not detected in 20 out of 22 indoor air samples collected. TCE was found in one basement air sample at a concentration of 160 ug/cu.m. (and 150 ug/cu.m. in the sample duplicate). This level of TCE is above the NYSDOH Air guideline value of 5 ug/cu.m.. The concentration of TCE found in the sub-slab sample was 46 ug/cu.m. Based on the comparison of the two (sub-slab to indoor air), the TCE detected in the basement air sample is likely due to indoor air sources, rather than soil vapor intrusion. Recommendations were provided to the property owner to determine the sources of TCE and to minimize exposure. During the November 2011 monitoring event, PCE and TCE were not detected in the indoor air sample collected, at this particular structure.

Numerous attempts have been made by the agencies and their consultants in contacting private property owners in the OU-2 area for their participation in soil vapor intrusion investigations. These investigations are voluntary in nature and a small number of property owners agreed to have the sampling conducted.

COMMENT 22: According to the PRAPs, a Fish and Wildlife Resources Impact Analysis (FWRIA) was completed and included in the RI. The FWRIA was supposed to present “a detailed discussion of existing and potential impacts from the site to fish and wildlife receptors.” However, the RI section entitled “Fish and Wildlife Impact Analysis” includes only a scant two sentences indicating that the FWRIA was conducted “internally” by the NYSDEC Bureau of Habitat and was not being provided in the RI. PCE is known to be toxic to freshwater biota. The NYSDEC has acknowledged that all surface water sampling locations along Baxter Brook were found to be contaminated with PCE above surface water standards. No surface water samples were collected from Baxter Pond during the RI, so there is no way of determining what impacts to the pond may have been produced by the influx of PCE-contaminated surface water.

The FWRIA should be distributed to the general public for its input. The NYSDEC Bureau of Habitat should also revisit the FWRIA and determine whether any less obvious though potentially significant impacts to wildlife resources are being observed in the Baxter and Stannards Brook drainage basins, with the scope and results of its investigation being distributed to the general public for its input.

RESPONSE 22: The surface water data collected from the Baxter and Stannards Brook were reviewed by the Division of Fish and Wildlife & Marine Resources (DFW&MR). The review indicated that the levels of contamination detected in the surface water body were not of a major concern for fish and wildlife resources.

As part of the remedy the groundwater and surface water will be monitored. Additionally, during the next monitoring event samples will be collected from Baxter pond along with surface water samples from the creek and the results will be reviewed by DFW&MR.

# **APPENDIX B**

## **Administrative Record**

**Plaza Cleaners Site OU2  
State Superfund Project  
Town of North Hempstead, Nassau County, New York  
Site No. 130108**

Proposed Remedial Action Plan for the Plaza Cleaners site OU2, dated March 2012, prepared by the Department.

RI/FS Work Plan OU2, January 2008, prepared by ARCADIS-US.

RI Report OU2, November 2011, prepared by ARCADIS-US.

FS Report OU2, February 2012, prepared by ARCADIS-US.

PRAP comment letter from the Port Washington Water District, April 09, 2012.

PRAP comment letter from the “Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington”, April 11, 2012.