

**NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
SHERIDAN WASTE OIL SITE FACT SHEET
MEDFORD, SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK
OCTOBER 1993**

INTRODUCTION

In April of 1990, the New York State of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) distributed a fact sheet and utilized additional means, including a public meeting, to present the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) work plan for the Sheridan Waste Oil inactive hazardous waste site. An RI/FS determines the nature and extent of any contamination associated with a site, identifies clean-up alternatives, and recommends one of them for implementation. Between April 1990 and mid-1992, the Department repeatedly attempted to obtain permission from the site owners to gain access to the site. Site access was finally gained for a portion of the site and RI/FS field work was performed from July 1992 - November 1992.

A second fact sheet was sent in August 1992 to update the community on the project status.

This fact sheet contains previously presented information on site background and history and discusses the results of the field work and the current status of the project.

The NYSDEC has lead responsibility for RI/FS activities at the Sheridan site. The NYSDEC Project Manager for this site is Ms. Sally Dewes, P.E.

The consulting firm of ABB Environmental Services (ABB) (formerly E.C. Jordan Company) is assisting with the RI/FS for the Sheridan site.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The Sheridan Waste Oil site is located in Medford in the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York (see attached map). There Sheridan Waste Oil Company operated a waste

oil recycling facility. The site occupies an area of approximately 3 acres between Peconic Avenue to the north and Eileen Court to the south. The area north of Peconic Avenue is commercial or industrial, whereas the area south of Peconic Avenue is primarily residential. Most of the site is currently cleared and was regraded in 1990.

The site and surrounding terrain are relatively flat and no surface water drainage has been observed on or adjacent to the site. The area of investigation consists of one undeveloped lot at 114 Peconic Avenue and two developed lots at 116 and 118 Peconic Avenue where surface and subsurface tanks were used in oil recycling, as well as downgradient areas that may be impacted by contaminants from the site.

SITE HISTORY

The site was operated as a waste oil recycling facility from 1979 to 1984. The Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS) was contacted on April 12, 1982 by an employee of a fuel corporation who was overcome by fumes emitted when a shipment of solvent from Sheridan was mixed with Number 2 fuel oil. As a result of this preliminary involvement, the SCDHS conducted a hydrologic investigation at the Sheridan site to determine the impact of the site operations on groundwater quality and completed a report in July 1983. The SCDHS was not able to determine the exact nature of site operations; however, site operations reportedly consisted of the collection and storage of waste oil in both above ground and subsurface tanks, operation of a water evaporating unit, and the storage of acid products. The company was also reported to have been operating without a permit.

As part of its hydrologic investigation, the SCDHS drilled groundwater profile wells both upgradient and downgradient of the site. The Sheridan site is apparently the sole cause of on site and downgradient groundwater contamination. No organic compounds were detected in the upgradient groundwater profile wells and upgradient industries were inferred not to be contributing to the degradation of groundwater quality at the Sheridan site. No organic compounds were detected in water samples from four domestic wells located south of the site on Eileen Court. Organic compounds were detected above the drinking water guidelines in all the downgradient groundwater profile wells. As a result of the SCDHS July 1983 report, the County Attorney succeeded in obtaining a court order to close down the Sheridan site operations.

A site inspection conducted on May 17, 1983 to aid in initiating litigation on the site by the Attorney General revealed many areas of surface spillage and discoloration. Soil samples reportedly exhibited organic solvent and petroleum contamination.

CURRENT RI ACTIVITIES

The first part of the site remediation process is the RI, during which information is gathered on the extent of contamination both on site and off site. The field investigation was conducted to characterize the hydrogeology, evaluate the extent of the hazardous contamination, evaluate the paths of migration, and assess the significant hazards of the site.

The field investigation consisted of the following activities:

- door to door survey of residential well owners and potential groundwater users in the vicinity;
- geophysical survey;
- soil gas survey;
- soil borings and sampling;

- monitoring well installation & sampling; and
- risk assessment based on actual contamination levels found.

All this information is presented and discussed in full in the DRAFT RI Report, Volumes I and II, dated May 1993. This document is available at your local information repository. The address of the repositories can be found on page (3) of this fact sheet.

Various organic and inorganic compounds were found in the soil on the site. Most of these compounds are below concentrations that could present adverse human health or ecological effects.

All of this data is presented in detail in the reports that are in your local information repository.

The levels of contamination that were found are less than expected. Monitoring wells were installed on the site and further south of the site as far south as Connelly Avenue. The groundwater in these wells and other local wells was sampled and analyzed for a large list of compounds.

One well slightly exceeded the New York State (NYS) groundwater standards for tetrachloroethylene. This well, located in the southwest corner of the lot, was the only sampled well that had any organic compound at a level exceeding groundwater standards.

The groundwater did exceed the groundwater standards for some metals in a number of cases. Iron, manganese, sodium, and zinc standards were exceeded in many wells. These exceedances are not necessarily related to site contamination. For example, iron and manganese may be due to the natural turbidity of the water, sodium may be due to road salt and zinc may be due to the well construction of domestic wells.

The door to door residential survey included

160 private residences and the management of a cluster housing development. Except for four residences on Eileen Court, all drinking water in the survey area is provided by the local public utility, Suffolk County Water Authority. As a public water supply, the water quality must meet NYS Standards.

The most contamination was seen in the southwest corner of the site downgradient from the portion of the property that the Department was unable to gain access to.

Due to this lack of access and because of the limited amount of contamination found so far on the eastern portion of the property, the Department has temporarily suspended the RI investigation until we can enter and investigate the western portion of the site. The Department is currently pursuing access to this portion of the site via legal methods. The Department will inform the public, via fact sheet, when the RI investigation recommences and moves to completion.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Upon completion of the RI report, NYSDEC will conduct the Feasibility Study (FS). The FS uses the results of the RI as the basis for developing the most appropriate clean-up alternatives for the site.

Technologies applicable to the impacted media at the site (soil or groundwater, for example) will be identified and assembled into remedial alternatives, which will be screened based on effectiveness and implementability. The alternatives that remain will be evaluated in detail against seven criteria including overall protection of human health, long-term effectiveness, and cost. The alternatives will be compared to each other and a preferred alternative will be formulated.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

A citizen participation plan (CPP) helps to ensure that the public is informed and can provide information during the RI/FS. The

CPP, along with the various technical documents, are in the information repositories at the following locations:

1. NYSDEC, Region 1 Offices
SUNY Campus, Building 40
Stony Brook, NY 11794
2. Patchogue-Medford Library
54-60 E. Main St.
Patchogue, NY 11772
3. Town of Brookhaven
Rosemary Wiesner
Brookhaven Public
Information Office
32-33 Route 112
Medford, NY 11763

The Administrative Record is the official compilation of documents, data reports, and other information important to the status of and decisions made relative to a Superfund site. This information for the Sheridan site is available for public viewing and copying at the information repositories listed above.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A public information meeting was held in April 1990 to present and discuss the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study work plan. Additional avenues for public review and comment correspond with later stages in the RI/FS process.

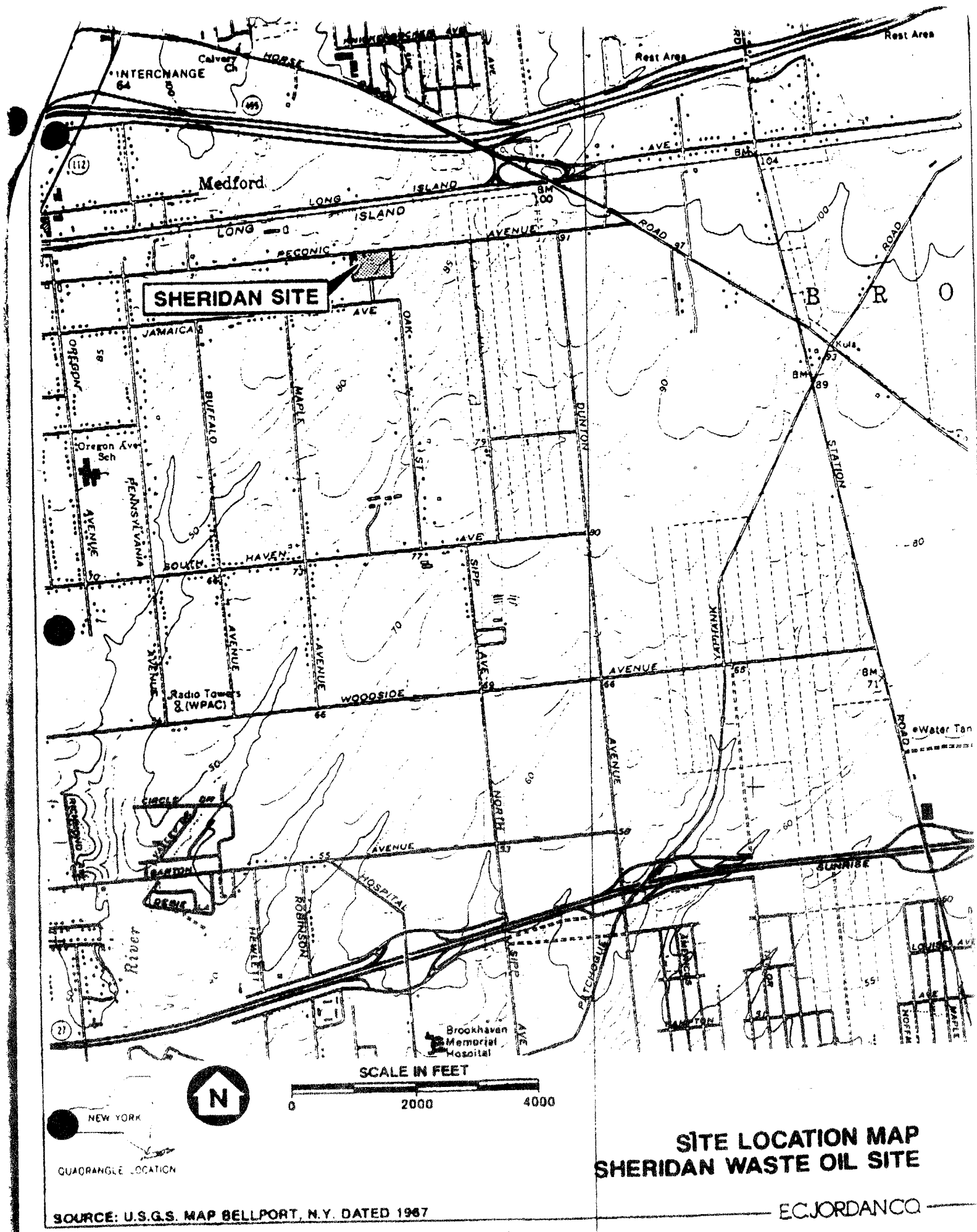
The next major opportunity for public input will be a public meeting to discuss the contents of the RI report. This is described in detail in the Citizen Participation Plan.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
CONTACT:

Ms. Sally Dewes, P.E.
Project Manager
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
50 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12233-7010
(518) 457-3395

Dr. Joshua Epstein
Citizen Participation Spec.
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
State University of NY
Building 40
Stony Brook, NY 11794
(516) 444-0249

Mr. Lloyd Wilson
New York State Department of Health
2 University Pl.
Albany, NY 12203
(518) 458-6305



**SITE LOCATION MAP
SHERIDAN WASTE OIL SITE**

SOURCE: U.S.G.S. MAP BELLPORT, N.Y. DATED 1967

ECJORDANCO