## NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

## Public Meeting Invitation

Tuesday, June 17, 2008

The NYSDEC and NYSDOH will present an update of the Speonk Solvent Plume Site Characterization Investigation. The ongoing Site Characterization is expected to determine the source of solvent contamination discovered near the intersection of Old Country Road and North Phillips Ave. At the meetings, representatives from the NYSDEC and NYSDOH will:

- Discuss the results of the past Site Characterization investigation findings.
- Provide information about the planned additional site characterization investigation.
- Answer your questions about the site.

### FACT SHEET

June 2008

Speonk Solvent Plume SITE No. 152185 Speonk, NY

#### COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETINGS

# **Speonk Solvent Plume Site Characterization Update**

June 17, 2008

Public Availability Session: **1 - 4 p.m.**Village Hall
Incorporated Village of Westhampton Beach
165 Mill Road Westhampton Beach, NY 11978

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General Public Meeting: **7 - 9 p.m.**Remsenburg-Speonk Elementary School Gymnasium
11 Mill Road Remsenburg, NY

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The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is conducting a Site Characterization to determine the source of contamination identified near the intersection of Old Country Road and North Phillips Ave. in Speonk. A summary of completed and planned Site Characterization investigation activities will be presented to the community.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) will hold a public availability session on June 17, 2008 from 1-4 pm at the Incorporated Village of Westhampton Beach Village Hall, 165 Mill Road in Westhampton Beach to discuss the ongoing Site Characterization of the Speonk Solvent Plume. This session will allow interested attendees to ask appropriate staff their questions on a one-to-one or small group basis.

Later that evening, a General Public Meeting will be conducted. The NYSDEC and the NYSDOH will be present a slide show type presentation to update the public on the ongoing Speonk Solvent Plume Site Characterization activities. An open question and answer period will follow the presentation. The General Public Meeting will be held on June 17, 2008 from 7-9 pm, at the Remsenbeurg-Speonk Elementary School, 11 Mill Road in Remsenburg.

#### **Site Description**

The Speonk Solvent Plume Site (Site) is located in the hamlet of Speonk, Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York. The Site is shown on Figure 1-1, and currently encompasses approximately 600 acres. The central portion of the Site is located near the intersection of Old Country Road and North Phillips Avenue. The approximate area boundaries include; to the east, Speonk Riverhead Road; to the south, the investigation limits were approximately 2000 feet south of Montauk Highway; to the west, approximately 2000 feet west of the intersection of Old Country Road; and to the north, approximately one mile from the intersection of Old Country Road and North Phillips Avenue.

The Site is generally undeveloped north of Old Country Road with a few light industrial/commercial businesses. To the south of Old Country Road the study area is primarily residential with some light commercial/industrial properties.

#### **Site History**

In December 2001, chlorinated volatile organic compounds were detected in a private drinking water well near the intersection of Old Country Road and Phillips Avenue by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDH). Subsequently, the SCDH conducted an initial investigation to determine the area of impacted groundwater. Work completed by the SCDH has included a sampling of private drinking water wells, aquifer screening and monitoring well installations in the area. The SCDH data confirmed the presence of chlorinated solvent contaminated groundwater in the area. The primary contaminants found were perchloroethene (PCE), trichloroethene (TCE), trichloroethane (TCA), carbon tetrachloride, and chloroform.

Residential wells with contaminant detections above drinking water standards and others were connected to the public water supply system to eliminate any possible ingestion exposure pathway. SCDH has continued monitoring domestic wells at homes not connected to the public water supply. The public water supply system is also monitored by SCHD to ensure that it continues to meet or exceed Federal and State drinking water standards. There is currently no known use of contaminated water in the area.

#### Site Characterization

Based on the initial SCDH findings, the NYSDEC initiated a Site Characterization to determine the source of the contamination and assess the pathways by which the contamination could travel. During the investigation, samples of soil, soil vapor, and groundwater were collected. Soil and groundwater profile borings were advanced, monitoring wells have been installed, and background information gathered. The initial findings of the Site Characterization investigation have been unsuccessful in locating the source of solvent contamination and the ongoing Site Characterization investigation continues.

The general location of the contamination in the aquifer has been characterized. The contaminated groundwater solvent plume is approximately two miles in length. The plume is located at depths ranging from 75 feet to 115 feet below the land surface and is traveling in a north to south direction.

Soil Vapor Intrusion is the process by which vapors volatilize from chemicals in contaminated soils and/or groundwater and then move into indoor air from under a structure if a pathway, such as a crack or hole in a foundation, exists. Contamination from source area soils or contaminated groundwater can volatilize into spaces between soil particles. Soil Vapor sampling tests for the presence of the contaminant vapors. Soil vapor samples were collected; indoor air and sub-slab samples were also collected at some residences. Soil vapor intrusion as an inhalation exposure pathway has been evaluated by NYSDOH. The results of the testing indicate that there is not an immediate health threat from soil vapors.

#### Site Characterization, Continued

The NYSDEC Site Characterization is still in progress. Additional investigative activities in a multi phase approach will be employed during upcoming the work period expected to begin this Summer. All existing data and the planned groundwater modeling will guide the collection of additional of soil, water and soil vapor samples in efforts to locate the source.

#### Additional Health Related Information

For additional information on general exposure and/or soil vapor intrusion issues, please visit the New York State Department of Health's website at:

http://www.health.state.ny.us/environmental/indoors/vapor intrusion/fact sheets/

For More Information: Call or write the following staff for more information about:

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