

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation



FACT SHEET

July 2007

Former Duso Chemical

No. 3-14-103

33 Fulton Street, Poughkeepsie, NY

Availability Session for Former Duso Chemical Site **August 7, 2007 at 7:00 PM**

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), is providing this fact sheet as part of the state's citizen participation program for inactive hazardous waste disposal sites.

Availability Session

An availability session has been scheduled for the evening of August 7 beginning at 7:00 PM. It will be held at the Poughkeepsie Town Hall at One Overocker Road. This will be an informal question and answer session for interested citizens to obtain information from project personnel about the results of the site's Remedial Investigation.

Site History and Background

Duso Chemical is the site of a former chemical storage and distribution facility located at 33 Fulton Street in the Town of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, NY. The site is located in a mixed residential and commercial area and is approximately three acres in size. A map showing the location of the site is presented in **Figure 1**. Star Gas Products, a distributor of propane, is currently operating on the property. All nearby residences are served by public water.

In the mid 1990s, an adjacent property on North Road, The Mid-Hudson Business Property (MHBP) was the subject of several environmental investigations. A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment conducted in 1993/1994 found high levels of chlorinated volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the groundwater of the MHBP. Based on this information, a Phase II and Remedial Investigation were conducted, which discovered an area of concern in the southeastern section of the MHBP. Since a source area had not been located, a Supplemental Remedial Investigation was conducted to investigate the possibility that the contamination was coming from off-site. The results of this investigation indicated that there was likely a source emanating from the adjacent site, former Duso Chemical. Historical records show that there was a chemical fire at the Duso Chemical Plant in the early 1960's, which is suspected to have released a large quantity of unknown materials. This may have been a contributing factor in causing the contamination.

In 1999, the NYSDEC listed the Duso site on the state's Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites as a Class 2 site. A Class 2 site is defined as having hazardous wastes present at concentrations representing a significant threat to human health and/or the environment, and

requires remedial action.

In May of 2005 a state funded Remedial Investigation (RI) began at the site. The goal was to obtain additional soil and groundwater data to delineate the nature and extent of the site's contamination. Other objectives included the identification of source areas, contaminant transport mechanisms and potential human or ecological resource receptors.

Remedial Investigation Activities

To meet these objectives, the following activities have been completed:

- The installation of soil borings and analysis of numerous soil samples to obtain subsurface data
- The installation of monitoring wells and collection of water samples to obtain groundwater data
- A vapor intrusion program to evaluate indoor air quality of buildings on and near the site

Findings of the RI

The activities completed under the RI have confirmed the presence of significant concentrations of VOCs in the site's soil, groundwater and soil vapor. The contamination appears to have originated from the Former Duso Chemical Site. Much of the contamination has migrated and settled in the subsurface soils and groundwater on an adjacent property, the MHBP. Data shows that the contamination appears to be relatively contained and is not present in the underlying bedrock. The RI also determined that further migration of this contamination is not a major issue of concern and that significant natural attenuation of residual contamination is occurring.

Soil vapor sampling determined that vapor intrusion is an issue of concern on the Star Gas property. As a result, an Interim Remedial Measure was completed to mitigate vapor exposures in the building on site. Additional soil vapor sampling determined that vapor intrusion was not a problem elsewhere.

Next Steps

Feasibility Study

A Feasibility Study (FS) will be conducted to evaluate potential remedial alternatives for the site. The FS will analyze each remedy based on the following eight criteria:

- Protection of Human Health and the Environment
- Compliance with New York State Standards Criteria and Guidance Values (SCGs)
- Short Term Effectiveness
- Long Term Effectiveness
- Reduction of Toxicity, Mobility and Volume
- Implementability
- Cost Effectiveness
- Community Acceptance

Citizen Participation

Based on the results of the RI/FS, the NYSDEC, in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), will develop a Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) which will be made available for review by the public. During a 30 day comment period, a public meeting will be held in the community to present the PRAP in detail, and to receive comments. Following consideration of public comments on the PRAP, the NYSDEC and NYSDOH will issue a Record of Decision (ROD) which formally selects a remedy for the site.

Copies of the RI will be available for your review at the document repositories listed below. As additional documents are created they will be placed in the site's repositories.

Document Repositories

Information and documents pertaining to the site are available for public review at the following locations:

Adriance Memorial Library
93 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
(845) 485-3445
Hrs: M-Th 9am-9pm;
F-S 9am- 5pm; Su 1pm-5pm

NYSDEC Region 3 Office
21 South Putt Corners Road
New Paltz, New York 12561
Attn: Mr. Michael Knipfing
(845) 256-3154
Hours: M-F, 9-4
By appointment

Town of Poughkeepsie
Attn. Ms. Laura Wojtowicz
One Overocker Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
(845) 485-3620
Hours: M-F, 9-4
By appointment

The NYSDEC encourages your participation in the project. Your understanding and involvement can help ensure a cleanup program that effectively protects public health and the environment.

For More Information

The Site Investigation and Work Plan:

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Health Related Information:

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Figure 1

