



FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

Bram Manufacturing Site

October 2009

Site Number 344055

Town of Clarkstown, Rockland County, NY

Remedial Investigation Continues at State Superfund Site

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) will soon begin the next phase of environmental study at the Bram Manufacturing Site (“site”) located at 26 Route 9W in Congers, Rockland County. See map for site location.

The site is listed as a Class “2” site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites. A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; action is required.

Highlights of the Supplemental Site Investigation

The study being done at the site is called a “Supplemental Remedial Investigation,” and is being performed under New York’s State Superfund Program. The investigation work plan is available for public review at the Valley Cottage Library and NYSDEC Region 3 Office identified below under “Where to Find Information”.

The supplemental site investigation has several goals:

- 1) further define the nature and extent of contamination in soil, surface water, groundwater and any other media that may be affected;
- 2) identify the source(s) of the contamination;
- 3) further assess the impact of the contamination on public health and the environment; and
- 4) provide information to support the development of a proposed remedy to address the contamination.

This investigation will build on the investigation at the Bram Site that took place during the winter of 2008/2009. This supplemental investigation will consist of the installation of six (6) shallow wells, six (6) bedrock wells, forty (40) soil borings around and inside the Bram building; collection of fifteen (15) surface water samples; collection of six (6) indoor and sub-slab air samples from nearby locations; and the collection of groundwater samples from twelve (12) new wells and thirteen (13) existing wells.

State Superfund Program: New York’s State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

NYSDEC generally attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html

Previous Site Investigations

- In 2008/2009, seven (7) shallow groundwater monitoring wells and six (6) bedrock wells were installed and sampled. Shallow groundwater revealed trichloroethene (TCE), dichloroethene (DCE), and vinyl chloride contamination on-site and off-site to the northeast. Bedrock groundwater revealed contamination on-site and off-site to the north. Indoor air and sub-slab air samples within the Bram building showed TCE, DCE, and vinyl chloride contamination.

Next Steps

The information collected during the investigation will be used in a “Feasibility Study” to develop and evaluate potential alternatives to clean up contamination related to the site.

NYSDEC then develops a draft cleanup plan, called a “Proposed Remedial Action Plan” (PRAP). This plan describes the remedy preferred by NYSDEC. The draft cleanup plan summarizes the decision that led to the preferred remedy by discussing each alternative and the reasons for choosing or rejecting it. The goal of the plan will be to ensure the protection of public health and the environment. NYSDEC will present the PRAP to the public for its review and comment during a 30-day comment period and at a public meeting.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the site.

Background

The Bram Manufacturing Site, located at 26 Route 9W in The Town of Clarkstown, is a 0.89 acre inactive manufacturing facility that formerly assembled lighting fixtures. The site is located in a mixed commercial and residential area of Congers, all of which are supplied drinking water through a municipal water system. In 1998, several sampling wells were installed and groundwater was sampled. Volatile organic compounds, primarily TCE, were detected in groundwater. Although TCE is not currently in use, the facility’s previous lighting fixture assembly did involve the use of TCE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed. These documents include the supplemental investigation work plan.

Valley Cottage Library
110 Route 303
Valley Cottage, New York 10989
(845) 268-7700
Hours: M-Th, 10AM-9 PM
F & Sat. 10 AM-5 PM

NYSDEC Region 3 Office
21 South Putt Corners Road
New Paltz, New York 12561
(845) 256-3154
Hours: M-F, 9-4:30 PM

Who to Contact

Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project Related Questions

Randy Whitcher
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233-7010
(866) 520-2334
rjwhitch@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions

Nathan Walz
New York State Department of Health
Troy, New York 12180-2216
(800) 458-1158, ext. 27880
nmw02@health.state.ny.us

If you know someone who would like to be added to the site contact list, have them contact the NYSDEC project manager above. We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.



Figure 1 Bram Site Map