



FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

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Ramapo Paint Sludge Site

March 2011

Site No: 3-44-064

Town of Ramapo, Rockland County, NY

Investigation Completed at Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Site Results Will Help to Evaluate Ways to Address Contamination

An investigation has been completed for the Ramapo Paint Sludge Site (“site”) in the Town of Ramapo, Rockland County under New York’s State Superfund Program (SSF). The site is comprised of three Operable Units (OUs) in the Town. OU-1 is the North of Ramapo Well Field, OU-2 includes areas along Torne Valley Road, and OU-3 includes an area near Camp Hill Road. See map for site location. The investigation was conducted by Ford Motor Company, the “responsible party”, with oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

Public Availability Session
Thursday, March 24, 2011 **
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Suffern Free Library
210 Lafayette Avenue
Suffern, NY 10901
(845) 357-1237

NYSDEC invites you to a public availability session. Representatives of NYSDEC, NYSDOH, Rockland County DOH, and Ford will be available to discuss the Remedial Investigation results and answer questions about the investigation and cleanup options.

NYSDEC has reviewed and approved a “Remedial Investigation Report” that describes the results of the investigation of the site. The investigation report is available at the document repositories identified below under “Where to Find Information”.

State Superfund Program: New York’s State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites under the SSF go through a process of investigation and evaluation with cleanup and monitoring as necessary.

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

Highlights of the Investigation Report

The investigation report has several goals:

- 1) describe the investigation activities completed
- 2) detail the nature and extent of impacts associated with the site
- 3) provide information about off-site contamination issues
- 4) present information to determine whether cleanup of impacts associated with the site is needed
- 5) support a “Feasibility Study” to develop and evaluate potential ways to clean up impacts related to the site.

** In the event of severe weather conditions on March 24, 2011, the meeting will be rescheduled. Should this occur the meeting postponement will be posted at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37552.html>.

The following investigation activities were performed at the site in each of the OUs:

- A comprehensive site reconnaissance survey was performed starting in 2006 covering over 80 acres. Observations of all types of waste, disturbed vegetation and/or suspect terrain were recorded.
- Surface water, groundwater, sediment and soil samples were collected and analyzed for chemical constituents of concern.
- A subsurface investigation including test pitting was conducted in 2009 to further delineate the extent of paint sludge and to better evaluate potential remedial alternatives.

The investigation established the nature and extent of contamination as follows:

- In OU-1, an estimated 4,400 cubic yards of paint sludge is present in sub-surface soils. The paint sludge is present in an approximately 5-acre area in the southern portion of the OU. Groundwater is not negatively affected by paint sludge deposits.
- In OU-2, an estimated 1.5 acre area contains primarily small isolated truck-load size paint sludge deposits. The deposits are partially covered by fill material, reworked earth, berms, and oversized boulders.
- In OU-3, an estimated 0.54 acre area contains paint sludge. Paint sludge was present in one concentrated area in the sub-surface, and some pieces of sludge material were found along the shallow eastern bank of an on-site pond.
- The exposure to paint sludge across all three OUs is limited to potential workers and recreators. Chemical constituents in paint sludge have not migrated horizontally and only migrated minimally vertically beneath paint sludge deposits in OU-1.

Interim Remedial Measures

During the investigation of the site, initial improvement work (officially known as an “Interim Remedial Measure (IRM)”), was performed. Initial improvement work is conducted at a site when a source of contamination or exposure pathway (the way in which a person may contact contamination) can be effectively addressed without extensive investigation and evaluation.

During site reconnaissance conducted along the Torne Brook in OU-2 and the entirety of OU-3, small pieces of paint sludge observed were collected and removed. The pieces of paint sludge were placed in 55 gallon drums, characterized for chemical constituents, and disposed of at a proper off-site facility.

Next Steps

The Feasibility Study will be conducted to use information developed during the investigation to achieve the following:

- 1) define the objectives of the site cleanup program
- 2) develop cleanup alternatives
- 3) screen and analyze the alternatives.

NYSDEC then develops a draft cleanup plan, called a “Proposed Remedial Action Plan”. This plan describes the remedy preferred by NYSDEC to address contamination related to the site. 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 draft cleanup plan 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 Ramapo Paint Sludge site consists of three areas in the Town of Ramapo, Rockland County where paint sludge was historically disposed. Each disposal location is designated as an Operable Unit (OU). OU-1 is the North of Ramapo Well Field, OU-2 includes areas along Torne Valley Road, and OU-3 includes an area near Camp Hill Road.

OU-1 consists of a 40-acre area bounded on the east by the Ramapo River and bounded on the west by railroad tracks and Bridge Street. This site is currently undeveloped and is utilized as a well field operated by United Water. OU-2 consists of a mile-long parcel bounded by the Ramapo River and Torne Brook to the west and Torne Valley Road to the east. OU-2 is located adjacent to and northeast of OU-1. The area is primarily wooded, with the exception of the Joseph T. St. Lawrence Community Health and Sports Center. OU-1 and OU-2 have had several historic uses. OU-3 encompasses approximately one acre adjacent to a small pond roughly 6 miles northeast of OU-1 and OU-2. OU-3 is located in a residential development, and is bounded to the north by a small creek and commercial property, to the east by Mt. Ivy County Park, and to the south and west by residential properties.

In March 2006 Ford Motor Company signed an Order on Consent with NYSDEC to investigate the three paint sludge disposal locations described above. Site reconnaissance activities were conducted during 2006 and 2007 across all three Operable Units to visually assess the presence of paint sludge. This reconnaissance was followed by additional investigations to determine the nature and extent of contamination resulting from paint sludge disposal.

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 investigation report:

Finkelstein Memorial Library
24 Chestnut Street
Spring Valley, NY 10977
(845) 352-5700
Mon – Thu: 9 am – 9 pm
Fri: 9 am – 6 pm
Sat – Sun: 1 pm – 5 pm

Town of Ramapo
Town Clerk's Office
237 Route 59
Suffern, NY 10901
(845) 357-5100 ext. 263
Mon - Fri: 9 am – 5 pm

Village of Hillburn
Village Hall
31 Mountain Ave
Hillburn, NY 10931
(845) 357-2036

NYSDEC Region 3 Office
21 South Putt Corners Road
New Paltz, NY 12561
(845) 256-3154

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

Mr. William Bennett
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7014
1-866-520-2334

Site-Related Health Questions

Mr. Anthony Perretta
New York State Department of Health
Flanigan Square
547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180
1-800-458-1158, ext 2-7880

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.

Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

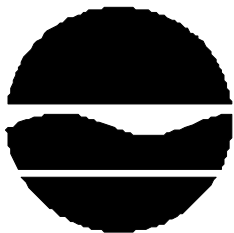
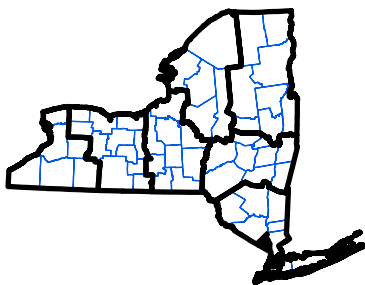
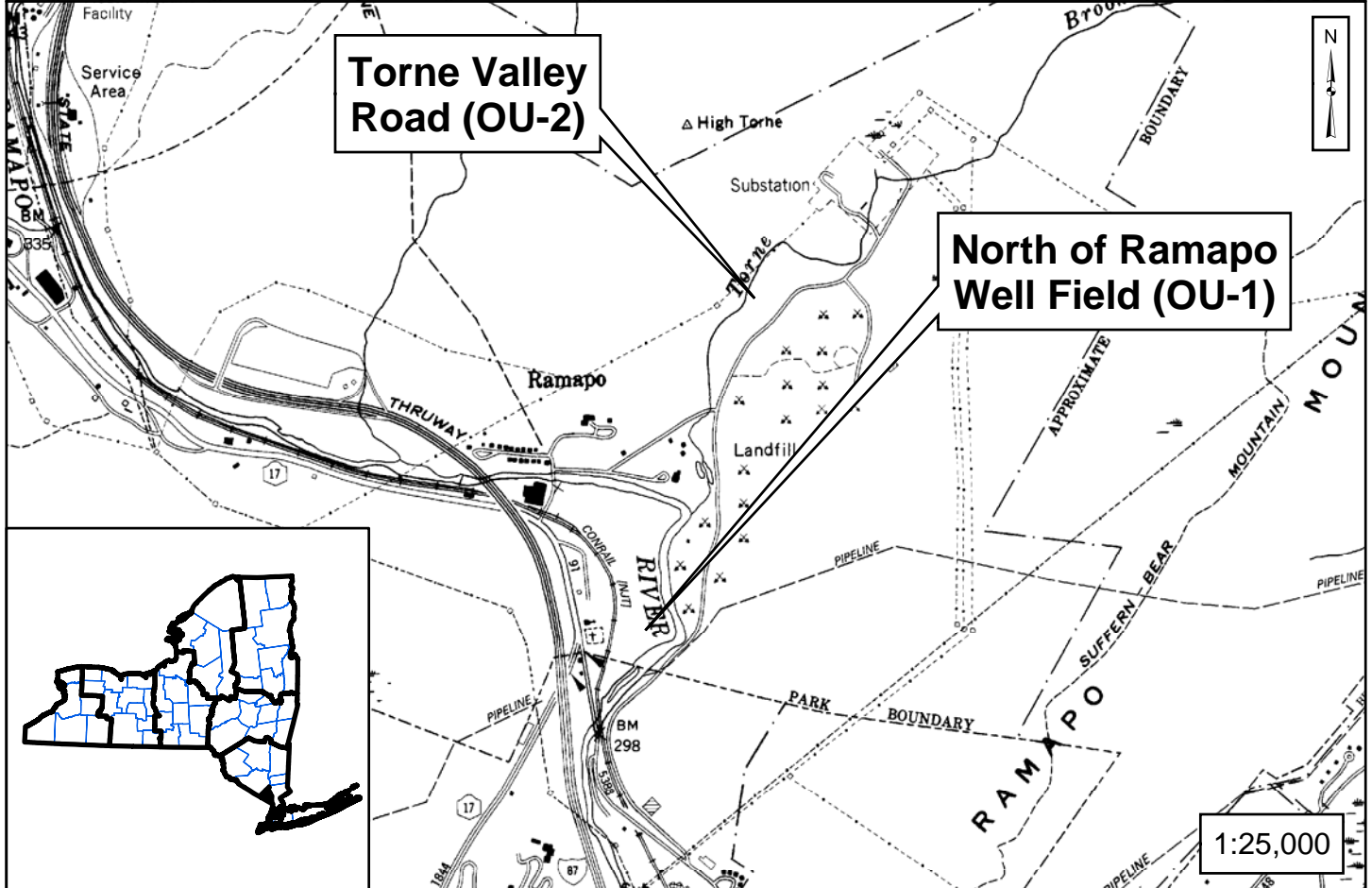
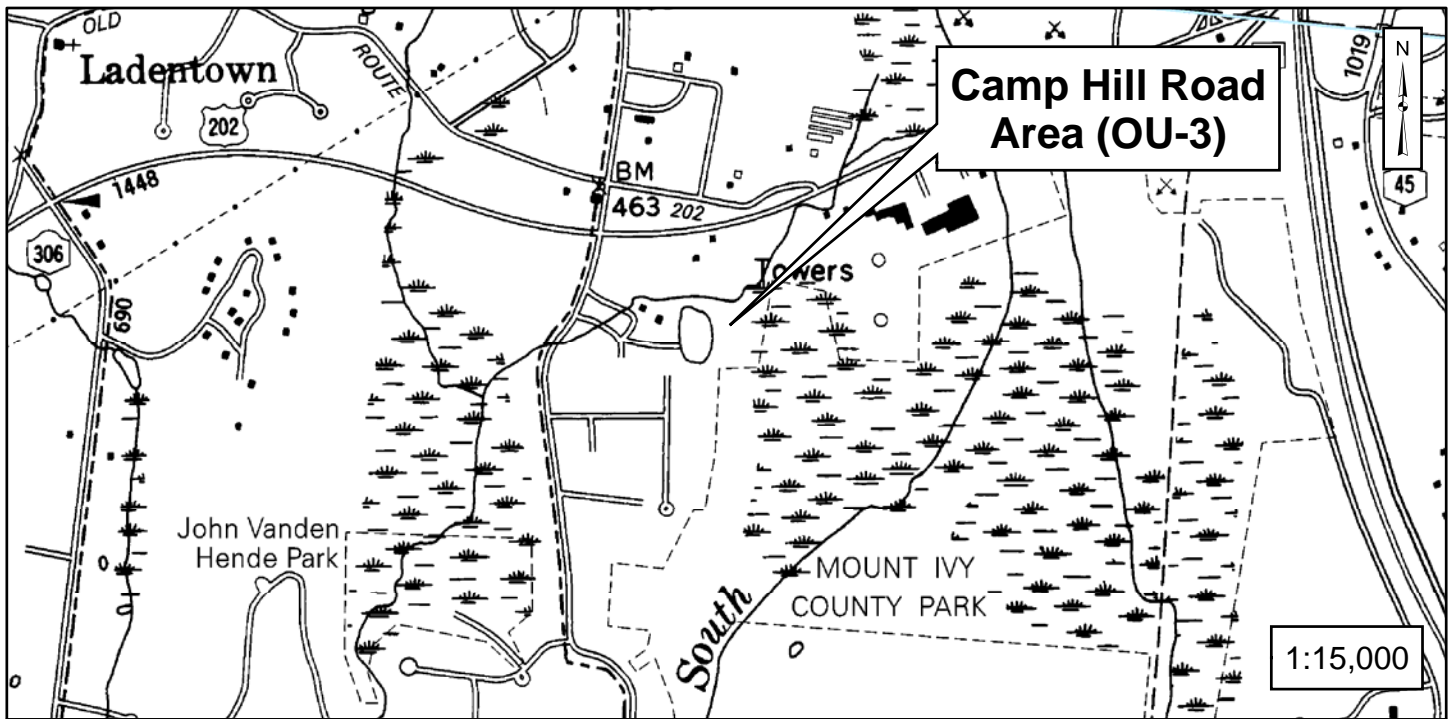
Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page: www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html . It's *quick*, it's *free*, and it will help keep you *better informed*.



As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

You may continue also to receive paper copies of site information for a time after you sign up with a county listserv, until the transition to electronic distribution is complete.

Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.



Site Location Map
 Ramapo Paint Sludge Site
 Site No. 3-44-064
 Town of Ramapo, Rockland County, New York