

(Fact Sheet Begins Next)

Act Now to Continue Receiving Information About This Site!

DEC's Division of Environmental Remediation (DER) now distributes information about contaminated sites *electronically by email*.

If you would like to continue to receive information about the contaminated site featured in this fact sheet:

You must sign up for the DER email listserv:

www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html

DER cannot register your email address - only the email address owner can do so. If you already have signed up for the listserv for the county in which the site is located, you need do nothing.



Why You Should Go “Paperless”:

- ⚙ Get site information faster and share it easily;
- ⚙ Receive information about all sites in a chosen county - read what you want, delete the rest;
- ⚙ It helps the environment and stretches your tax dollars.

If “paperless” is not an option for you, call or write to the DER project manager identified in this fact sheet. Indicate that you need to receive paper copies of fact sheets through the Postal Service. Include the site name in your correspondence.

The option to receive paper is available to individuals only. Groups, organizations, businesses, and government entities are assumed to have email access.

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FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

Receive Site Fact Sheets by **Email**. See "For More Information" to Learn How.

Site Name: Former RKO Dry Cleaners

DEC Site #: 401065

Address: 566 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12203

Have questions?
See
"Who to Contact"
Below

Investigation Completed at State Superfund Site; Interim Remedial Measure Proposed; Public Comment Period Announced

An investigation has been completed for the Former RKO Dry Cleaners site ("site") located at 566 Washington Avenue, Albany, Albany County. Please see the map for the site location. Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." The investigation was conducted by the responsible party with oversight provided by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno={ProgNo}>

NYSDEC has approved a report, called a "Remedial Investigation Report," that describes the results of the site investigation and recommends development of a remedy to address the contamination that was found.

Highlights of the Remedial Investigation Report

Former dry cleaning operations have impacted subsurface soils with chlorinated volatile organic compounds, including tetrachloroethene (PCE) at concentrations above restricted residential use soil cleanup objectives and protection of groundwater soil cleanup objectives. Groundwater has also been impacted with concentrations of PCE exceeding applicable groundwater standards. Indoor air impacts as a result of soil vapor intrusion have been mitigated in a nearby structure with the installation of a sub-slab depressurization system. During the Remedial Investigation additional indoor air and sub-slab vapor sampling was performed at two other structures, and it was determined that no additional mitigation was required.

The site is listed as a Class "2" site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment, therefore cleanup of site will be required to address remaining contamination of PCE in site soils which is contributing to elevated levels of PCE in site groundwater and soil vapor.

How to Comment

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed IRM work plan for 30 days, from **June 8, 2017** through **July 8, 2017**. The proposed plan is available for review at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area below.

Draft Interim Remedial Measure Work Plan

An IRM is a cleanup activity that may be performed 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.

The draft IRM work plan includes the excavation and off-site disposal of subsurface soils which are contaminated with PCE at concentrations exceeding the applicable soil cleanup objectives and are impacting groundwater and soil vapor. An amendment to enhance the natural biodegradation already occurring will be mixed into soils at the bottom of the excavation to address residual contamination. Work is expected to begin in July.

Next Steps

A Feasibility Study will be conducted based on information obtained during the investigation and the Interim Remedial Measure to achieve the following:

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

NYSDEC will then develop 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 will explain 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 announce the draft cleanup plan in a future fact sheet and present it 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

Location: The RKO Dry Cleaners site is located in the City of Albany at the intersection of Ontario St. and Washington Ave. It is bordered by Ontario St. to the west, Washington Ave. to the north, and residential structures to the east and south.

Site Features: The site, which is approximately 50 feet wide by 70 feet long, is currently a vacant lot covered with concrete and gravel. Until June 2012, a circa 1950 building was present on the property with an area of approximately 2,575 square feet. The building was a one-story structure with a flat roof and a basement beneath approximately half the building. A fire occurred at the building in 2000 that left charred wood on much of the interior of the structure and holes in the roof. The exterior of the building was subsequently boarded up. In June 2012, the building was razed due to safety concerns by Albany County. A small driveway exists on the east side of the site.

Current Zoning and Land Use: The site is currently vacant and is zoned for residential use. The surrounding area consists of a mix of residential and commercial properties.

Past Use of the Site: The property was developed as early as 1909. From 1964 to 2005, the site was occupied by RKO Dry Cleaners and Tailors, except for the year 1995 when Lee's Market was listed as the occupant. In December 2000, a large fire occurred at the site and a spill was called in (0010595) due to the presence of containers of dry cleaning chemicals which may have been spilled.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: The geology of the overburden aquifer consists of generally brown, plastic clay that transitions into a mixture of silt and clay at approximately 7.5 feet to 10 feet below ground surface. Some fine sand layers were also encountered. Although bedrock was never encountered, the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) indicated the bedrock is Normanskill Shale. Groundwater was encountered at approximately 9.5 feet below ground surface and flows toward the east, eventually discharging into the Hudson River.

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/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

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

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed.

Albany Public Library - Washington Ave Branch
Attn: James Davies
161 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12210
phone: 518-427-4300
(daviesj@albanypubliclibrary.org)

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

Kyle Forster
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7016
518-402-8644
kyle.forster@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions

Steven Berninger
New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation
Empire State Plaza - Corning Tower - Room
1787
Albany, NY 12237
(518) 402-7860
BEEI@health.ny.gov

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:
<http://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.

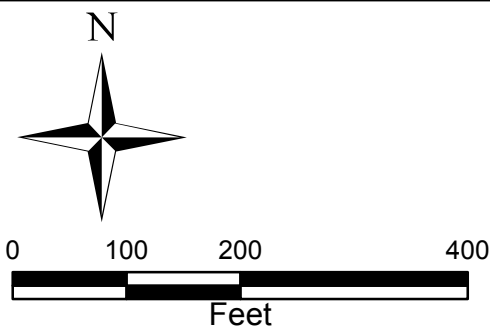
Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.



Figure 1

Site Map

Former RKO Drycleaners
466 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY
Site No. 401065



Department of
Environmental
Conservation