New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

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Site Name: Ward Products
DEC Site #: 429004
Site Address: Edson Street
Amsterdam, NY 12010

April 2012

NYSDEC Certifies Cleanup Requirements Achieved at State Superfund Site; Reclassifies Site

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC or Department) has determined that the cleanup requirements to address contamination related to Ward Products ("site") located at Edson Street, Amsterdam, Montgomery County under New York State's State Superfund Program have been or will be met. Please see the map for the site location.

NYSDEC has issued a Certificate of Completion regarding the site. A copy of the Certificate of Completion is available at the location(s) 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 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

The cleanup activities were performed by New Water Realty Corporation with oversight provided by NYSDEC. Following site cleanup, the Department reclassified the site from Class 2 (significant threat to the public health or environment - action required) to Class 4 (site properly closed - requires continued management.)

Institutional and Engineering Controls

Institutional controls and engineering controls generally are designed to reduce or eliminate exposure to contaminants of concern. An *institutional control* is a non-physical restriction on use of the site, such as a deed restriction, when contamination left over after the cleanup action makes the site suitable for some, but not all uses. An *engineering control* is a physical barrier or method to manage contamination such as a cap or vapor barrier.

The following institutional controls have been put in place on the site:

-Environmental Easement
-Groundwater Use Restriction
-Land Use Restriction
-Site Management Plan

The following engineering controls have been put in place on the site:

-Groundwater Treatment System
-Vapor Mitigation
-Soil Cover

Next Steps
NYSDEC issued the Certificate of Completion based on review and approval of a Final Engineering Report. The Final Engineering Report includes: 1) a description of the cleanup activities completed; 2) certification that cleanup requirements have been or will be achieved for the site; 3) a description of any institutional/engineering controls to be used; and 4) a certification that a site management plan for any engineering controls used at the site has been approved by NYSDEC.

A Certificate of Completion may be modified or revoked if, for example, there is a failure to comply with the terms of the order or agreement with NYSDEC.

Background
LOCATION: Ward Products manufactured automobile antennas at their facility located in the Edson Street Industrial Park in the City of Amsterdam, overlooking the Mohawk River Valley. The Mohawk River is located approximately 3,000 feet to the southwest.

SITE FEATURES: The property consists mostly of the 70,000 square foot manufacturing facility, a large parking lot, and small areas of open woods to the north and mowed lawn to the east. The land slopes gently from north to south and an intermittent stream begins uphill of the Ward Products building and flows in the ditch on the eastern property line. In the past, this drainage way split into two branches, which flowed to the Mohawk River. Subsequent construction of the Universal Custom Millwork, Inc.(UCMI) buildings across Edson Street in the 1980s channeled drainage from the Ward Products building into one branch.

CURRENT ZONING/USE: The Edson Street Industrial Park consists of various industrial manufacturing and warehouse facilities.

HISTORIC USE: Between 1957 and 1973, untreated electroplating bath solutions containing the degreasing solvent trichloroethene (TCE), chromium, zinc, cadmium, and nickel were discharged to the nearby drainage ditch. From 1973 through 1985, plating sludges that were generated during manufacturing were dried on an outdoor concrete pad prior to removal. The area of disposal at the site encompasses approximately one acre.

SITE GEOLOGY/HYDROGEOLOGY: Soil at the site consists of glacial till atop Chuctanunda Creek dolostone bedrock. The till layer is only about two feet thick near the north end of the Ward Products building but increases to over fifty feet thick on the UCMI property to the south. There is very little groundwater in the glacial till overlying bedrock, and thus most of the monitoring wells have been placed in bedrock. Groundwater largely occurs in shallow fractures and joints in the bedrock. Groundwater flow is generally to the south. With the exception of some past industrial use of groundwater, the nearest drinking water wells are located 2,600 feet southeast of the site.

OTHER INFORMATION: Environmental investigations have confirmed that there is soil, surface water, sediment, and groundwater contamination at this site caused by the past disposal practices. Sampling revealed that the soil in areas adjacent to the building was contaminated by chromium, zinc, cadmium, and nickel used in electroplating operations. Groundwater beneath the Ward property was found to be contaminated with solvents and chromium, with the solvent contamination continuing off-site. Soil near onsite electrical transformers contained low levels of PCBs. Sediments in the drainage ditch that leads offsite were also noted to be contaminated with electroplating-related metals. This contamination can be detected from the site all the way to the Mohawk River.

Another potential avenue for contaminant migration was from a leaking pipe junction which could have allowed run-off water from the roof of the building to carry contaminants into the soil and groundwater. Ward Products cleaned the pipe and repaired the leaking pipe junction in 1999, which eliminated this route of contaminant migration. The PCB-contaminated soil near the transformers was excavated and removed in 1999. In early 2004, extensive areas of contaminated soil from around the building were removed, as were contaminated sediments both on-site and downstream across Edson Street. The soil and sediment removed had concentrations of chromium or cadmium which were considered potentially hazardous. A sub-slab depressurization system (similar to a radon mitigation system) was installed at the Ward Products building in 2005 to address indoor air issues. Air sampling from early 2006 showed that this effort was successful.

The Remedial Investigation was completed in May 2005. The Feasibility Study to determine an appropriate final remedy for the site was completed in September 2006. The Record of Decision (ROD) was signed in March 2007.

The ROD selected in situ chemical oxidation (ISCO) combined with pump-and-treat for the groundwater, and excavation with off-site disposal for the contaminated sediments. ISCO uses an oxidizing chemical (usually permanganate) injected into the ground to react with and destroy contaminants in place. An ISCO pilot study was done in summer 2007, and additional remedial design activities began in late 2007.

Off-site excavation and disposal of contaminated sediment, including in the Mohawk River, was completed in the winter of 2008-2009. Design of the pump-and-treat system was completed in April 2009 with construction done in June 2009. The first ISCO injection was made in June 2009, but the permanganate oxidant remained in two of the injection wells for almost nine months. The second ISCO injection was postponed until May 2010 while changes to the process were worked out.

The third ISCO injection is on hold pending continued monitoring to determine if the two prior injections had a significant impact on the solvents in the groundwater. The groundwater treatment system continues to operate with minimum maintenance.

The Department signed an Environmental Easement for this site on August 10, 2011 and a Certificate of Completion on March 12, 2012.

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=429004

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

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

Amsterdam Free Library
Attn: Reference Desk
28 Church Street
Amsterdam, NY 12010
phone: (518) 842-1080

Project documents are also available on the NYSDEC website at:
http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37564.html

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions
Larry Alden
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7016
518-402-9767
ljalden@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions
Chris Doroski
New York State Department of Health
Flanigan Square 547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180-2216
(518) 402-7860
BEEI@health.state.ny.us

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.

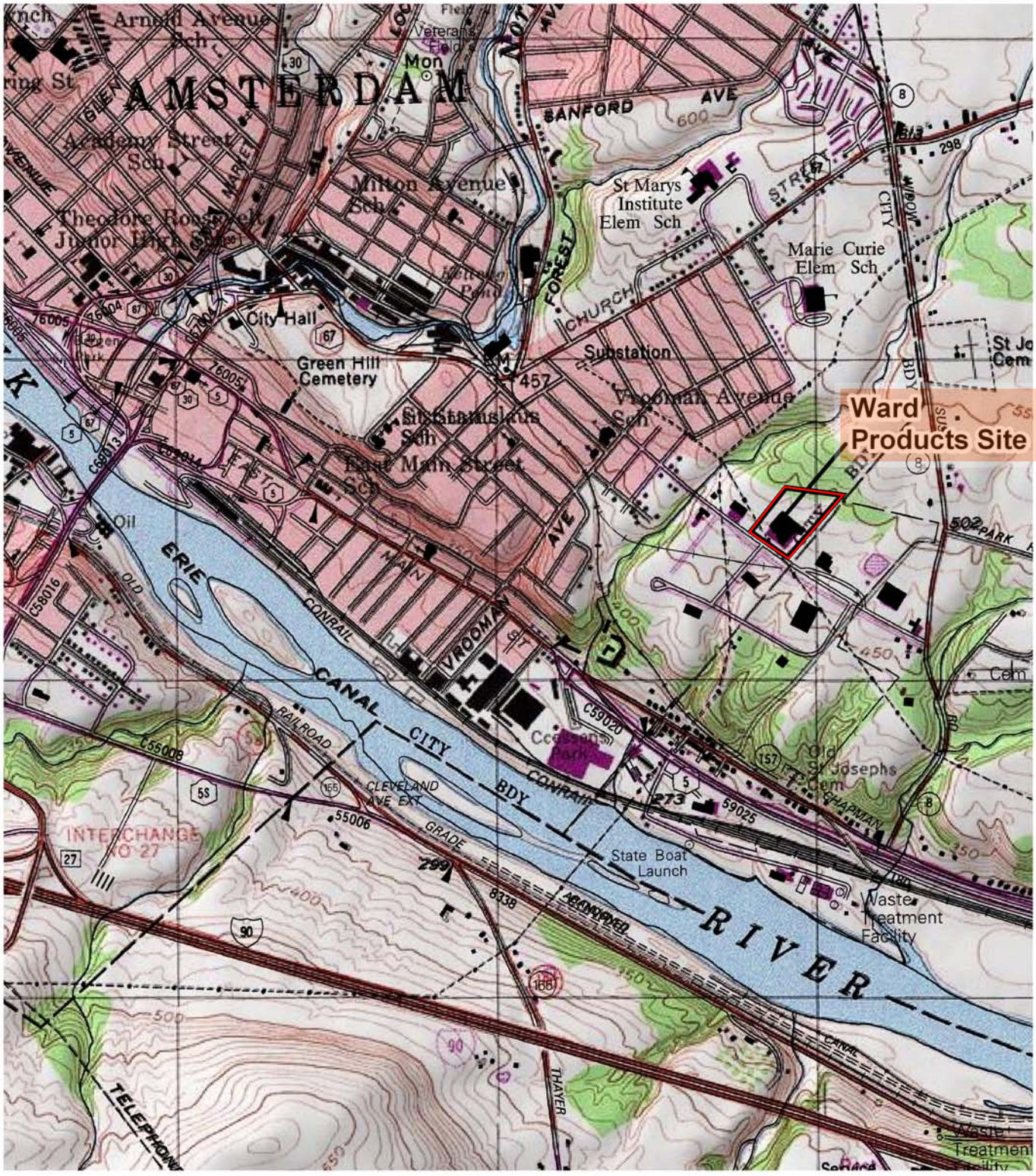
Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

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.

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.



NORMANDEAU ASSOCIATES INC.
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

Figure 1 : Location Map for
Ward Products Site
61 Edson St. Amsterdam, NY

Prepared by: DRS	Date: July 12, 2004

Plotted By: meisterk
Plot File Date Created: Feb/10/2011 1:10 PM
Layout-Sheet Name: AREAS
Filename: L:\WORK\107297\CADD\AECOM-CADD\SITE_MANAGEMENT\WARDS_PRODUCTS_SITE_MANAGEMENT-2011.DWG

LEGEND

- EXCAVATION & SEDIMENT REMOVAL AREAS (2009)
- EXCAVATION & SEDIMENT REMOVAL AREAS (PRIOR TO 2009)

PLAN

NOT TO SCALE

FORMER WARD PRODUCTS SITE MANAGEMENT PLAN AMSTERDAM, NEW YORK

AREAS OF SOIL & SEDIMENT REMOVAL

AECOM
40 British American Blvd.
Latham, New York 12110
T 518.951.2200 F 518.951.2300
WWW.AECOM.COM

DRN BY:	1-INCH — VERIFY SCALE IF PLAN SHEET IS REDUCED				
DES BY:					
CHK BY:					
APP BY:	1	ADDED SOIL CONCENTRATIONS	KAM	DJW	10/09/2009
	REV	DESCRIPTION	DRN	CHK	DATE (M/D/Y)

PROJECT START DATE (M/Y)	JULY 2010
PROJECT NO.	60134119
FILENAME	WARD PRODUCTS.DWG
SHEET NO.	
FIGURE NO.	3