New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

Defense National Stockpile Center Scotia Depot **February 2010**
447023
Town of Glenville, NY

Remedy Proposed for State Superfund Site; Public Comment Period and Public Meeting Announced

The public is invited to comment on a remedy proposed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to address contamination related to the Defense National Stockpile Center Scotia Depot ("site"). The site is located on NYS Route 5 in the Town of Glenville, Schenectady County. See map for site location.

Public Meeting
Monday, March 15, 2010
7:00 PM

Town of Glenville Senior Center
32 Worden Road
Town of Glenville, New York

NYSDEC invites you to a public meeting to discuss the remedy proposed for the site. You are encouraged to provide comments at the meeting, and during the 30-day comment period described in this fact sheet.

The Proposed Remedy

The remedy proposed for the site includes the underground injection of an iron-based material as part of what is called a permeable reactive barrier to reduce the site groundwater contamination combined with a long-term plume management monitoring program to assess plume stability and the effectiveness of the selected remedy.

The proposed remedy is described in a draft cleanup plan called a "Proposed Remedial Action Plan" developed under New York's State Superfund Program. The document is available for public review at the Scotia Branch of the Schenectady County Public Library identified below under "Where to Find Information". The document is also available on the NYSDEC web site at http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37564.html.

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**

How to Comment

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed remedy for 30 days, from February 23, 2010 through March 24, 2010.

Submit your comments to:
Jason Pelton, Project Manager
NYSDEC
Division of Environmental Remediation
12th Floor, 625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7017
E-mail: jmpelton@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Summary of the Proposed Remedy

The proposed remedy represents the alternative preferred by NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) to address site contamination. The draft cleanup plan has several goals:

- identify cleanup levels to be achieved
- summarize other alternatives considered
- explain why NYSDEC and NYSDOH believe the proposed remedy will protect public health and the environment
- provide a detailed description of the proposed remedy.

The proposed remedy was chosen following a detailed investigation of the site and evaluation of alternatives to address contamination, called a "Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study".

As discussed below, the site contains chlorinated solvent contamination in groundwater above the ambient groundwater quality standards which extends off-site to the west toward the Mohawk River. Trace levels of the site contaminants have been detected at concentrations below the drinking water standard in two municipal well fields. These chlorinated compounds are types of degreasing solvents that have commonly been used for industrial purposes.

To reduce the on-site mass of groundwater contamination and to reduce the off-site migration of the contaminants, the proposed remedy includes the direct injection of a permeable reactive barrier. The reactive barrier would contain an iron-based material that would create conditions in the ground that would allow the contaminants to break down as groundwater flows through the barrier. To evaluate the effectiveness of the permeable reactive barrier, the proposed remedy also includes a long-term plume management monitoring program that includes routine collection and analysis of groundwater samples. The proposed remedy also includes:

- An environmental easement to restrict the use of groundwater at the site;
- Implementation of a vapor intrusion monitoring program, and if necessary, installation of mitigation systems;
- Provisions for any new structures in the area of the groundwater contamination to include subslab construction that allows for installation and operation of mitigation systems; and
- Periodic reviews to evaluate the proposed remedy.

Other cleanup alternatives considered for the site included pumping the contamination out of the ground and treating it at the surface, injecting air into the ground to promote contaminant volatilization and then capturing the vapors with specially designed wells, and injecting other types of barriers that also break down the site contaminants as the groundwater flows through the barrier. Site conditions, including the depth to groundwater (greater than 60 feet below ground surface), geologic conditions, length of the groundwater plume, and the persistent nature of the contaminants make cleanup at the site complex and difficult to implement.

The permeable reactive barrier is being proposed because it provides protection to human health and the environment. This alternative is preferred because it would be implemented quickly and would be an effective approach in treating the groundwater contamination over the long-term and reducing the off-site migration of the site contaminants. The permeable reactive barrier would not require above ground structures that may interfere with future site development and would not require long-term operation and maintenance of an active remedial system.

The estimated cost to implement the remedy is $3,300,000. The estimated average annual monitoring costs for 30 years is $42,000.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments as it finalizes the remedy for the site. The selected remedy will be described in a document called a "Record of Decision" that will explain why the remedy was selected and respond to public comments. This document will be made available to the public (see "Where to Find Information" below). The project will then move to designing and performing the cleanup action to address the site contamination. NYSDEC will keep the public informed during the cleanup of the site.

Background

When originally commissioned in 1942 as a United States Naval facility, the Depot was approximately 337 acres in size, but has since been subdivided and currently comprises approximately 59.7 acres and represents one parcel in an assemblage of properties that are owned by both governmental and private agencies (see attached map). The site and adjacent properties are zoned for commercial use. The Scotia Naval Depot site is currently owned by the General Services Administration (GSA) and operated by the Defense National Stockpile Center (DNSC). The site overlies a United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated Sole Source Aquifer referred to as the Great Flats Aquifer that is used by five Schenectady County municipalities as a drinking water source.

The site was first identified when chlorinated solvent contamination was initially discovered at concentrations below the New York State Drinking Water Standard (5 ppb) in two municipal well fields located south of the site in 1991. Following this discovery, several investigations were completed, including a NYSDOH private water supply study, and increased groundwater quality monitoring was initiated at the well fields. The private water supply sampling documented the presence of the same chlorinated solvent contamination at residences located immediately downgradient of the site. These homes were subsequently connected to public water provided by the Town of Glenville. Subsequent investigations at the former Scotia Naval Depot defined a groundwater plume extending from the central area of the site to the west-southwest toward the Mohawk River. Data suggested that the solvent contamination originated in the northeast corner of the 401 sub-block and the area near the north corner of the 403 sub-block (see attached map).

Unrelated to the groundwater plume investigations, the DNSC completed shallow soil sampling at the site in preparing for property transfer to the GSA. Based on this sampling two soil removal projects, involving the excavation and off-site disposal of metals contaminated soil were completed to restore the site to its original soil quality. The soil removal involved the excavation and off-site disposal of approximately 560 tons of soil from former metal and ore stockpile areas where metals were detected above background concentrations and the removal of two (2) dry wells and seven (7) storm water catch basins in the vicinity of a former lead/zinc open storage area.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following locations to help the public to stay informed. These documents include the proposed cleanup plan for the site, called the "Proposed Remedial Action Plan".

Scotia Branch Schenectady County Library
14 Mohawk Ave.
Scotia, NY 12302-2507
(518) 386-2247
Hours: M, T, Th, & F 10:30 - 5:30
Sat 10:00 - 4:00
Wed & Sun Closed

Toni Galluzzo, FOIL Coordinator
NYSDEC Region 4 Office
1130 North Westcott Road
Schenectady, New York 12306
(518) 357-2046
Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

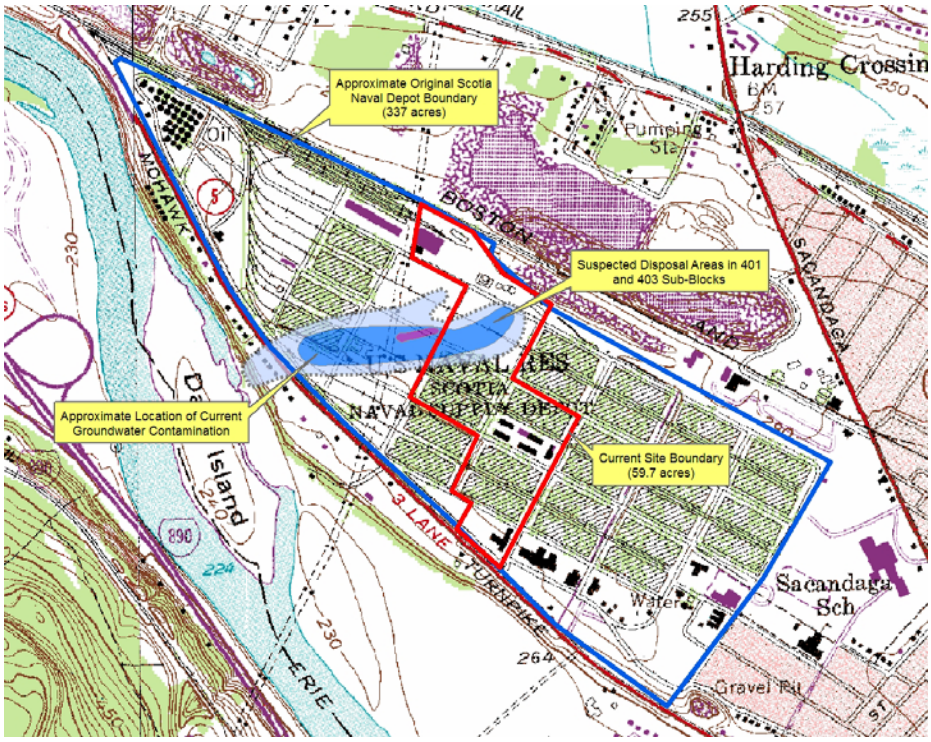
Who to Contact

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

<u>Project Related Questions</u>
Mr. Jason Pelton
NYSDEC Project Manager
Division of Environmental Remediation
12th Floor, 625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7017
(518) 402-9818 -or- (888) 459-8667
E-mail: jmpelton@gw.dec.state.ny.us

<u>Site-Related Health Questions</u>
Ms. Maureen Schuck
NYSDOH Project Manager
Flanigan Square
547 River Street
Troy, New York 12180-2216
Phone: (800) 458-1158 ext. 27860
Email: beei@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.



Site Location Map

- Map showing site location in Town of Glenville.
- Groundwater contamination (blue-shaded area) extends from the north end of the 400 block on the site to the west toward the Mohawk River.
- Groundwater occurs approximately 60 feet to 70 feet below the ground surface and flows from east to west (toward Mohawk River