



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

Universal Waste, Inc.
91 Wurz Avenue
Utica, NY 13502

August 2018

SITE No. 633009
NYSDEC REGION 6

Where to Find Information:

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

Utica Public Library
303 Genesee Street
Utica, NY 13501
Phone: 315-735-2279

Who to Contact:

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

Project-Related Questions

Parag Amin, Project Manager
NYSDEC

Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7014
518-402-9648
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Site-Related Health Questions

Gregory Rys
NYSDOH
5665 State Route 5 Herkimer,
NY 13350 315-866-6879
beei@health.ny.gov

For more information about New York's
State Superfund Program, visit:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html

Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) Operable Unit (OU) 01 to Begin

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is announcing an expedited cleanup of contamination at the Universal Waste, Inc. site ("site") located at 91 Wurz Avenue, Utica, NY 13502 in Oneida County. Please see the map for the site location. Documents related to the cleanup of this site including the final Interim Remedial Measure Work Plan can be found at the location(s) identified to the left under "Where to Find Information." The expedited cleanup activities are expected to begin in July 2018 and last about 3 months. The activities will be performed by Universal Waste, Inc. ("remedial party") with oversight provided by NYSDEC.

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; action is required.

Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) 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. This IRM will also allow for further investigation of the areas which are currently inaccessible.

The IRM work plan describes cleanup activities for OU1 that include:

- Removal of 17 debris piles and a berm containing materials (metals, concrete, bricks, plastic, glass, fabric, etc.) mixed with soils contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), several metals and semi-volatile organic constituents (SVOCs). Approximately 25,400 cubic yards of material will be removed and disposed off-site at an authorized facility.
- Appropriate erosion and sediment controls will be implemented to limit potential erosion and cross contamination during IRM. Equipment decontamination areas will be established to contain and control any spreading of the contamination.
- Implementation of a Health and Safety Plan and Community Air Monitoring Plan during all ground intrusive activities. Appropriate dust control measures will be taken as necessary to prevent airborne migration of contamination.

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Next Steps: The approved work plan is available to the public. (see "Where to Find Information" on front page).

Upon completion of the expedited cleanup activities, a Construction Completion Report will be prepared that documents the activities that were performed. Following these activities, a comprehensive remedial investigation report will be prepared, and a feasibility study will be conducted to develop the final remedy for the site.

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

Site Description: The site comprises 20.3 acres and is bordered on the west by Leland Avenue, on the south by Sewage Plant Road and on the north by the Mohawk River. To the east is wooded vacant land which was formerly a construction and demolition (C&D) debris recycling facility which is currently unoccupied. The site is currently inactive and is fenced. The northern portion of the site is generally wooded. The site is relatively flat with the exception of several berms and piles of debris and soil. There is a railroad line running southeast to northwest through the property. There is a storm sewer transecting the site from west to east that drains into a stream located on the property to the east of the site. The site had been used as a scrap metal yard which salvaged ferrous and stainless steel metals. The site handled electrical components, including transformers that apparently contained PCBs.

The site consists of three operable units (OUs). This IRM pertains to Operable Unit 01 (OU01). OU01 is the on-site former recycling facility area which is the 20.3 acre fenced area. The other OUs are the off-site wetland area known as the Mohawk Flats, and site-related impacts to the Mohawk River.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the Site ID, 633009) at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/externalapps/derexternal/index.cfm?pageid=3>

Summary of the Investigation: The primary contaminants of concern at the site are polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) and metals, which are present in on-site

soil and groundwater. Petroleum product containing PCBs has been identified on top of the water table in one of the groundwater monitoring well. PCBs and VOCs are also identified in the storm water outfall area immediate east of the site.

State Superfund Program Overview: 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>

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 at:

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.

Site Location Map

