



FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

Former IBM Endicott Site
Site No. 704014
Endicott, New York

November, 2010

Remedy Selected for Operable Unit No. 4 (Former Ideal Cleaners) Former IBM Endicott State Superfund Site; Announcement of Availability of Record of Decision

The public is invited to review the remedy selected by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to address contamination related to Operable Unit No. 4 (the former Ideal Cleaners site, "OU No. 4") at the former IBM Endicott State Superfund site. The former Ideal Cleaners site is located at 1900 North Street in the Village of Endicott, Broome County. The site is currently a parking lot on North Street between Arthur Avenue and Jackson Avenue.

Availability of Documents

Record of Decision for Operable Unit No. 4 (Former Ideal Cleaners Site) Former IBM Endicott Facility Endicott, New York

NYSDEC invites you to review the Record of Decision detailing the selected remedy for the former Ideal Cleaners site within the former IBM facility. Documents and more information are available from the sources listed at the end of this Fact Sheet.

The Selected Remedy

As a result of the in-situ thermal desorption treatment program that IBM implemented in 2009-2010, contaminated soils at OU No. 4 have been cleaned up, eliminating the site as a source of groundwater contamination. Some residual groundwater contamination remains downgradient of the site, but this should get clean over time. The remedy selected for OU No. 4 includes continued pumping and treatment of contaminated groundwater until groundwater standards are achieved. The remedy also includes ongoing monitoring and maintenance of vapor intrusion ventilation systems and monitoring soil vapor contamination until the Department determines those systems are no longer needed.

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

The selected remedy is described in a final cleanup plan called a Record of Decision (ROD) developed under New York's State Superfund Program. The document is available for public review at the locations identified below under "Where to Find Information". The document also is available on the NYSDEC web site at www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37558.html

Summary of the Selected Remedy

The selected remedy represents the alternative chosen by NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) to address remaining site contamination. The remedy was chosen following a detailed investigation of the site and evaluation of alternatives to address contamination, called a “Supplemental Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study”.

The remedial goal for Operable Unit No. 4 is to clean up the groundwater to the point that the concentrations of site-related contaminants meet the 6NYCRR Part 703 groundwater quality standards identified in Table 1. Attainment of those standards should also lead to a reduction in the concentration of those contaminants in soil vapor and, ultimately, elimination of the need for vapor intrusion ventilation systems in the area. The selected remedy relies on the soil cleanup, groundwater pump and treat, and vapor intrusion ventilation programs that IBM has already implemented at the site as interim remedial measures. (An interim remedial measure (IRM) is conducted at a site when a source of contamination or exposure pathway can be effectively addressed before completion of the remedial investigation and feasibility study.) The selected remedy includes provisions to consider additional groundwater cleanup measures if monitoring data indicate the standards may not be achieved in the next ten years.

Table 1 – Groundwater Cleanup Objectives

Contaminant →	Tetrachloroethene	Trichloroethene	cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	trans-1,2-Dichloroethene	Vinyl Chloride
Part 703 Class GA Groundwater Standard (ppb) →	5	5	5	5	2

The Department believes that the remedial measures described above will accomplish the remediation goals for the site provided that the groundwater remedial and vapor intrusion mitigation programs continue to be operated and maintained in a manner consistent with their design.

During the decision-making phase of selecting the remedial alternative for the former Ideal Cleaners site, the Department solicited input from the public by holding a public meeting in Endicott and by establishing and announcing a 30-day comment period for interested persons to discuss and comment on the proposed remedy.

Based on the results of the investigations at the site, the interim remedial measures that have been performed, and public comments on the proposed remedial alternative, the Department has selected No Further Action with continued operation of the groundwater remedial and vapor intrusion mitigation programs as the remedy for the former Ideal Cleaners site. The Department believes that this alternative is protective of human health and the environment and will satisfy all cleanup standards, criteria, and guidance. Therefore the Department concludes that No Further Action is needed other than operation, maintenance, monitoring, and institutional and engineering controls.

Next Steps

Upon selection of the remedy, NYSDEC issued a Record of Decision that details the selected remedy and establishes requirements for its implementation. At the time of issuance, the Record of Decision became an addendum to an Administrative Order on Consent between the

Department and the responsible party (IBM). The Administrative Order on Consent is a legally binding agreement that requires IBM to undertake certain remediation activities to address contamination resulting from releases at its former Endicott facility.

With issuance of the Record of Decision, IBM must continue to operate and maintain its groundwater remediation and soil vapor mitigation systems, and it must monitor the residual groundwater contamination plume that emanated from the former Ideal Cleaners source zone to determine whether it degrades as expected. Further, IBM must maintain institutional and engineering controls to preclude human exposure to site contaminants and to reduce further environmental degradation. NYSDEC will keep the public informed during the cleanup of the site.

Background

The former IBM Endicott facility is a 135-acre industrial facility situated in the Susquehanna River valley in the Village of Endicott and in the Town of Union in Broome County, New York. 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.

The Record of Decision identifies the remedy selected by NYSDEC and NYSDOH to remediate the soil, groundwater, and soil vapor contamination at Operable Unit No. 4, the former Ideal Cleaners property. Releases of hazardous constituents at the Ideal Cleaners property appear to have occurred when the property was used as a dry cleaning facility prior to IBM ownership. The selected alternative was chosen following a detailed investigation of the site. Operable Unit No. 4 is one of seven operable units associated with remediation of the former IBM Endicott site. Remediation of the site by IBM has been ongoing since 1980. In 1992 the remedial actions being performed at the former IBM Endicott site were formally incorporated into the site's 6NYCRR Part 373 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit. At the time the permit was issued the site had been reclassified to Class 4 (meaning the site was properly remediated but required continued management) and the Department determined that the remedial actions in effect at the time were protective of human health and the environment. In 2004, based on the Department's emerging recognition that vapor intrusion associated with on-site and off-site soil and groundwater contamination represented a previously unanticipated threat to human health, the site was reclassified to Class 2. Subsequently, the Department and IBM entered into an Order on Consent that requires IBM to further evaluate and enhance the site remedial program. In addition to the "pump-and-treat" programs that IBM implemented to address groundwater contamination, the company also addressed the potential for vapor intrusion by sampling structures and offering ventilation systems to mitigate potential exposures. In order to speed up the cleanup of Operable Unit No. 4 (the subject of this Record of Decision), IBM implemented an interim remedial measure consisting of in-situ thermal treatment to address the presence of site-related constituents in the Ideal Cleaners source 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 selected cleanup plan for the site, called the "Record of Decision".

G. F. Johnson Mem. Library
1001 Park Street
Endicott, New York 13760
(607) 757-5350
Mon-Thu 9-9, Fri-Sat 9-5

NYSDEC Region 7
615 Erie Blvd. West
Syracuse, New York 13204
(315) 426-7403
Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

NYSDEC
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233
(518) 402-9814
Mon-Fri 8:30am-5pm

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

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Site-Related Health Questions

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If you know someone who would like to be added to the site contact list, have them contact the NYSDEC project manager above. 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.