

**NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF**



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION**

**Dear Interested Citizen:**

We hope this Fact Sheet will help bring you up to date on activities at this site. If you have any questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact:

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or

for health related questions, contact the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) at the following:

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# FACT SHEET

## FORMER GENERAL INSTRUMENT CORPORATION

**Hazardous Waste Site No. 7-09-010**  
**Sherburne, New York**  
**August 2006**

### INTRODUCTION

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has prepared this fact sheet to update the public on the progress of the cleanup at the former General Instrument Corporation (GIC) Inactive Hazardous Waste Site at 1 Kenyon Press Drive in the Village of Sherburne (see Figure 1 below). The site cleanup was necessary to clean up volatile organic compounds (VOCs) detected in soil and groundwater at the site.

### BACKGROUND

The 5.5-acre site was originally developed in 1947 for the Technical Appliance Corporation of America, which was later purchased by Jerrold Electronic Corporation in 1962 and later by General Instrument Corporation in 1969. General Instrument operated the facility from 1969 to until manufacturing operations ceased in 1983. Vishay GSI, Inc. (VGSI), is now the corporate successor to the GIC, and responsible for the cleanup. The facility is currently occupied by Kenyon Press Inc., a commercial printer (see Figure 2 on page 2).

In 1983, General Instrument implemented a plan to close their manufacturing facilities at the Sherburne Plant. An investigation conducted as part of the closure activities revealed a variety of organic and inorganic compounds related to the manufacturing process in soil surrounding the facility. In response, General Instrument excavated and removed contaminated on-site soils and in 1985 initiated a groundwater investigation. The results of the investigation indicated the presence of 1,1,1-trichloroethane, trichloroethene (TCE), tetrachloroethene, and several other VOCs in the groundwater along the western (down gradient) edge of the property.

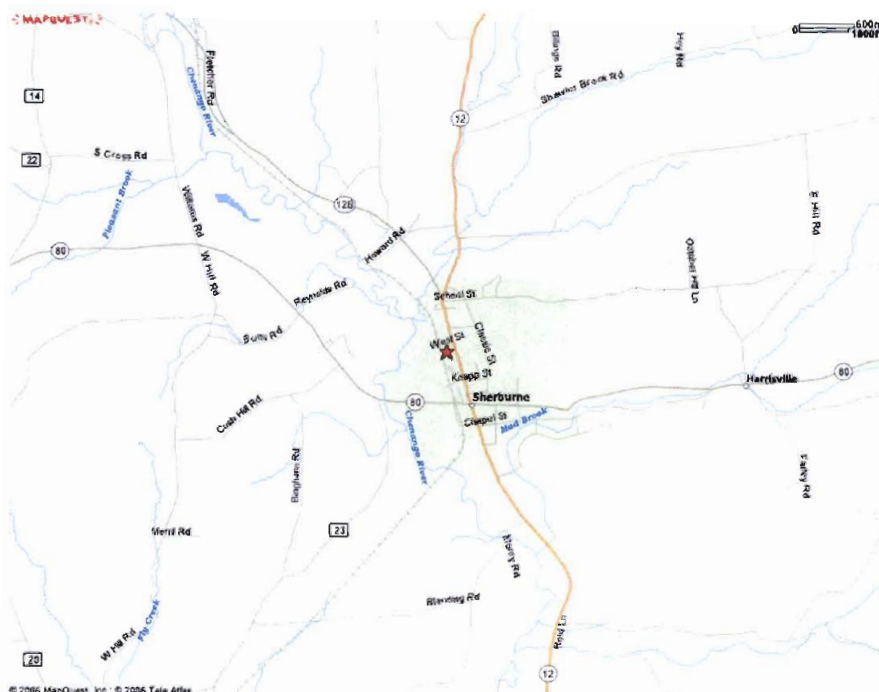


Figure 1 - Former General Instrument Site Location Map 1N

The site was classified by the NYSDEC as an inactive hazardous waste site (Class 2) in 1987, and GIC was required by a 1989 legal agreement to perform a remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS). The RI/FS defined the nature and extent of

VOCs in the soil and groundwater beneath the plating building stemming from historic degreasing and plating operations. A remedial design and remedial action plan was developed that proposed the installation of an in-place soil vapor extraction (SVE) system to treat the unsaturated soil beneath the former plating building and a groundwater recovery and treatment system to address a petroleum release. The contaminated groundwater was determined to be extending off site, and would be treated as the groundwater moved down gradient using an in-place permeable reactive barrier (PRB) made of iron filings. A Record of Decision (ROD) was issued by the NYSDEC in December 1994 approving the selected site remedies.

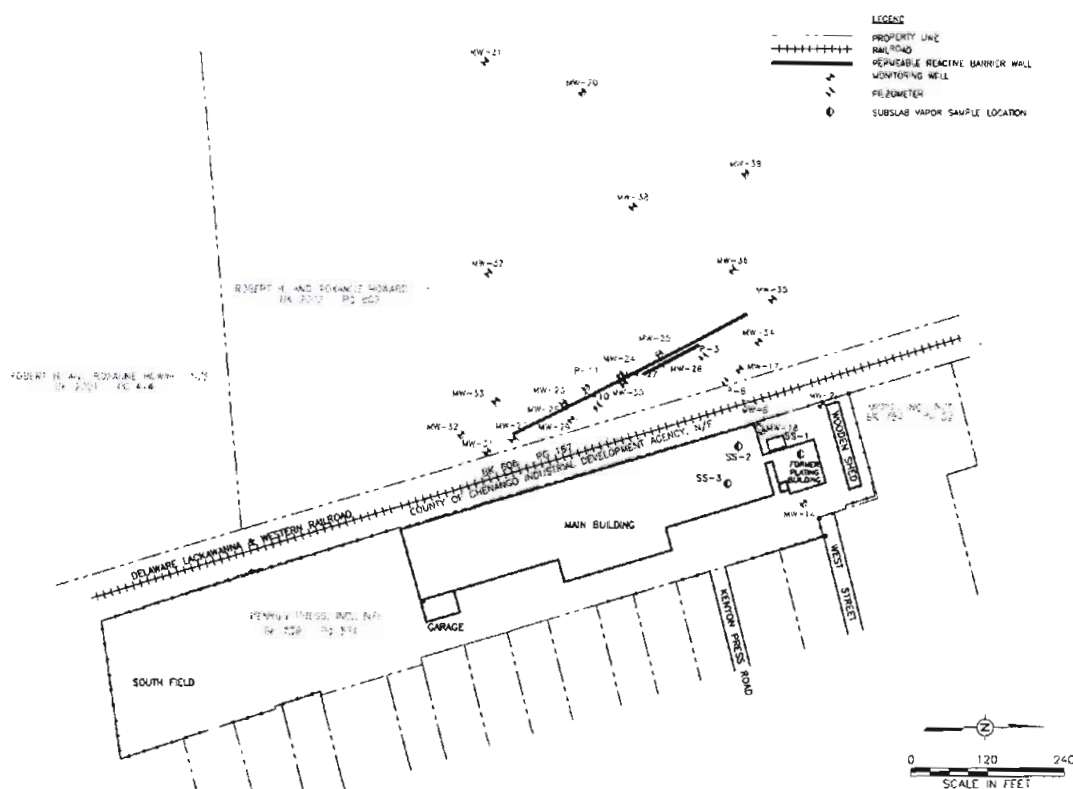


Figure 2 - Former General Instrument Site Layout

Both the SVE and groundwater recovery and treatment systems were installed and operated as planned in the mid to late 1990s and eventually closed by the NYSDEC when the systems reached their respective cleanup targets. The PRB was initially installed as a pilot-scale funnel-and-gate treatment system. In 1997, based on the success of the pilot test, a full-scale PRB was installed. The PRB was monitored on a quarterly basis for a period of approximately two (2) years after the installation, and twice a year thereafter.

VGSI completed a technical review of the site in March 2004 using data generated from groundwater monitoring events conducted in 2002. The review was performed to address a number of concerns raised by the NYSDEC at the time, including shifts in the groundwater flow direction and changes in the VOC distribution. The results of the review suggested that VOCs might be bypassing the barrier. However, the results of the evaluation were determined not to be conclusive.

## CURRENT ACTIVITIES

It was determined that there were not enough monitoring wells present on site to satisfactorily evaluate the flow direction and extent of contaminated groundwater. As a result, nine (9) new monitoring wells were installed by VGSI in November 2005. The monitoring wells were sampled in December 2005 and July 2006. A combined semi-annual groundwater and additional investigation report is expected to be submitted to the NYSDEC in September 2006.

A soil vapor intrusion (SVI) study is expected to be initiated and completed at the site by VGSI in August 2006 to evaluate whether or not VOCs, previously detected in site soil and groundwater, are also present in soil gas and potentially affecting the indoor air quality within the existing facility buildings. As part of that investigation, three soil gas samples will be collected from below the concrete slabs of the facility buildings. It is expected that a report detailing the sampling will be prepared and submitted to the NYSDEC and NYSDOH for review in October 2006.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

We invite you to contact us at the addresses listed on the front of this sheet, and visit the NYSDEC where copies of the ROD, semi-annual groundwater reports, and SVI work plan and other site-related documents are available for review upon request.

Former General Instrument Site  
mailing List  
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