



# FACT SHEET

## State Superfund Program

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**South Hill Dump**

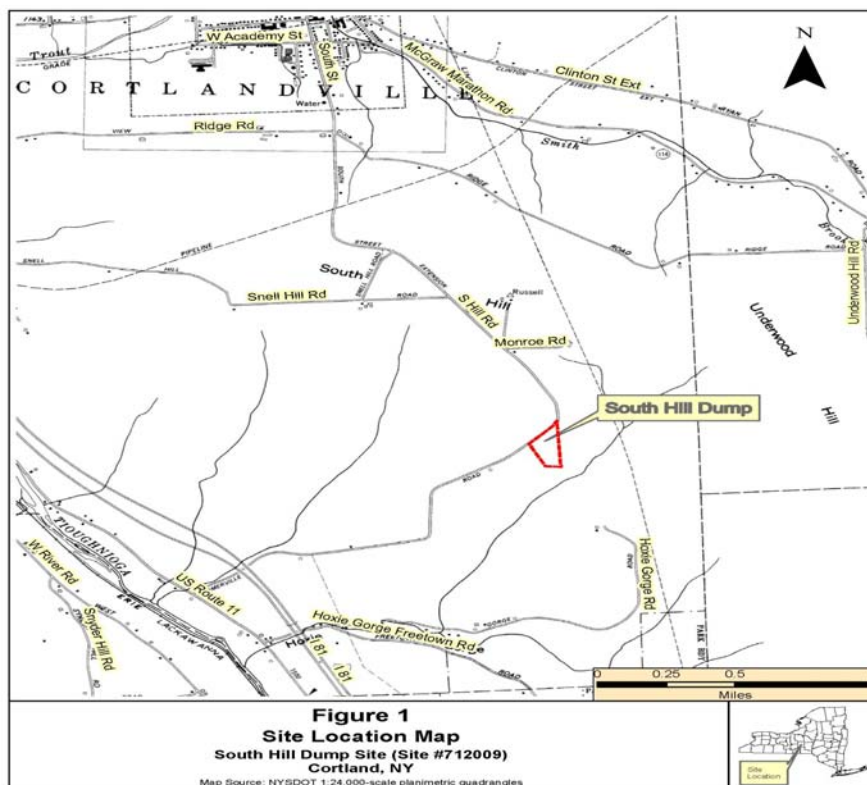
**Site Number 712009**

**Town of Cortlandville, Cortland County, New York**

**September 2011**

## Cleanup Action to Begin at State Superfund Site

Action has recently begun that will address contamination related to the South Hill Dump site (“site”) located off of South Hill Road, approximately 1.25 miles from Route 81, in the Town of Cortlandville, Cortland County, under New York’s State (NYS) Superfund Program. See site location map below.



The cleanup action for the site involves the construction of a soil cover system over existing waste fill areas to prevent exposure of contaminated soils/wastes and minimize percolation of stormwater through them. The soil cover shall consist of eighteen (18) inches of clean fill and six (6) inches of topsoil. The soil cover system installed will be vegetated, and include runoff control devices to reduce erosion potential. The cleanup activities will be performed by a remedial contractor, the Environmental Services Group, Inc. (ESG), with oversight provided by the NYSDEC’s engineering consultant for this project, MACTEC Engineering and Consulting P.C. (MACTEC).

**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](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html)

**Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities:** The goal of the cleanup action for the site is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment.

The main elements of the remedy include:

1. A soil cover will be constructed over all fill areas to prevent exposure of contaminated soils and minimize percolation.
2. Creation and placement of an institutional control in the form of an environmental easement that will require (a) compliance with the approved site management plan (SMP); (b) restricting the use of groundwater as a source

of potable or process water, without necessary water quality treatment as determined by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH); and (c) the property owner or person implementing the remedy to complete a periodic certification of institutional and engineering controls.

3. Development of a SMP which will include the following institutional and engineering controls: (a) management of the final cover system to maintain the cover and restrict excavation in the cover area; (b) environmental monitoring including groundwater, surface water, and sediment; (c) identification of any use restrictions on the site and (d) provisions for the continued proper operation and maintenance of the components of the remedy.
4. The property owner or the person implementing the remedy will provide a periodic certification of institutional and engineering controls, prepared and submitted by a professional engineer or such other expert acceptable to the NYSDEC, until the NYSDEC notifies them in writing that this certification is no longer needed. This submittal would: (a) contain certification that the institutional controls and engineering controls put in place are still in place and are either unchanged from the previous certification or are compliant with NYSDEC-approved modifications; (b) allow the NYSDEC access to the site; and (c) state that nothing has occurred that would impair the ability of the control to protect public health or the environment, or constitute a violation or failure to comply with the site management plan unless otherwise approved by the NYSDEC.
5. Since the remedy results in untreated hazardous waste remaining at the site, a long-term monitoring program will be instituted.

### Next Steps

Cleanup activities at the site are anticipated to take about one year to complete at a cost of approximately \$2.2 million. All construction work will be performed under full-time oversight by MACTEC Engineering and Consulting, Inc., the engineering consultant hired by NYSDEC. In addition, the contractor's Community Protection Plan for the work was reviewed to ensure that on-site workers and the nearby community are protected during these activities. A copy of that plan has been placed into the document repositories identified below.

During cleanup activities, truck traffic to and from the site associated with excavation and off-site disposal activities are being limited to non-residential areas as much as practical. Furthermore, the contractor is responsible for keeping the transportation route clean of soil and fill materials generated during site cleanup activities.

After cleanup activities are completed, NYSDEC will prepare a Final Engineering Report. The Final Engineering Report will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed during the cleanup of the site by fact sheets issued electronically through the Cortland County listserv (see blue highlighted box below).

## **Background**

The site was operated as a municipal disposal facility by the Town of Cortlandville from the early 1960's until 1972, although it is reported that local residents used the site for trash disposal as early as 1949. During its years of operation, wastes were received from the Village of McGraw and the Towns of Cortlandville and Solon, as well as local industry. Presently, waste is protruding from the surface of the landfill across much of the site, and includes road construction debris, brush, stumps, tires, white metal, automobile parts, and miscellaneous industrial waste materials. Numerous decomposed drums are present across many areas of the landfill.

In 1991, the NYSDEC listed the site as a Class 2 site in the Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites in New York. A Class 2 site is a site where hazardous waste presents a significant threat to the public health or the environment and action is required. Between 1996 and 2003, the NYSDEC performed a Remedial Investigation (RI) to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the site. Soil, groundwater, surface water and sediment samples were collected from the site. Test pits were excavated to determine the nature of the waste. Chemical analysis revealed the presence of contamination in subsurface soils, sediment, surface water and groundwater. The primary contaminants of concern at this site are volatile organic compounds. Chemicals that readily evaporate are called "volatile chemicals."

In response to site findings, the NYSDEC performed an interim remedial measure (IRM) drum removal. In March of 1991, five drums of hazardous waste were removed from the site. An IRM is conducted at a site when a source of contamination or exposure pathway can be effectively addressed before completion of the Remedial Investigation (RI). A second IRM was performed during the RI when water and a non-aqueous phase liquid (NAPL) were found to be flowing into a test pit. As a result, 660 gallons of the liquid were removed and disposed off site.

The NYSDEC completed the State-funded investigation and study in 2007 and a final selection of the cleanup action was made and documented in a January 2008 Record of Decision. Remedial design investigations were performed by the NYSDEC from 2008 through 2011. The remedial design was completed in March 2011. The Remedial Design (RD) began in the Fall 2009 and was completed in February 2011.

Plans and specifications associated with the implementation of the remedial action were advertised for bid in March 2011. The NYSDEC opened bids on April 19, 2011 for remedial construction at the subject site. ESG, based out of Tonawanda, New York, was given formal notice to proceed with the cleanup in August 2011.

## For More Information

Project documents are available at the following locations to help the public stay informed. These documents include the decision document describing the selected remedy for the site, called the “Record of Decision.”

Ms. Karen Q. Snyder, R.M.C.  
Town of Cortlandville Clerk’s Office  
3577 Terrace Road  
Cortland, NY 13045  
Hours: Mon.-Fri 8:30AM – 4:30PM  
Phone: (607) 756-5725  
E-Mail: [townclerk@cortlandville.org](mailto:townclerk@cortlandville.org)

NYSDEC Region 7 Office  
615 Erie Blvd. West  
Syracuse, NY 13204  
Phone: (315) 426-7403  
Hours: M-F 8:30AM- 4:45PM  
Please call for an appointment  
Attn: Harry Warner  
E-Mail: [hdwarner@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:hdwarner@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

## Whom to Contact

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

### Project Related Questions

David J. Chiusano, Project Manager  
NYSDEC  
625 Broadway, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Albany, New York 12233-7017  
Phone: (518) 402-9814  
E-Mail: [djchiusa@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:djchiusa@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

### Site-Related Health Questions

Richard Jones  
Environmental Health Assessment  
NYSDOH/ Central New York  
217 S. Salina Street, 3rd floor  
Syracuse, NY 13202  
Phone: (315)477-8154

### Citizen Participation Specialist

Diane Carlton  
New York State Department of  
Environmental Conservation Region 7  
615 Erie Blvd. West  
Syracuse, NY 13204  
Phone: (315) 426-7403  
E-Mail: [reg7info@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:reg7info@gw.dec.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: [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html](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.

NEW FENCE

SOUTH HILL ROAD

EXISTING SOLID WASTE AREA

NEW SOLID WASTE AREA

NEW DRAINAGE CHANNEL

NEW PERIMETER ACCESS ROAD

PROPERTY BOUNDARY

EXISTING MONITORING WELL

NEW GAS VENT (TYP)

EXISTING DRAINAGE WAY

NEW EAST SWALE

NEW LANDFILL SLOPE BENCH

NEW STORMWATER DETENTION BASIN

UNNAMED STREAM TO HOXIE GORGE CREEK

0 100 200 400  
SCALE IN FEET

CONCEPTUAL ILLUSTRATION OF REMEDIAL ACTIONS  
SOUTH HILL DUMP SITE  
TOWN OF CORTLANDVILLE, CORTLAND COUNTY, NEW YORK  
NYSDEC SITE NUMBER 712009

CREATED BY: MACTEC ENGINEERING AND CONSULTING, P.C., 09/09/2011  
AERIAL IMAGE SOURCE: NYS ORTHOS ONLINE

**New York State**  
Department of Environmental Conservation