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NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
Division of Hazardous Waste Remediation/Bureau of Western Remedial Action



**FACT SHEET**

**SYRACUSE CHINA SITE**  
**Salina (T), Onondaga County, New York**  
**Site No. 7-34-053**

**November 1994**

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Dear Interested Citizen:

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in partnership with the New York State Departments of Health (NYSDOH) and Law (NYSDOL), is responsible for seeing that hazardous waste sites across the State are investigated and, if necessary, remediated. Under the State's Hazardous Waste Site Remedial Program, the process follows a path of thorough investigation, enforcement, remedial action selection, design, construction and monitoring. Throughout this process, the NYSDEC conducts a Citizen Participation Program.

The NYSDEC's Citizen Participation Program is aimed at increasing public understanding of and involvement in remedial activities. The Citizen Participation Program opens up two-way communication, thus providing 1) an opportunity for the State to obtain site information from you that will enable us to develop a comprehensive remedial plan which is protective of both public health and the environment, and 2) a mechanism for us to learn your concerns and answer your questions about the site and the remedial process.

In some instances, the NYSDEC is able to identify and enter into legal agreements with companies who owned, operated or contributed to, or currently own or operate the facility identified as a hazardous waste site. These companies are called Potentially Responsible Parties, or PRPs. In other instances, where PRPs cannot be identified, are no longer in existence, or with whom an agreement cannot be met, the NYSDEC can investigate and remediate a site using funds from the State Superfund. The State Superfund monies are derived from the 1986 Environmental Quality Bond Act. This site is proceeding with the PRP, Syracuse China Corporation implementing the required remedial program.

The Syracuse China Corporation is located in the Town of Salina, Onondaga County, north of New Court Street (State Route 298). The Syracuse China Site is the landfill behind the factory building and north of the Conrail tracks. The landfill is approximately 13 acres and is bound by undeveloped Syracuse China property on the east and west sides and a New York State regulated wetlands and Factory Avenue on the north side.

Syracuse China has used the area north of the factory building as an industrial landfill since about 1940. The landfill can be divided into two areas, the upper portion or western half and the lower portion or eastern half. In 1990, Syracuse China presented the NYSDEC with a report entitled "Preliminary Hydrogeologic Site Assessment Report". The analytical data collected as part of the assessment indicated four wastewater treatment sludge samples, collected in the vicinity of the settling ponds adjacent to the landfill exceeded the regulatory limits for lead. Based on this data the NYSDEC listed the site on the registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites with a classification of 2.

An RI/FS is conducted at a site once hazardous waste contamination has been confirmed. The RI determines the nature and extent of contamination through a series of sampling activities which may include sampling of soils, air, sediments, surface water, and groundwater. Data gathered in the RI is used in the FS to develop a list of potential remedial alternatives to clean up the site. Currently Syracuse China will have their consultant, Geraghty and Miller, P.C. initiate RI field work the week of November 14, 1994. This consists of a geophysical survey to search for any potential buried drums, soil and groundwater samples, and environmental sampling in the wetlands adjacent to the Syracuse China landfill. If the geophysical survey identifies any areas of potential drums, test pits will be excavated to explore these areas.

**If you would like more information on the RI/FS process, please call NYSDEC (see contact list) to request the RI/FS fact sheet.**

NYSDEC Contact

Mr. Steven Scharf  
Project Engineer  
NYSDEC  
50 Wolf Road  
Albany, NY 12233-7010  
518/457-4343

NYSDEC Contact

Mr. Neil Driscoll  
Cit. Participation Spec.  
NYSDEC  
615 Erie Blvd.  
Syracuse, NY 13204-2400  
315/426-7551

NYSDOH Contact

Mr. Gary Robinson  
NYSDOH  
677 South Salina St.  
Syracuse, NY 13202-3592  
315/426-7613

NYSDOH Contact

Susan VanPatten  
Health Liaison Program  
NYSDOH  
2 University Place  
Albany, NY 12203  
1-800-458-1158, ext. 402

In addition, NYSDEC has a toll free number available if you have questions, concerns or information about the Syracuse China site. Calls are answered by our Albany-based Citizen Participation Specialist Unit, who will listen to your questions and try to provide an immediate answer or will get back to you as soon as possible with accurate information. The number is 1-800-342-9296. A document repository for this site has been established at: Salina Free Library, 100 Belmont Street, Mattydale, N.Y. 13211.

Public understanding, confidence and involvement are crucial to the success of New York's hazardous waste remediation program. Your participation in the process is essential to increasing public understanding of the NYSDEC's responsibilities, plans and activities at hazardous waste sites such as the Syracuse China site. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Enclosure

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