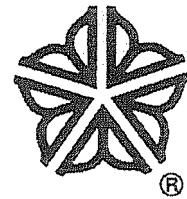


FACT SHEET

Investigation to Begin at the Former Photech Site

December 1998



CITY OF ROCHESTER

About the Brownfield Program



A brownfield is an abandoned or under-used property where re-development is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. The Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act of 1996 provides \$200 million to help municipalities that own brownfields but are not responsible for the contamination to investigate and clean up these sites.

A municipality must apply for money to investigate contamination at a site. If the investigation reveals contamination that requires clean up, the municipality can apply for money to help with the clean up. The State will reimburse the municipality for up to 75% of eligible costs associated with an investigation or clean up.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the City of Rochester, in conjunction with the New York State Department of Health (DOH), want to inform you about an upcoming environmental investigation at the former Photech Imaging Systems, Inc. site (Photech). This site is being investigated as part of the State's brownfield program (see sidebar). DEC and the City of Rochester are providing this fact sheet to explain highlights of the planned investigation, why the investigation is happening and how to get more information.

About the Photech Site:

The Photech brownfield is a 12.5-acre site located at 1000 Driving Park Avenue in Rochester (see map). The site was used as a photographic film and paper manufacturing facility from 1948 until 1991, when Photech abandoned the facility. The City of Rochester acquired the site through tax foreclosure in 1997.

The facility includes 108,000 square feet of office and production space in seventeen buildings. There are also chemical storage areas on the site. Photech left behind a large number of chemicals stored inside the site buildings. In 1994, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and DEC removed a variety of wastes and chemicals from the site.

However, the buildings still contain damaged and undamaged materials that may contain asbestos, and there are five above-ground storage tanks remaining on the site. Vandals have damaged some materials on site. Additionally, tests suggest that contamination may exist underground on the site. These areas will be the subject of the current detailed investigation.

The Current Investigation:

The City of Rochester has been awarded a grant from the 1996 Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act to cover up to 75% of eligible costs of the investigation. To determine the extent of contamination on the site, the City of Rochester will:

survey the site to determine the extent of asbestos contamination in site buildings;

survey areas inside the buildings that may still contain chemical materials, wastes or residual contamination, such as storage tanks, building floors, etc.;

- properly remove the 5 above-ground storage tanks and related piping; and drill 25 to 30 soil borings to collect soil samples underneath certain site buildings and in other areas suspected to be contaminated. About a dozen of the boring holes will be converted into groundwater monitoring wells and will be used to sample groundwater.

The investigation is scheduled to begin in December 1998 and should be completed by June 1999. The investigation will cost an estimated \$150,000.

What Happens Next:

After the investigation is complete, the City of Rochester will submit a report on the investigation to DEC. The report may include recommendations for cleanup actions. If cleanup actions are necessary, the DEC will propose a cleanup plan and present it to the public at a public meeting. Additionally, there will be a 45-day public comment period on the plan. The City of Rochester could apply for additional funds from the 1996 Bond Act to help pay for any necessary cleanup.

The City anticipates marketing the site for new light industrial or manufacturing development once the site is properly investigated and any required cleanup is performed.

Community Participation:

The City of Rochester has developed a Citizen Participation Plan for the Photech brownfield site. This plan describes activities that will occur at different stages of the site investigation and cleanup process, including opportunities for public input into the process. The plan also includes a glossary of terms and other helpful information. We encourage you to review the Citizen Participation Plan and the work plan for the investigation available at the following locations:

Rochester Public Library
Maplewood Branch
1111 Dewey Avenue
Rochester NY 14613
(716) 254-7048

City of Rochester
Department of Environmental Services
30 Church Street Room 300B
Rochester NY 14614-1378
For an appointment contact: Judy Farrell (716) 428-6011

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact any of the following people:

City of Rochester:
Joseph Bioridolillo
Department of Environmental Services
30 Church Street Room 300B
Rochester NY 14614-1378
(716) 428-6649

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation:
Todd Caffoe, P.E., Project Manager
6274 E. Avon-Lima Rd.
Avon, NY 14414
(716) 226-2466
or 1-800-342-9296 (leave a message)

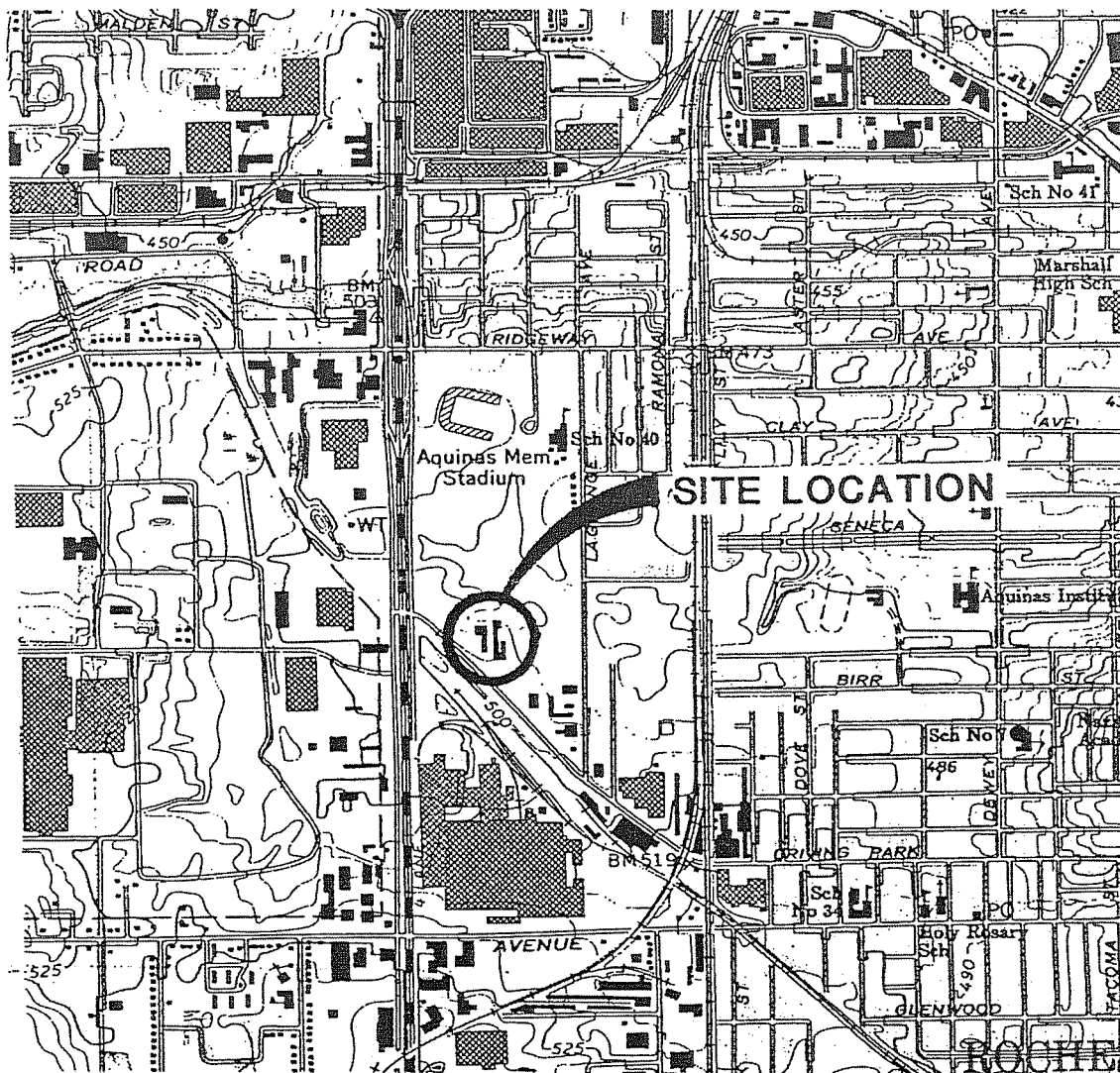
New York State Department of Health:
David Napier
Regional Toxics Coordinator
42 South Washington Street
Rochester NY 14608
(716) 423-8071

Monroe County Health Department:
Joseph Albert
111 Westfall Rd Room 908
PO Box 92832
Rochester, NY 14692-8932
(716) 274- 6904

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LOCATION MAP

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