

ELMIRA HIGH SCHOOL

Former Sperry Remington Property Cleanup

Brownfield Cleanup Program

777 South Main Street, Elmira, NY 14904

WHO TO CONTACT



Comments and questions are always welcome and can be submitted through the Project Hotline at

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/102390.html>

PROJECT-RELATED QUESTIONS:

Tim Schneider, P.E.
 Project Manager NYSDEC – Region 8 Office
 6274 East Avon-Lima Road
 Avon, NY 14414
 (585) 226-5480
 timothy.schneider@dec.ny.gov

HEALTH-RELATED QUESTIONS:

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 Project Manager NYSDOH
 Empire State Plaza
 Corning Tower, Room #1787
 Albany, NY 12237
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FOR INFORMATION ON THE BROWNFIELD CLEANUP PROGRAM:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/102390.html>

Introduction

The New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Health (DOH) are continuing strict oversight of the ongoing investigation and cleanup activities at the Elmira High School (EHS) property to ensure a comprehensive and careful cleanup that is protective of public health and the environment. The agencies are also committed to keeping the Elmira community informed regarding the cleanup progress. Our top priority is ensuring that students, faculty, staff, and visitors will not be exposed to below-ground contamination. Unisys Corporation (Unisys), the corporate successor of the Remington Rand company, is committed under its legal agreement with New York State to fully investigate and implement a comprehensive cleanup of the site and any impacted off-site areas, consistent with the requirements of the State’s Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP).

Comprehensive Cleanup Results in Extended Project Schedule

The purpose of this newsletter is to update the community regarding unexpected cleanup activities completed by Unisys to ensure a thorough and effective remedy and resulting in an extension of the date for completion of the Stadium Restoration by Elmira City School District (ECSD). Stadium Restoration including a new turf field, track, and grandstands is now anticipated to be complete by Summer 2022.



Image 1: Architectural Rendering - Elmira High School Athletic Complex

Unexpected Activities, Cleanup Objectives Achieved

During Interim Remedial Measure No. 5 (IRM #5), extensive below-ground infrastructure and other obstacles associated with the property's historical industrial use were encountered. The characterization, safe removal, and off-site disposal of materials resulted in significant project expansion and an associated impact to the project schedule. Findings included approximately 60 industrial sewer pipe sections; building foundations; utility duct banks and vaults; storm drainage pipes, manholes, drywells, catch basins; and two underground storage tanks. Additional contaminated soils, including petroleum-impacted soils, were encountered beyond what was originally estimated requiring the removal of an additional 27,433 cubic yards for a total of 53,433 cubic yards. Confirmation sampling of all excavation walls and bottoms ultimately determined that cleanup objectives were achieved.



Image 2: IRM 5 Former Football Field

Management of Materials for Safe Disposal and Reuse

Construction of additional storage areas in the north athletic fields was necessary to manage the 53,433 cubic yards of material excavated from the football field complex area. This material was tested for appropriate off-site disposal or reuse on-site. The planning, transport, and storage of material, in addition to a severe off-site trucking shortage, extended the project schedule.



Image 3: IRM 5 – North Athletic Field

Streamlining a Comprehensive Cleanup

DEC and DOH have implemented enhanced

measures to track schedule and activity milestones, as well as streamlined technical review and improved communications and project coordination with Unisys and ECSD. These and other efforts will be implemented to oversee the timely comprehensive cleanup and site restoration of EHS fields for student use.

Project Webpage and Enhanced Community Liaison Plan

In September 2020, Unisys developed an Enhanced Community Liaison Plan (ECLP) as a roadmap to the available resources regarding the EHS property and project activities. This plan can be found on the DEC project webpage at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/102390.html>

Interim Remedial Measures #4, #4 Amendment, and #5 Construction

Table 1: IRMs by the Numbers

	IRM #4 <i>(June to August 2020)</i>	IRM #4A <i>(September 2020 to April 2021)</i>	IRM #5 <i>(December 2020 to July 2021)</i>
Soil Excavated	6,500 cubic yards	9,962 cubic yards	53,433 cubic yards
Disposed Off-Site as Hazardous Waste	4,079 tons	9,064 tons	38,000 tons
Disposed Off-Site as Non-Hazardous Waste	3,977 tons	3,686 tons	49,000 tons
Soil Reused as Backfill	1,987 tons	1,200 tons	~18,000 tons
Fill Imported for Backfill and Soil Cover	7,993 tons	5,958 tons	In process

Note: Excavation measurements are cubic yards and disposal is measured as tons. For this Site, the conversion is 1 cubic yard = 1.9 ton
IRM #5 Excavation and disposal numbers – through July 2021

Next Steps:

Interim Remedial Measure #5 Amendment 2 North Athletic Field (NAF)

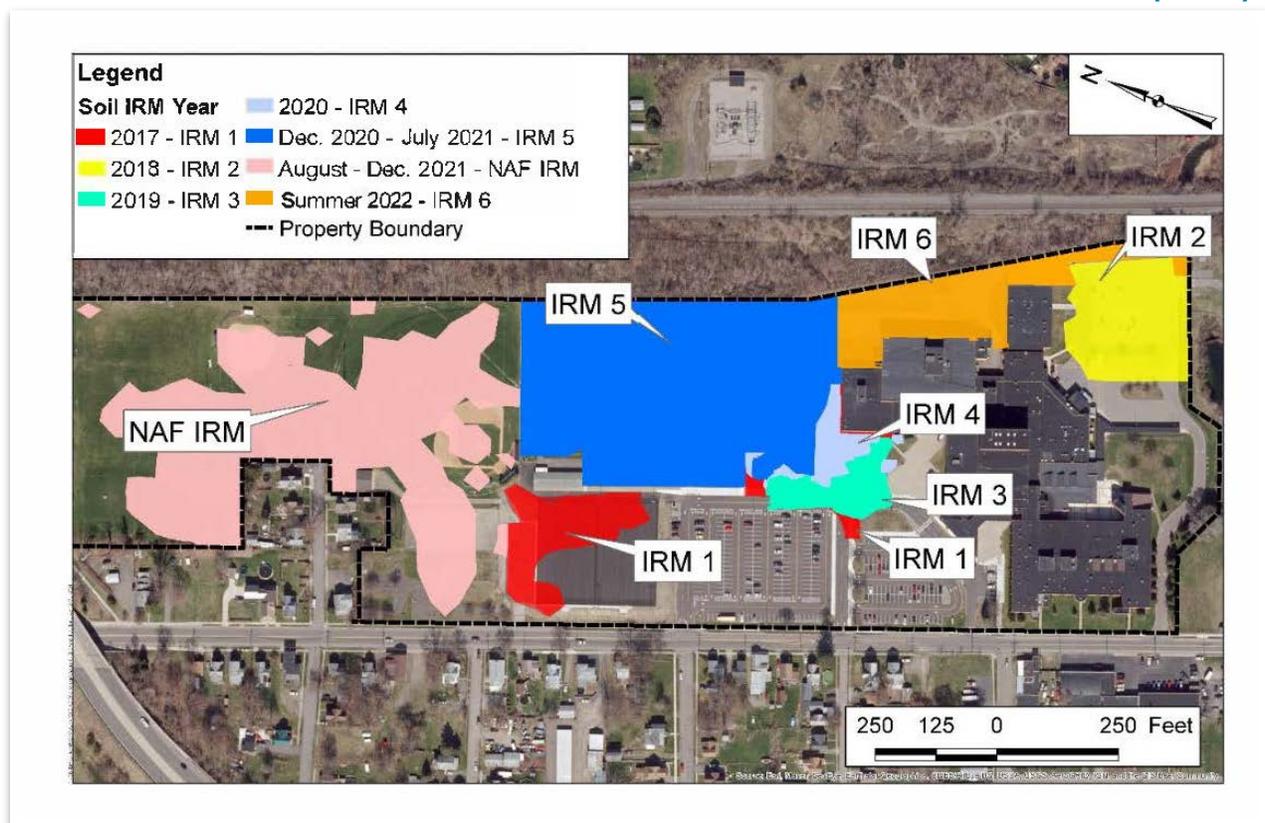


Image 4: Site Map - IRM Locations

Cleanup plans continue to be refined to implement IRM #5 Amendment 2 (NAF IRM) in August 2021. Activities are currently underway to relocate the construction access from Main Street to the VFW property and Keefe Street.

Public Communications

WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION



Project documents are at these location(s):

Steele Memorial Library 101
East Church Street
Elmira, NY 14901
(607) 733-9175

Region 8 NYSDEC
Headquarters
6274 East Avon Lima Road
Avon, NY 14414
(585) 226-5324
(call for an appointment)

While repositories may be closed due to COVID-19 response, project documents are also available on the NYSDEC website at:
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37556.html> or
by contacting the Project Manager, Tim Schneider at timothy.schneider@dec.ny.gov

The project involves a variety of stakeholders, and up-to-date information and open lines of communication are available to the public. Enhanced communications have been added to the DEC webpage <https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/102390.html> including:

- Updated Frequently Asked Questions.
- Project Hotline: To allow the public to submit inquiries 24 hours a day to the project team.
- IRM Information: Up-to-date IRM construction, monitoring, and health and safety information.

SIGN UP TO STAY INFORMED

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>

