

FACT SHEET





# **Environmental Investigation Update Former Brainerd Manufacturing Site**

This fact sheet is an update on the environmental investigation being performed at the Former Brainerd Manufacturing Facility (the site) in East Rochester. In May 2002, Despatch Industries, Inc. signed a voluntary agreement with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to investigate and cleanup the site (see map Figure 1). The investigation is being conducted through New York State's voluntary cleanup program (see box at right).

### 2006 Investigation Results:

The investigation work completed this past year involved installation of several groundwater monitoring wells. Sample results from these wells indicated groundwater contamination in an off-site monitoring well to the northwest of the site. The main contaminants detected were trichloroethylene (TCE) and tetrachloroethylene (PCE). These chemicals were formerly used at the facility to clean metal parts. Exposure to contaminated groundwater is not expected because the area is served by public water.

In response to these data, the New York State and Monroe County Health Departments recommended indoor air sampling at several nearby private homes. Five homes were sampled for numerous volatile organic chemicals (VOCs), including TCE and PCE. Sample results indicated that two of the five homes required additional monitoring, and mitigation was not required. No further actions were required at the other three homes.

## NEW YORK STATE'S VOLUNTARY CLEANUP PROGRAM

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Voluntary Cleanup Program promotes the return of contaminated property to productive use. These include sites contaminated by hazardous waste, petroleum, and solid waste.

Under this program, a person or entity (such as a corporation) agrees to pay for an investigation and/or environmental cleanup of the site. In return, this volunteer gets to develop or use the property. If the volunteer performs a cleanup of the site, the volunteer receives a limited release from liability for the past environmental damage at the site.

#### **Upcoming Investigation:**

As part of the continuing environmental investigation, Despatch Industries (the Volunteer) will install several soil gas sampling points and additional off-site groundwater monitoring wells to determine the extent of offsite groundwater contamination. The soil gas investigation is underway and monitoring well installation should begin in September 2007.

### What Happens Next:

Once the extent of groundwater contamination has been determined, a cleanup plan will be developed to address on-site and off-site contamination. Additionally, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and the DEC will evaluate the new soil gas and groundwater data to determine if *additional* vapor intrusion investigations on nearby properties are necessary. A vapor intrusion investigation would involve indoor air sampling on nearby properties to determine if the VOCs from the former Brainerd Manufacturing site are impacting indoor air quality. Property owners would be notified in advance if any additional vapor intrusion investigations are required.

#### **About the Site:**

The former Brainerd Manufacturing Facility consists of two properties located on the corner of North Washington and Monroe Streets in the Village of East Rochester. The site consists of a 73,400 square foot industrial/manufacturing building and offices and various parking areas. Surrounding property is mixed use, with light industrial, railroad and residential properties. The property was operated as an industrial facility for nearly 100 years prior to relocation of Brainerd's operations in 1998. Historic uses of the facility included the manufacture of hardware and decorative metal products using various metal finishing processes. The property has been operated under lease since January 2004 by an office furniture reconditioning and sales company.

Environmental investigations conducted from February 2000 through the present have indicated groundwater and soil contamination with VOCs associated with former facility operations. Volatile organic compounds are chemicals that easily evaporate in the air. VOCs were commonly used industrial chemicals and were found in gasoline and cleaning solvents. The concentrations of these compounds exceed DEC standards and further investigation is necessary.

In the summer of 2004, a groundwater pump-and-treat system was installed as an interim remedial measure (IRM). The pump-and-treat system collects contaminated groundwater and treats it using an air stripper. The air stripper forces air through the water causing the VOC compounds to evaporate. Treated groundwater is discharged to the sewer and vapors are discharged through a roof stack. The pump-and-treat system is designed to prevent further groundwater contamination from migrating off-site, and it has been in operation since August 2004. Currently, Despatch Industries, Inc. (the Volunteer) provides regular monitoring reports to the DEC.

#### **For More Information:**

Documents related to this investigation are available for you to review at:

The East Rochester Public Library 111 West Elm Street East Rochester, NY 14445 Hours: Monday - Thursday 10:00 - 9:00 Friday 10:00 - 5:00 Saturdays 10:00-4:00 (closed Saturdays in the summer) (585)-586-8302 NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Region 8 Office 6274 E. Avon-Lima Rd. Avon, NY 14414 Hours: Monday- Friday 8:30 - 4:45 (585) 226-5350 (Contact Mr. Todd Caffoe, P.E. or Gary Bonarski, P.E. for an appointment)

We encourage you to contact the representatives listed below with questions, comments or concerns. If you know someone who would like to be added to the mailing list, have them send in the attached mailer or contact one of the people listed below. You do **not** have to return the mailer if you received this fact sheet in the mail; your name will automatically remain on the mailing list. Since our mail list contains property owners, we encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for tenants, employees and/or visitors to view.

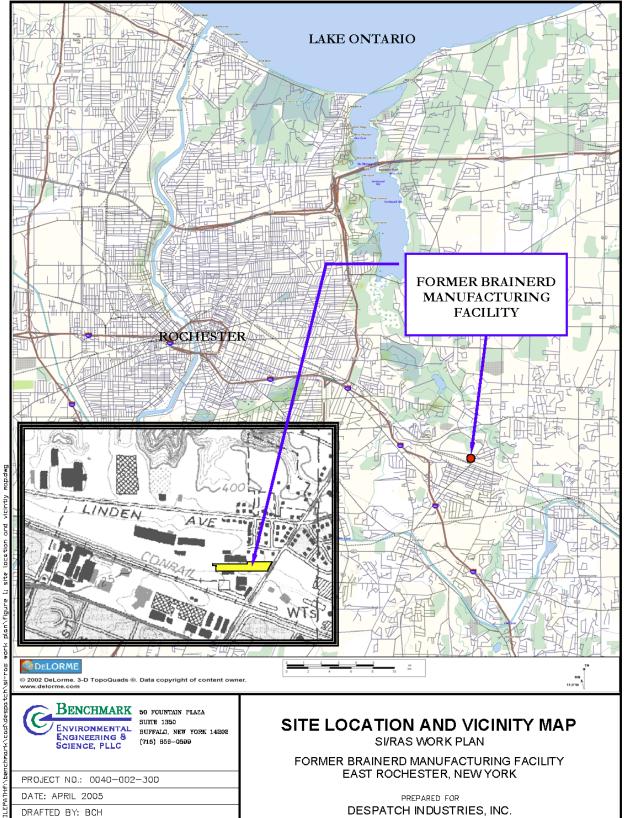
#### > For Questions About the Investigation, Contact:

Todd M. Caffoe, P.E., Project Manager	585-226-5350
Lisa A. LoMaestro Silvestri, Citizen Participation Specialist	585-226-5326
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation	
6274 East Avon-Lima Road	
Avon, NY 14414-9519	

#### **≻** For Site-Related Health Questions, Contact:

NYS Department of Health Debby McNaughton 335 E. Main St. Rochester, N.Y. 14604-2127 Telephone: 585-423-8069 Monroe County Health Department Joseph Albert P.O. Box 92832 111 Westfall Road Rochester, New York 14692-8932 585-753-5904

#### **FIGURE 1**



# **DEC Mailer**

Please feel free to use this mailer for any of the following purposes:

- 1. You would like to be placed on our Former Brainerd Manufacturing site mailing list. If you have received this fact sheet, you are already on our mail list and do not need to reply.
- 2. You would like to include the name and address of someone you know who maybe interested in receiving future fact sheets.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. You would like to be taken off our Former Brainerd Manufacturing mailing list.
- 4. You would like to provide us with a change of name or address. If you are moving, future fact sheets are NOT automatically forwarded unless we are notified by you.
- 5. You would like to provide us with a comment or concern.
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Please complete the form as indicated below, fold and mail directly to the DEC.

Add the following name(s):

Delete the following name(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

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Make the following changes:

\_\_\_\_\_

(Old)\_\_\_\_\_

(New)\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_FOLD\_\_\_\_\_

Comments or Concerns:

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation 6274 East Avon-Lima Rd Avon, NY 14414-9519

ATTN: Todd M. Caffoe, P.E.