



FACT SHEET

Cleanup Activities to Commence at Ekonol Polyester Resins Site; Proposed Decision Document with Public Comment Period Announced

Voluntary Cleanup Program

Site Number V00653

November 2010

Introduction

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has released a Proposed Decision Document for the remediation of the Ekonol Polyester Resins site in the Town of Wheatfield. Remediation refers to actions taken to eliminate, abate, or contain contamination that may be harmful to public health or the environment. The draft Decision Document proposes to implement the actions described in another document called the Remedial Action Work Plan to address elevated levels of solvents (such as trichloroethene, or TCE) in site groundwater.

Details about the remediation are provided in the Remedial Action Work Plan. The Remedial Action Work Plan and the Proposed Decision Document are available for public review at the locations listed in this fact sheet and on the DEC website (see next page for information).

A public comment period on the Proposed Decision Document has been set from November 17 – December 16, 2010. Comments may be submitted to Mr. Jeff Konsella, of the NYSDEC, at the address provided on the next page.

Cleanup activities at this site are being performed under New York State's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP), a program that promotes redevelopment by encouraging private companies and developers to identify, investigate, and ensure the cleanup of sites where significant amounts of hazardous waste may exist. BP America, Inc. (BP), the former owner of a company that operated at this location, is the volunteer for this site and will be responsible for completing the remedial activities. BP has been active at the site for a number of years conducting investigations, groundwater monitoring, and evaluations of remedial options for the property. BP started the remedial actions outlined in the Remedial Action Work Plan in October 2010, and the work is expected to continue through summer 2011. Once completed, a groundwater monitoring program will be established to confirm the effectiveness of the remedial program.

Details of the Remedial Action Work Plan

The Remedial Action Work Plan includes the following elements:

- Installing two gravel and wood-chip filled trenches to treat groundwater in the overburden (the soil layer above the bedrock), and if needed a carbon substrate (emulsified vegetable oil) can be added to the trench to further promote groundwater treatment;
- Installing bedrock groundwater injection wells;



Site Location Map

- Treating bedrock groundwater by injecting a carbon substrate (emulsified vegetable oil) into the groundwater injection wells. This treatment will be conducted in phases; and
- Monitoring groundwater and retreating bedrock groundwater based upon the results of the first phase of treatment.

Next Steps

After the comment period on the Proposed Decision Document has ended, the NYSDEC will consider any comments and issue a final Decision Document for the site. The Decision Document will be made available to the public. NYSDEC will keep the public informed through fact sheets similar to this one.

Site Location and Background

The Ekonol Polyester Resins facility is an active manufacturing facility located on the northeastern end of a larger, active industrial parcel. It is located on the west side of Walmore Road, approximately one-half mile north of Niagara Falls Boulevard (NYS Route 62), in the Town of Wheatfield. The greater industrial parcel is located to the east of the Niagara Falls International Airport, and to the south of the Niagara Falls Air National Guard Base. An underground concrete tank was used at the Ekonol facility from the 1970s through 1999 for collection of waste waters from the building floor drain system. During the 1999 tank removal, TCE and Phenols were detected in site soils. Investigations indicate Volatile Organic Compounds (such as TCE and breakdown products) and Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds (such as Phenol) at high concentrations in soil, overburden and bedrock groundwater.

Who Should I Contact If I Have Questions About the Site?

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

Environmental Related Questions

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Health Related Questions

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Project Related Questions

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Location to View Project Documents

NYSDEC Region 9 Office
 270 Michigan Avenue
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 (716) 851-7220
(Please call for an appointment)

Project documents are also available electronically at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/69902.html>.