



# FACT SHEET

## State Superfund Program

Modock Road Springs/DLS Sand & Gravel, Inc. Site  
8-35-013  
Town of Victor, NY

October 2009

### Remedy Proposed for State Superfund Site; Public Comment Period and Public Meeting Announced

The public is invited to comment on a remedy proposed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to address contamination related to the Modock Road Springs/DLS Sand & Gravel, Inc. site ("site"). The site is located in the Town of Victor in Ontario County. See map for site location.

#### The Proposed Remedy

The remedy proposed for the site includes a long-term plume management monitoring program to ensure plume stability and the natural reduction of the contamination over time with a contingency for the injection of an iron-based material to further reduce the contaminant mass should the natural reduction prove to be less effective than expected.

The proposed remedy is described in a draft cleanup plan called a "Proposed Remedial Action Plan" developed under New York's State Superfund Program. The document is available for public review at the Town of Victor Free Library and the NYSDEC office identified below under "Where to Find Information". The document also is available on the NYSDEC web site at [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37556.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37556.html).

**State Superfund Program:** New York's State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

NYSDEC generally attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit:  
[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html)

#### How to Comment

NYSDEC is accepting your comments about the proposed remedy from **October 14, 2009** through **November 16, 2009**.

Submit your comments to:  
Jason Pelton, Project Manager  
NYSDEC  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
12th Floor, 625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7017  
E-mail: [jmpelton@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:jmpelton@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

#### Public Meeting

Tuesday, October 27, 2009 at 7:00 PM

#### Availability Session

Wednesday, October 28, 2009 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Town of Victor Town Hall  
85 East Main Street  
Town of Victor, New York

NYSDEC invites you to a public meeting to discuss the remedy proposed for the site. You are encouraged to provide comments at the meeting, availability session, and during the 30-day comment period described in this fact sheet.

### **Summary of the Proposed Remedy**

The proposed remedy represents the alternative preferred by NYSDEC, in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), to address site contamination. The draft cleanup plan has several goals:

- Identify cleanup levels to be achieved;
- Summarize other alternatives considered;
- Explain why NYSDEC and NYSDOH believe the proposed remedy will protect public health and the environment; and
- Provide a detailed description of the proposed remedy.

The proposed remedy was chosen following a detailed investigation of the site and evaluation of alternatives to address contamination, called a “Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study”.

As discussed below, the site contains chlorinated solvent contamination in groundwater above the ambient groundwater quality standards and that extends northward from the Syracuse Sand and Gravel, Inc. property to the Modock Road Springs. These chlorinated compounds are types of degreasing solvents that have commonly been used for industrial purposes. These compounds are referred to as volatile, that is, they readily evaporate, and their presence in groundwater beneath the rural/suburban community has also resulted in their presence in soil vapor beneath homes. Through a process referred to as soil vapor intrusion (VI), these site contaminants have also been detected in indoor air at concentrations that exceed the NYSDOH air guidelines. To address exposures related to soil vapor intrusion, a series of initial actions referred to as an interim remedial measure (IRM) were completed in 2007 during the remedial investigation. These actions included the installation of subslab depressurization systems (SSDs) at six (6) locations in 2007. An “interim remedial measure”, is conducted at a site when a source of contamination or exposure pathway (the way in which a person may contact contamination) can be effectively addressed without extensive investigation and evaluation.

To ensure that the contaminant concentrations continue to decline toward the groundwater quality standards and to ensure that air guidelines are not exceeded, the proposed remedy includes a long-term plume management monitoring program that includes routine collection and analysis of groundwater, surface water, and soil vapor samples. Should the monitoring program show that contaminant concentrations are not continuing to decline, the proposed alternative includes a contingency for the subsurface injection of an iron-based additive to further reduce the residual contamination. The proposed remedy also includes:

- The connection of eleven (11) homes to the municipal water supply system;
- Continued operation and evaluation of subslab depressurization systems at six (6) NYSDEC-installed locations and six (6) locations where monitoring was the VI sampling outcome;
- Annual notification at four (4) pre-existing subslab depressurization system locations in the area overlying the groundwater plume. Should these systems require service, NYSDEC staff would assess the need for vapor intrusion sampling to determine if any actions are appropriate. The NYSDEC could, in lieu of sampling, opt to repair or replace the pre-existing system;
- Implementation of a monitoring program for two (2) locations where monitoring was the VI sampling outcome; and
- An environmental easement restricting groundwater use at the Syracuse Sand & Gravel, Inc. site.

Other cleanup alternatives considered for the site included pumping the contamination out of the

ground and treating it at the surface, injecting air into the ground to promote contaminant volatilization and then capturing the vapors with specially designed wells, and installing barriers that breakdown the site contaminants as the groundwater flows through the barrier. Site conditions, including the depth to groundwater (greater than 60 feet below ground surface), geologic conditions, length of the groundwater plume, and the persistent nature of the contaminants make cleanup at the site complex and difficult to implement.

The long-term plume management monitoring with a contingency for iron-based material injection is being proposed because the elements of the remedy provide protection to human health and the environment. Consistent with investigation data demonstrating that the contaminant concentrations have been declining under naturally occurring conditions, the proposed alternative would rely on the continued natural processes for contaminant reduction to achieve groundwater standards. This alternative is preferred over the other cleanup options, because even with implementation of one of the active remedies described above, groundwater contamination would persist for an extended period of time because the groundwater plume currently extends over a length of nearly 7,500 feet.

The estimated present worth cost to implement the remedy is \$360,000. The estimated average annual monitoring costs for 30 years is \$11,000.

### **Next Steps**

NYSDEC will consider public comments as it finalizes the remedy for the site. The selected remedy will be described in a document called a "Record of Decision" that will explain why the remedy was selected and respond to public comments. This document will be made available to the public (see "Where to Find Information" below). The project will then move to designing and performing the cleanup action to address the site contamination. NYSDEC will continue to keep the public informed during the cleanup of the site.

### **Background**

The site is listed as a Class "2" site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; action is required.

The site is the 173-acre Syracuse Sand and Gravel, Inc. owned property (see attached map). The site is located in a rural/suburban area in the Town of Victor. Up until approximately 1953, when the excavation of sand and gravel began, the property was undeveloped and used for agricultural purposes.

Chlorinated solvent contamination was initially discovered in the Modock Road Springs located approximately 1-mile north of the site in 1990. Between 1925 and 1990, these springs were part of the Village of Victor water supply. Following discovery, use of the springs was discontinued and a series of investigations were completed between 1990 and 2000. The investigations defined a groundwater plume extending from the Syracuse Sand and Gravel, Inc. property to the Modock Road Springs and showed that the contamination originated from the Syracuse property. During these investigation activities, site contaminants were also identified at concentrations exceeding standards set for public water supplies in three private wells. These residences were subsequently connected to the Town of Victor municipal water supply system as part of IRMs.

Following the investigations, the site was listed as a Class 2 site in 2001 and the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study was completed by the DEC between January 2007 and August 2009.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following locations to help the public to stay informed. These documents include the proposed cleanup plan for the site, called the "Proposed Remedial Action Plan".

Victor Free Library  
15 West Main Street  
Victor, NY 14564  
(585) 924-2637  
Hrs: M-Th 10-9; F 10-6, Sat 10-4, Sun 2-4

NYSDEC Region 8 Office  
6274 E Avon-Lima Road  
Avon, N.Y. 14414  
(585) 226-5326  
(Contact Lisa LoMaestro Silvestri)

### Who to Contact

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

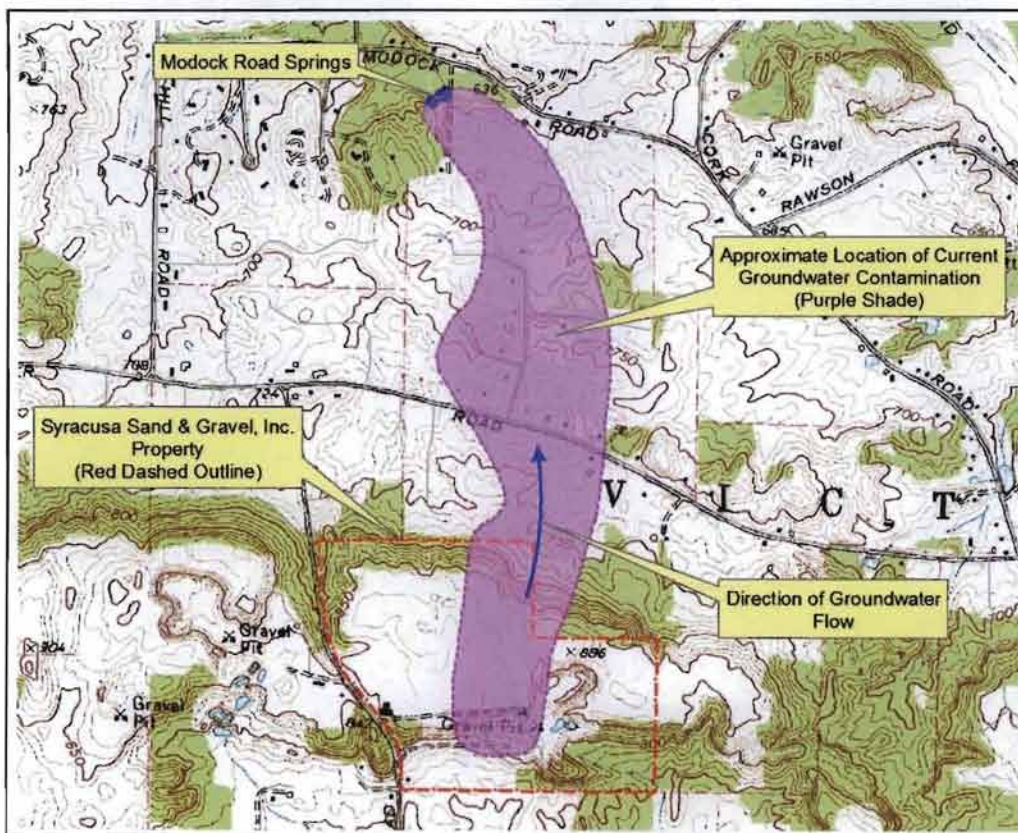
#### Project Related Questions

Mr. Jason Pelton  
NYSDEC Project Manager  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
12th Floor, 625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7017  
(518) 402-9818 -or- (888) 459-8667  
E-mail: [jmpelton@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:jmpelton@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

#### Site-Related Health Questions

Ms. Krista Anders  
NYSDOH Project Manager  
Flanigan Square  
547 River Street  
Troy, New York 12180-2216  
Phone: (800) 458-1158 ext. 27860  
Email: [beci@health.state.ny.us](mailto:beci@health.state.ny.us)

**If you know someone who would like to be added to the site contact list, have them contact the NYSDEC project manager above.**



### Site Location Map

- Map showing site location in Town of Victor.
- Groundwater contamination (purple shaded area) extends from central portion of Syracuse Sand & Gravel, Inc. property 7,500 feet to the north to Modock Road Springs.
- Groundwater occurs approximately 60 feet to 70 feet below ground surface and flows from south to north (toward Modock Road Springs).