

Mattiace Petrochemical Company

New York

EPA ID#: NYD000512459

EPA REGION 2

Congressional District(s): 05

Nassau
Glen Cove

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 6/24/1988

Final Date: 3/30/1989

Site Description

The 2-acre Mattiace Petrochemical Company site is an inactive chemical distribution facility located on Long Island. From the mid-1960s until 1987, Mattiace received chemicals by tank truck and redistributed them to its customers. The company also operated the M&M Drum Cleaning Company on the Site until 1982. During its operational period, the Mattiace property contained a Quonset hut, shed, concrete loading dock, and approximately 56 storage tanks, most of which were underground. In 1987, after seven years of failed negotiations and litigation regarding various waste-handling and environmental infractions, the State of New York seized the property. At that time, many drums and tanks of organic, acid, and alkali liquids remained. In 1988, the EPA implemented an emergency action to secure the Site and remove more than 100,000 gallons of hazardous liquids. Surrounding the Site are industrial areas, including the Li Tungsten and Captain's Cove Superfund properties, Garvies Point Preserve (designated by the State as a significant natural habitat), tidal wetlands, and Glen Cove Creek. Hempstead Harbor and Long Island Sound are located within 3 miles of the Site and are used for recreation.

Site Responsibility: This Site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible party (PRP) actions

Threat and Contaminants

The groundwater and soil at Mattiace are contaminated with volatile organic chemicals (VOCs). Exposure to contaminated groundwater and soil through direct contact, inhalation or ingestion is a health hazard. Residents in the vicinity of the Site obtain their potable water from City wells located 1 mile hydraulically upgradient from the Site; therefore, groundwater contaminated as a result of past Mattiace operations flows away from the supply wells. The water quality in these wells is routinely monitored by local authorities. This Site is currently fenced to restrict access while the remedy is implemented.

Cleanup Approach

This Site is being addressed in two stages: emergency actions and a long-term remedial phase which focuses on soil and groundwater cleanup. Response Action Status Emergency Actions: In 1988, EPA emergency workers secured the Site, collected samples, and removed 100,000 gallons of flammable liquids, 20,000 gallons of contaminated water, and 1,800 gallons of liquids containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Lab packs were crushed and sent to an off-site incineration facility. Owners reclaimed cylinders and some empty tanks. All other hazardous materials were transported to EPA-approved disposal facilities. Soil and Groundwater: EPA completed a comprehensive remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) of soil and groundwater pollution, and signed a Record of Decision (ROD) in June 1991 selecting in situ vapor extraction of soil, limited excavation of soil contaminated with pesticides, removal of all above and below ground tanks and cisterns, and groundwater pumping and treatment as the selected remedy. The removal of all tanks, cisterns, and associated piping was completed in the Fall 1996. EPA initiated construction of an integrated groundwater and soil vapor treatment facility in October 1997. Construction of this facility was substantially completed in August 1998, with subsequent commencement of start-up and long-term operation. EPA expects soil vapor treatment to be completed in another year or so, while groundwater treatment is expected to continue for a much longer period. Excavation and disposal of pesticides-contaminated soil was completed in an earlier phase of the project. Buried Drums: After a geophysical survey was conducted during the RI, EPA found and characterized the contents of buried drums on the west central part of the Site. EPA signed a ROD in 1990 specifically for the removal and off-site treatment and disposal of the drums and contaminated soil in the drum burial area. In Spring 1992, EPA completed excavation and off-site disposal of approximately 400 buried drums and contaminated soil.

Cleanup Progress

EPA eliminated immediate threats to nearby residents and the environment by securing the Site and removing over 100,000 gallons of hazardous liquids during the removal action in 1989. Pursuant to two Records of Decision, EPA has excavated and disposed of pesticides-contaminated soil and buried drums, as well as above and below ground storage tanks, in addition to the demolition and removal of all Site structures. EPA substantially completed construction of the groundwater/soil vapor integrated treatment facility in August 1998 and, after a one year startup period, began long-term operation in September 1999. The facility will remediate an estimated 28,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and one-half billion gallons of contaminated groundwater. EPA determined that all construction activities were completed at the Site in June 2000. In July 2003, a private company assumed the responsibility for performing the long-term operation of the facility under an agreement executed between EPA and numerous potentially responsible parties at the Site. EPA provides oversight of the facility operations as part of the agreement.

Site Repositories

Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY 11542

EPA Region II Superfund Records Center, 290 Broadway, 18th Floor, New York, NY 10007-1866