

# Sarney Farm

## New York

EPA ID#: NYD980535165

### EPA REGION 2

Congressional District(s): 20

Dutchess

Amenia/Dover Plains

#### NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 10/1/1984

Final Date: 6/1/1986

## Site Description

The Sarney Farm site is a location where non-permitted disposal of hazardous wastes was conducted in a farming area in Amenia, New York. Several small villages are located nearby. A former owner was permitted to use a 5-acre section of the property as a landfill for municipal wastes, but industrial and municipal wastes were disposed at locations throughout the site. The site received a variety of hazardous materials from 1965 until 1969. Groundwater contamination was confirmed by the Dutchess County Department of Health in 1982 and by New York State in 1984. The site is adjacent to Cleaver Swamp, which has provided water for farm livestock in the past. There are 22 residential wells utilizing the bedrock aquifer within 3,000 feet of the site. There are no public water supplies located within the area. Approximately 3,000 people live within 1 mile of the site; 10,000 live within 3 miles of the site.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and State actions.

## Threat and Contaminants

Groundwater beneath the site is contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including toluene, dichloroethane, and vinyl chloride. Residential wells in the vicinity of the site are routinely tested to ensure compliance with State and Federal drinking water standards. Threats posed by exposure to contaminated soils have been addressed through cleanup action described below.

## Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two stages: immediate actions and a long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

### Response Action Status

**Immediate Actions:** In an effort to reduce the levels of organic pollutants and to reduce the potential for migration of contaminants to Cleaver Swamp, the EPA installed a biodegradation/aeration treatment system in 1987. The system was used to treat leachate and wastes from the original dump site and migratory areas. The system consisted of a grid of french drains with perforated drain piping flowing into a concrete pit, aeration equipment in the pit, a control building, a nutrient batching system, pumps, electrical power supply, and process controls. The system operated until the initiation of the long-term remedial phase described below.

**Entire Site :** The remedial activities at the site have been separated into two phases in order to expedite the removal of hazardous waste and contaminated soils that were buried on-site. The EPA completed an investigation into the type and extent of contamination at the site in 1990. This information was used to select a cleanup remedy for the site which is documented in the September 1990 Record of Decision (ROD). The cleanup action plan includes excavation and off-site disposal of drums (phase 1), low-temperature thermal treatment of contaminated soils (phase 2), and a confirmatory hydrogeological investigation. The first phase of the Remedial Action (drum removal) was initiated in March 1992 and was completed in March 1995. A total of 674 55-gallon drums, 552 5-gallon pails, and 20,353 small "lab-pack" containers were excavated and disposed of off-site. The design of the low-temperature thermal treatment remedy (phase 2) was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the summer of 1995. The phase 2 remedy was completed by a responsible party (PRP), Pitney Bowes, Inc., under a Unilateral Administrative Order in September 1998. Pitney Bowes has produced a Post-ROD Groundwater Investigation which describes the findings of the hydrogeologic investigation conducted at the Site since 1989. It was determined that a limited area of the site has groundwater contamination at levels of concern following the two phases of Site cleanup. This contamination will continue to be monitored to determine

the longevity of the contamination in the aquifer. Many of the monitoring wells which were installed as part of the groundwater investigations were removed and sealed during the Summer of 2005.

## Cleanup Progress

The following materials were excavated and sent off-site for disposal under Phase 1:

1) 674 55-gallon drums, 552 5-gallon pails, and 20,353 small containers for approximately 17,050 gallons of total contained liquid wastes.

2) 120 tons of contaminated soils excavated (75 cubic yards x 1.6 tons/cubic yard = 120 tons)

3) 10,512 tons of soil were treated through an on-site Low-Temperature Thermal Desorption system under Phase II (approximately 6570 cubic yards X 1.6 tons/cubic yard = 10,512 tons).

Groundwater at the site and potable wells near the site have been sampled annually and continue to show no off-site migration of contaminants. Contaminant levels in on-site groundwater have been reduced to a level slightly above drinking water standards but are now reducing at a slower rate. A Five-Year Review will be issued in 2011.

## Site Repositories

Dover Town Hall, Craig Lane, Dover Plains, NY 12522; (914) 832-6167