

Soil Vapor Study Continuing at Roy-Hart*Indoor air to be sampled*

FMC and the governmental regulatory Agencies plan to conduct the next phase of a soil vapor study begun in August 2005 at the Royalton-Hartland school campus in Middleport.

The soil vapor study at the Roy-Hart schoolyard was prompted by a new program to evaluate more than 400 sites statewide for the potential for soil vapor intrusion, including many sites that have already been remediated.

The 2005 study activities at Roy-Hart identified low levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including trichloroethylene (TCE) and petroleum-related compounds, in groundwater wells installed at the school property. Groundwater is water that is below the earth's surface.

TCE was detected in two new groundwater wells installed just north of the football field and athletic track at the campus. TCE has not been detected in the

STUDY
HIGHLIGHTS**Part of Statewide Program
Reviewing More
Than 400 Sites****Study Began in
Summer 2005****Low Levels of TCE
(a VOC) Found in
Groundwater****Agencies Request More
Studies as "Conservative
But Necessary"****Indoor Air and Sub-slab
Samples to be Collected****If Mitigation Required -
Methods Similar to Those
Used for Radon***Inside
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Initiative Continues**
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Return reply comment
card inside.**Community** *Connection*

*is produced to inform
the community about
issues related to the
FMC Middleport plant,
the environment and
the local community.*

*Call us at:
735-3761
Ext. 289*

*with your questions,
comments or concerns.*

As part of a new statewide program, the New York State Department of Health (DOH) and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) the "Agencies" are studying more than 400 sites with a potential for indoor air contamination from volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including sites that have already been remediated, based on groundwater or soil findings. DOH and DEC developed draft vapor intrusion guidance earlier this year and have identified many sites for further evaluation. This study is a part of the state's pro-active approach concerning potential soil vapor intrusion.



**Part
of a
Statewide
Initiative**

wells closest to the school buildings. In addition, VOCs were detected at low levels in soil vapor samples collected from 15 locations at the schoolyard some 150 feet south of the middle school and high school buildings. The sources of the VOC detections are unknown, but could be related to past activities at the adjacent FMC plant site, or from past or current activities on or near the school property that are unrelated to FMC.

What is Trichloroethylene or TCE?

Trichloroethene, or TCE, is a manufactured, volatile organic chemical. It has been used as a solvent to remove grease from metal. Trichloroethene has also been used as a paint stripper, adhesive solvent, as an ingredient in paints and varnishes, and in the manufacture of other organic chemicals. TCE is a clear, colorless liquid, and has a somewhat sweet odor. It is non-flammable at room temperature and will evaporate into the air.

Source: New York State Department of Health.
(http://www.health.state.ny.us/my_sдох/gas/svi_guidance/efs_tce.htm)

Based on the 2005 study results, the Agencies requested in late January, that FMC collect samples of sub-slab vapor, crawlspace air, outdoor air, and indoor air at the middle school, the high school, and the maintenance office building by the end of March 2006. In addition, the Agencies requested additional groundwater well installations and sampling at the schoolyard (to begin in Spring 2006).

The indoor and outdoor air samples and sub-slab vapor samples will be collected at the senior high and middle school buildings when classes are not in session so as not to interfere with normal activities. The sampling will also help identify a potential source or sources of the VOCs.

Depending on the results of this study, the Agencies might require additional sampling, monitoring or mitigation actions. Mitigation actions can include sealing foundation cracks,

adjusting heating and ventilation systems or installing a depressurization or venting system beneath a building or in crawl space areas, similar to the systems used to remove radon gas from a residential home.

Prior to collecting the air samples, the Agencies and FMC's consultants will conduct a thorough walk through of the buildings to inventory the school district's maintenance and cleaning materials and procedures, petroleum storage tanks, science lab activities or any other activities that may be a possible source of VOCs relative to the school buildings.

FMC will continue to work with the Agencies and the School District to complete the study.

Explaining Vapor Intrusion

Vapor intrusion is a process by which chemicals that can vaporize, migrate from a below-the-surface source into the indoor air of buildings. These chemicals are called VOCs. VOCs, or volatile organic compounds, readily evaporate at room temperature. (Examples of products containing VOCs are gasoline, paint, cleaning products, magic markers, and solvents.)

Sources of vapor intrusion can come from soil or groundwater below the ground surface.

Soil vapor can enter a building similar to the way radon gas enters buildings from below the ground.

This type of canister will be used to collect indoor air samples. The samples will be analyzed for the presence of any volatile organic compounds (VOCs).



The presentation about this study

made by Walter Mugdan of the USEPA to the Roy-Hart Board of Education on Wednesday,

February 1 is available online at

www.teapothollow.com or by calling Patt Fagan at 735-3761, Ext. 289

What's Planned for the Plant for 2006

By Brian Vain, Plant Manager



As we begin 2006, I would like to share some plans for FMC in Middleport related to our business operations and the plant site itself.

New Main Office

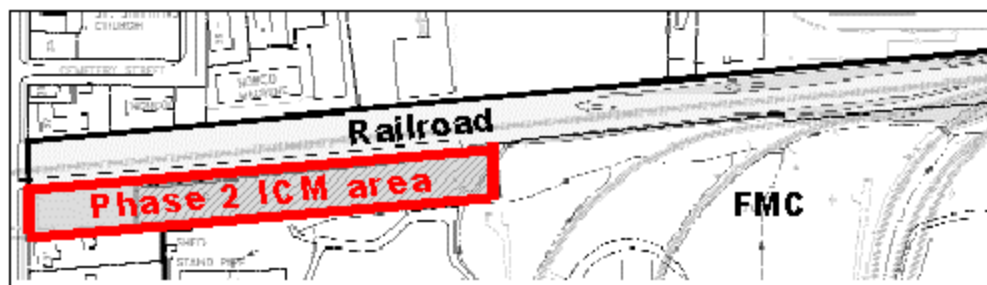
Just before the New Year, our main office was relocated to the front gate entrance. Not only is the new space more convenient, it is much more energy efficient, something businesses and homeowners can both appreciate this heating season.

Middleport Product News

Right now, we mix and package two key product lines in Middleport. These products are milled and mixed to each product's specifications, packaged in a variety of container shapes and sizes and then shipped to our customers all over the world. In the past, we mixed and packaged a product called Command, a herbicide used for weed control. Command formulation is being done at FMC's Wyoming, Illinois plant. This business may be returning to Middleport in the coming year, and we look forward to this prospective opportunity.

Northwest Railroad Property - Phase 2 ICM

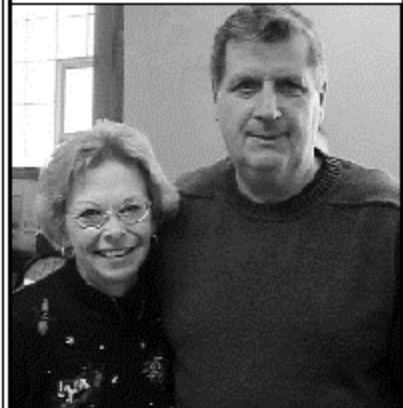
Environmental remediation work inside the plant fence at the northwest corner of FMC's property is planned for this summer. This area is adjacent to one private property northwest of the plant. FMC, in conjunction with the governmental regulatory Agencies, completed work on the Phase 1 area of the North Railroad property in 2005.



We will use similar construction techniques for the Phase 2 of this Interim Corrective Measure (ICM). A containment cap will be installed over the Phase 2 ICM area. FMC will continue to inform you of plant activities and our ongoing environmental programs in this newsletter and on the Middleport Web site. Please call me at 735-3761, Ext. 364 if you have questions.

Brian D. Vain

Four Celebrate Service Awards



Joanne Brennan and Roger Cooper (above) were presented employee awards for 35 and 40 years, respectively, of service at the FMC plant's December Christmas lunch. Also recognized at the awards presentation were George Smith for 40 years and Dave Lawson for 35 years. The employees received personalized gifts to mark their years of service at FMC

Defibrillator Training

Eight employees took the defibrillator refresher course taught by Harold Scribner (center) a certified Red Cross instructor and FMC employee.



Defibrillators like the one used at the Middleport plant are used in the event of sudden cardiac arrest. The course featured hands-on simulation with the defibrillator, a lecture, and live and video demonstrations.

Additional Sampling Continues in Limited Areas Creeks North of Pearson Road to be Sampled

Soil sampling for arsenic in some limited areas in the historic air deposition area and along Tributary One was completed in December. This additional sampling was requested by the governmental regulatory Agencies as part of the investigative phase of the ongoing environmental study being conducted in Middleport.

The data collected will provide information that will help determine the extent of elevated arsenic in soil that may be attributable to historic air or surface water releases related to past operations at the FMC Middleport Plant site. The work plans for these sampling programs are available at the FMC document repository at the Middleport Free Library.

The Agencies have also requested that FMC sample some sections of Tributary One north of Pearson Road and sections of Jeddo and Johnson Creeks. The data will delineate the extent of elevated arsenic in soil and provide information about potential contributing source(s) of arsenic presence in light of surface water runoff from orchards and other agricultural uses of properties along these

streams. A work plan for the sampling was submitted to the Agencies in January. Sampling is scheduled for spring 2006. After the Agencies



review and approve the work plan, it will be available at the FMC document repository at the Middleport Free Library on Vernon Street.

Once the Agencies have determined that arsenic levels (and levels of other chemical compounds such as lead and chlorinated pesticides associated with historic operations at the FMC Middleport plant)

...continued on next page

have been adequately defined for all areas subject

We want to hear what you think! **Please return this card to us with your thoughts.**

NAME: _____

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I would like to receive a copy of the article about Middleport's bio-monitoring study published in the Environmental Health Perspectives journal.

I would like to receive further information about FMC's Middleport plant.

I am interested in a tour of the FMC Middleport plant.

My specific question or comment is:

I would be interested in a workshop to learn about:

- RCRA Process - the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
- Corrective Measures Study (CMS) process
- Risk Management

My topic(s) of interest are/is:

I would be interested in:

- Attending a workshop
- Receiving written materials
- I have all the information I need

It is okay for FMC to share my comments with the NYS Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

THANK YOU!

Additional Sampling

...continued

to investigation, FMC will complete a revised and expanded RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) report that will include all data collected from areas sampled both on the FMC plant site and on off-site locations. This revised and expanded RFI report will be submitted to the Agencies for review, and made available for public review and comment.

If the Agencies determine that remedial action should be taken, they will direct FMC to perform a Corrective Measures Study (CMS) for the specific area or areas.

The CMS will evaluate all data, identify and evaluate possible remedial measures, including any interim measures previously implemented and recommend final remedial measures or actions. The Agencies will review the CMS report and make it available for public review and comment. Implementation of any final remedial actions will occur following approval of the CMS report.

The 2003 Middleport Biomonitoring Study Has Been Published

in the journal Environmental Health Perspectives. Exponent Health Group conducted the study funded by FMC Corporation that evaluated the relationship between urinary arsenic levels in more than 440 residents and arsenic levels in soil and house dust.



The study was reviewed by an independent panel of health experts from universities, research institutes and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It found no evidence of elevated arsenic exposure from arsenic in Middleport soil.

The article is available online at <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/docs/2005/8178/abstract.html> or from the link on Middleport's Web site at www.teapothollow.com



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*To review documents related to environmental activities at the plant, visit the FMC repository at the Middleport Free Library
9 South Vernon Street
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Donation Helps Gasport Lions Make Christmas Merry



Gasport Lions Bob Arnold (left) and Bill Donovan (right) put the Tops gift cards presented by FMC Middleport's John Shuttleworth (center) to good use. The Gasport Lions brightened the Christmas of several local families with food and gift items donated by local businesses and individuals.

Middleport Plant Tour

During the November 30, 2005 tour, Plant Manager Brian Vain explains how employees use a self-contained automated system to control the mixing of some FMC products. The group toured Middleport's mixing and packaging operations and the onsite water treatment facility that collects and treats more than 40 million gallons of surface and groundwater annually.

