

# NPL Site Narrative for Olean Well Field

## OLEAN WELL FIELD

### Olean, New York

**Conditions at listing (October 1981):** The Olean Well Field is within both the Town and City of Olean, Cattaraugus County, New York. The 1-square-mile site contains three public water supply wells and numerous private wells, in addition to municipal and industrial dumps. Excessive levels of trichloroethylene (TCE) were discovered in public wells in late 1980. Several suspected sources of contamination have been identified. Olean now gets its drinking water from a nearby well field and from surface water, which must be treated in an aging filtration plant. Private wells continue to draw water from the contaminated aquifer.

**Status (July 1983):** In January 1982, \$25,000 in CERCLA emergency funds were used to install carbon filters in 16 homes and businesses with contaminated wells. The county maintains and operates the filters. Since late 1981, EPA has approved \$632,000 (some of it under a Cooperative Agreement) for a remedial investigation to determine the extent and type of contamination at the site and a feasibility study to identify alternatives for remedial action. The work, scheduled to begin in the third quarter of 1983, includes a modeling of the aquifer system to identify source(s) of contamination.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at [ATSDR - ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.