NPL Site Narrative for Katonah Municipal Well

KATONAH MUNICIPAL WELL Town of Bedford, New York

Conditions at proposal (October 15, 1984): The Katonah Municipal Well in the Town of Bedford, Westchester County, New York, is a part of the Bedford Water and Storage Distribution District. This well had provided nearly 50 percent of the drinking water for 6,150 persons on public supply systems in Katonah and Bedford Hills. It is adjacent to the Muscoot Reservoir, which supplies water to New York City.

The County Health Department first discovered tetrachloro-ethylene, dibromochloromethane, bromodichloromethane, and bromoform in the Katonah Well in December 1978, at which time it was taken out of service. By January 1979, the possible sources of the problem had been traced to four nearby dry cleaning establishments that were served by septic systems. The county worked with the owners to correct the problems and remove the sources.

Several attempts at pumping the well to remove the contamination from the aquifer have proved unsuccessful. In addition, the floodgates of the Muscoot Reservoir were closed to raise the water level of the reservoir in the hopes that water pressure would impact the well field and dilute the concentration of contaminants. However, after an initial drop, contaminant levels rose when the well was pumped to simulate normal operations.

The county and State will continue to work with the Town of Bedford on a plan to reduce the concentration of contaminants in the well.

Status (June 10, 1986): The Town of Bedford has installed new wells to provide the water district with an adequate supply of water. EPA is conducting a remedial investigation/feasibility study to determine the type and extent of contamination at the site and identify alternatives for remedial action.

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) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.