

# HOPEWELL PRECISION AREA CONTAMINATION

## Hopewell Junction, New York

*Dutchess County*

*19th Congressional District*

### **Site Location/Size:**

---

The Hopewell Precision Area Contamination is located in Hopewell Junction, New York, in Dutchess County. Operations at Hopewell Precision Inc., an active contract manufacturer of sheet metal parts and assemblies, have resulted in a ground water contamination plume beneath and downgradient of the current and former Hopewell Precision properties. The combined size of these adjacent properties is approximately 5.7 acres and the plume extends approximately 1.5 miles downgradient. The area surrounding the site consists mostly of residences, all of which are served by private wells and septic systems.

### **Site History:**

---

Hopewell Precision operated at its 15 Ryan Drive location from 1977 until 1980 and at the adjacent property since 1980. A painting process at Hopewell Precision, including degreasing parts prior to wet spray paint application, generated waste paint, thinners, and degreaser wastes that the company dumped directly onto the ground at the 15 Ryan Drive location. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) performed Hazardous Waste Compliance Inspections of Hopewell Precision in May 1987 and October 2002. As a result of both inspections, NYSDEC cited Hopewell Precision for violations of hazardous waste regulations.

### **Site Contamination/Contaminants:**

---

Significantly elevated levels of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), including 1,1,1-trichloroethane (TCA) and trichloroethylene (TCE), have been detected in drinking wells downgradient of the former/current Hopewell Precision properties. Numerous wells out of a total of 450 wells sampled by EPA Emergency Response Program indicated levels exceeding health-based benchmarks.

### **Potential Impacts on Surrounding Community/Environment:**

---

Significant VOC contamination has been detected in drinking wells and several monitoring wells located on the Hopewell Precision property. Ground water contamination has potentially affected more than 150 individuals. Since the site was proposed to the NPL, the number of wells with levels exceeding State and/or Federal health-based benchmarks have increased to 51 wells. Additionally, based on the results of an indoor air investigation at Hopewell Precision Area Contamination, EPA has identified the movement of significant TCE vapors into residences. Hopewell Precision Area Contamination is also believed to have an impact on ponds located downgradient of the current/former Hopewell Precision properties.

### **Response Activities (to date):**

---

NYSDEC installed point of entry systems (POETs) to treat well water in 14 homes. EPA installed POET systems to treat well water in 37 homes. In addition, since the site was proposed to the NPL, EPA increased the number of subslab ventilation systems (SVSs) in homes with significant soil gas concentrations to 42. EPA continues to conduct drinking well and soil gas monitoring and will continue to evaluate the need for additional POETs and/or SVS systems.

*[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See 56 FR 5600, February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]*

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.