

ELMIRA HIGH SCHOOL

Former Sperry Remington Property Cleanup

Brownfield Cleanup Program

777 South Main Street, Elmira, NY 14904

WHO TO CONTACT



Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

PROJECT-RELATED QUESTIONS:

Tim Schneider, P.E.
 Project Manager NYSDEC –
 Region 8 Office
 6274 East Avon-Lima Road
 Avon, NY 14414
 (585) 226-5480
 timothy.schneider@dec.ny.gov

HEALTH-RELATED QUESTIONS:

Dawn Hettrick, P.E.
 NYSDOH
 Empire State Plaza
 Corning Tower, Room #1787
 Albany, NY 12237
 (518) 402-7860
 beei@health.ny.gov

FOR INFORMATION ON THE BROWNFIELD CLEANUP PROGRAM:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/102390.html>

New York State is committed to overseeing a careful and thorough cleanup of portions of the Elmira High School (EHS) property and keeping the Elmira community informed of our actions. Our top priority is ensuring that students, faculty, and visitors do not come in contact with any of the site’s below-ground contamination. As part of this commitment, Unisys, under its Brownfield Cleanup Agreement, is continuing a comprehensive cleanup of the site. The following update includes the latest information on progress this summer to remove contamination from the southeast parking area, ensure indoor air quality is not impacted, and advance investigations to clean up the football field complex.

We encourage you to sign up for our listserv to continue receiving updates on these actions and future public information sessions.

Summer 2018 Southeast Parking Lot Cleanup

On June 23, 2018, Unisys began cleanup activities to remove contaminated soil from below the parking lot and bus loop located on the southeast side of EHS. Also referred to as Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) No. 2, this work is being coordinated with EHS in a phased approach to allow for the replacement of the parking lot and completion of the new bus loop and canopy before the start of the school year. Unisys completed the first phase of cleanup in July on schedule for EHS canopy construction and completed the remaining cleanup and backfill activities by August 28th for EHS bus loop and parking lot construction.

Accomplishments to date include:

- All excavation work areas have been isolated with temporary construction fencing.
- Excavation and disposal of approximately 11,000 tons of hazardous waste.
- Implementation of a Community Air Monitoring and Dust Control programs.
- Excavation and disposal of approximately 6,000 tons of non-hazardous waste.

EHS Football Field Complex

In July 2018, Unisys completed more than 70 soil borings, collecting samples at 2-foot intervals during the initial phase of a comprehensive Remedial Investigation and/ Pre-IRM #3 Design Investigation of the football field complex. Additional soil sampling necessary to design IRM #3 excavation limits was started in late August and is anticipated to be completed before EHS begins classes in September.

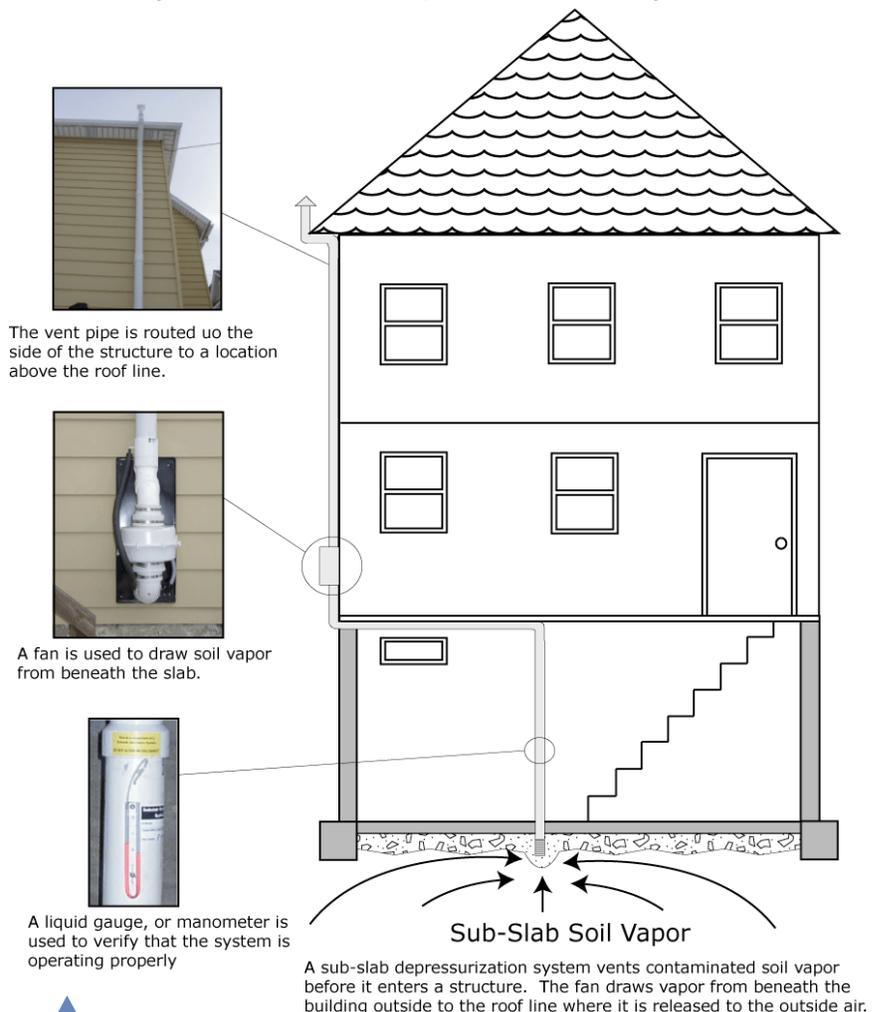
During the summer of 2017, Unisys completed a Short-Term Response Action on the southern portion of the football field, at the direction of New York State. The new data collected this summer shows the turf and soil cover continues to prevent direct contact with contaminants beneath the surface; however, access to the football field complex will be managed beginning this fall to accommodate the anticipated 2019 IRM activities. Unisys will design a cleanup of the football field complex in the coming months, which is intended to be implemented in coordination with EHS's proposed capital improvement projects in this area.

Additional details regarding the sampling program include:

- Soil borings were taken on a 60 ft. x 60 ft. grid;
- Soil sampling to 14 feet below ground surface;
- Groundwater sampling at five monitoring wells located within the football field complex;
- A subsurface utility survey.



Typical Sub-slab Depressurization System



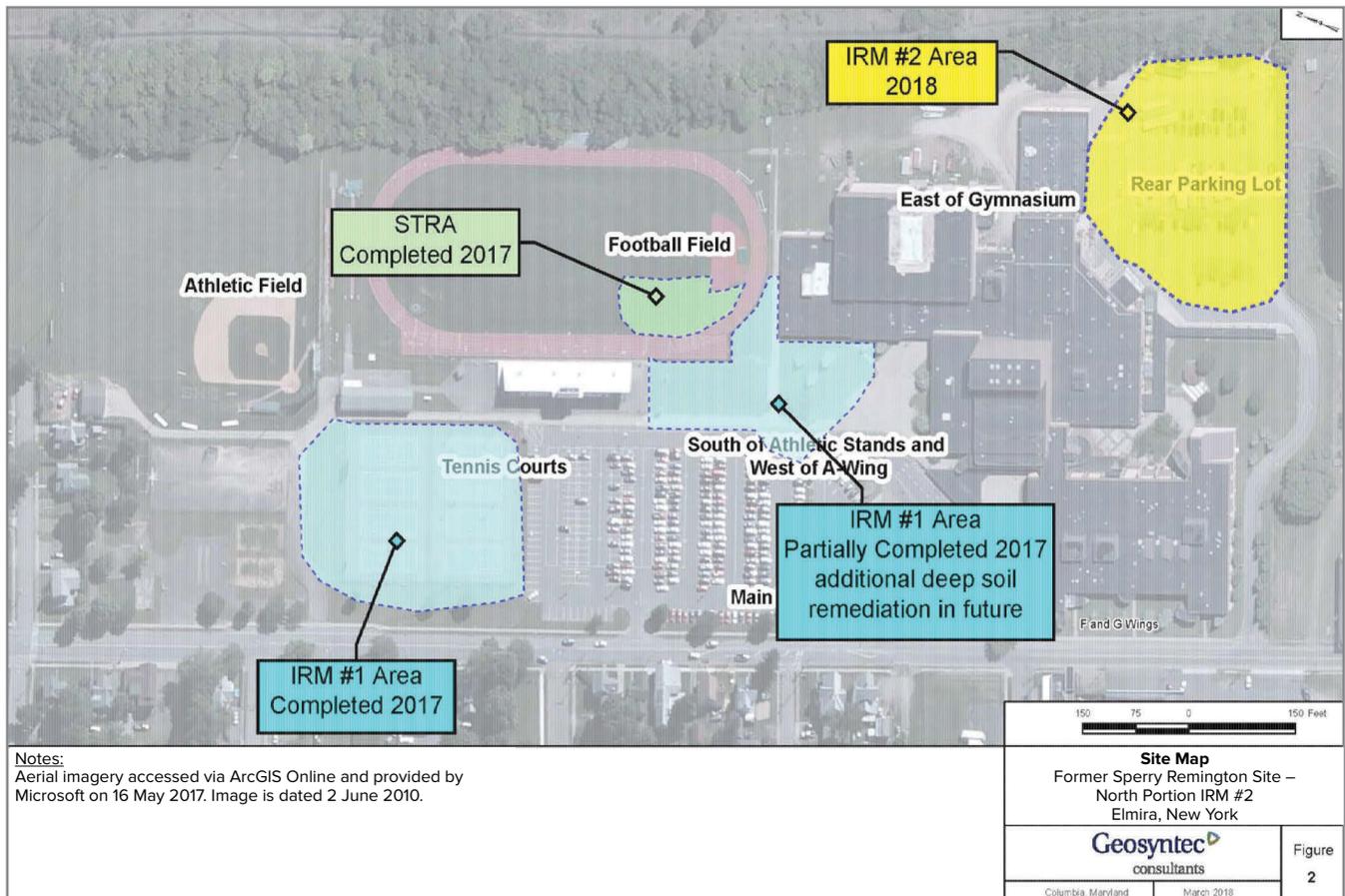
An example of a typical sub-slab depressurization system, similar to what is installed on the school to protect indoor air quality.

Air Quality & Floor Crack Activities

In July, Unisys and EHS staff completed a comprehensive building wide floor crack inventory and rating survey. In addition, sub-slab vapor and indoor air were sampled in data gap areas and other priority locations. The indoor air quality results were consistent with previous findings; all detected contaminants were below NYSDOH guidance values. TCE was detected in the sub-slab vapor below room 148 at slightly elevated levels. Out of an abundance of caution, Unisys is upgrading the mitigation in that portion of EHS to a sub-slab depressurization system (SSDS) similar to what is already in place for the F-wing. The installation of this system, performance testing and the sealing of all floor cracks will be completed before EHS begins classes in September.

Additional details regarding the crack survey, air sampling and response actions include:

- Floor cracks were rated based on size, depth and appropriate sealing techniques;
- Floor cracks will be sealed and maintained by EHS;
- Co-located sub-slab and indoor air samples were collected in 9 different locations at EHS;
- Indoor air samples were collected in 9 additional locations at EHS;
- For all indoor air sampling locations, a set of indoor air samples were collected for both HVAC Occupied and HVAC Unoccupied conditions;
- The SSDS system is designed to cover rooms 146 to 148.



Next Steps

The Department will continue to oversee Unisys' work and coordinate with the Elmira School District to complete the overall Remedial Investigation and Final Remediation. The Department will keep the public informed throughout the cleanup of the site and will host another public availability session this fall to discuss the summer 2018 cleanup actions and future remediation. Stay tuned for more details as this session is planned.

WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION



Project documents are at these location(s):

Steele Memorial Library
101 East Church Street
Elmira, NY 14901
(607) 733-9175

Region 8 NYSDEC Headquarters
6274 East Avon Lima Road
Avon, NY 14414
(585) 226-5324
(call for an appointment)

Project documents are available on the NYSDEC website at:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37556.html

Investigation of Properties Outside School

In addition to the cleanup efforts on the school property, DEC and DOH continue to oversee Unisys' ongoing investigation of potential offsite migration of contaminants in the surrounding community. Based on current remedial investigation findings, there are no indications that contaminants are migrating or have been disposed west, north and northeast of the EHS property.

The migration of contaminants southeast of the EHS in groundwater has been investigated and monitored by DEC, and sampling data suggests there has been attenuation of limited extent, with contaminants breaking down and diminishing in concentration. No one is coming in contact with or drinking the groundwater, as public water supply serves this area and is routinely monitored.

Additionally, Unisys is currently investigating potential wastes that are in Coldbrook Creek sediments. Design work for cleanup actions in the upstream headwaters area is beginning in the Fall of 2018, with final investigation activities in Coldbrook Creek scheduled for 2019.

In Case You Missed the June 14 Availability Session

DEC, DOH and Unisys held a public availability session on June 14, 2018 at Elmira High School to discuss the ongoing cleanup actions. Individual stations about various aspects of the cleanup and public health protection efforts were staffed by experts from NYSDEC, NYSDOH and Unisys to provide the opportunity for interested residents and community members to have specific questions answered. Information also was presented through videos and posters. Visit: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/102390.html> for copies of the materials presented.

SIGN UP TO STAY INFORMED

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>

