



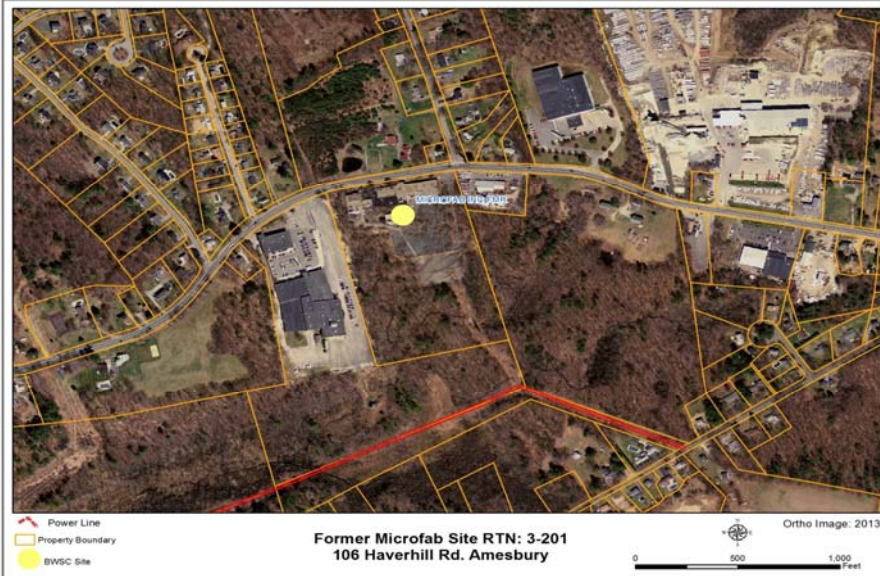
Former Microfab Site Background Information

February 23, 2016
City of Amesbury Microfab Workshop

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Overview of Presentation

- Background
 - History
 - Existing Conditions
- MassDEP Requested EPA Assistance



Background - History

- Former Microfab Site, 14.7 acres located at 106 Haverhill Road
- From 1967-1987 manufactured printed circuit boards, electroplating, and related operations
- From 1967-1977 untreated wastewater directly discharged to on-site wetland
- From 1977-1987 wastewater treatment plant discharged to on-site unnamed stream on west side of property
- Site was abandoned in 1987 and Microfab Inc. dissolved in 1990
- Main contaminants of concern are volatile organic compounds (VOCs), primarily trichloroethylene (TCE), and heavy metals
- Contamination poses human health and ecological risks

Background – Existing Conditions

- Site consists of Microfab property and wetland areas to the south and southwest.
- In 1990, Imminent Hazard (IH) area of arsenic fenced by MassDEP. Fence continues to be maintained by MassDEP.
- In 1991, MassDEP installed a groundwater recovery/treatment system that operated until 2012. VOCs in groundwater remain elevated and the VOC plume is over 1,800 feet in length, extending beyond the capture zone of the most downgradient groundwater recovery well.
- In 2001, MassDEP completed a Phase II Comprehensive Site Assessment. Elevated VOCs in soil, groundwater and surface water. Heavy metals in soil and wetland sediments extending beyond property. Contamination poses human health risk to future site users.

Background – Existing Conditions continued

- In 2005, MassDEP completed an Ecological Risk Assessment concluded that heavy metals in sediments, copper in particular, were causing ecological harm.
- The 48,000 ft² on-site building is in poor structural condition.
- The site is subject to frequent trespass and vandalism. Site and building security measures by the City and MassDEP have not been successful.
- MassDEP is in the process of hiring a state contractor to perform a hazardous materials survey of the on-site building and a cost estimate for hazardous material removal/disposal which would be required prior to building demolition



MassDEP Requested EPA Assistance

- In 2014, MassDEP requested EPA evaluate Microfab for listing as a federal Superfund Site
- Contamination poses human health and ecological risks
- Investigation/Cleanup not moving forward
- Microfab, Inc. no longer exists
- Neither the City nor MassDEP have the resources to complete the necessary work
- Anticipated high cost of remediation
- Difficult to maintain site security
- Cleanup would facilitate future redevelopment
- Superfund listing provides the best opportunity for comprehensive cleanup