



## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **S. Cayuga Street and Spencer Street Residents**

Tomorrow morning, June 16<sup>th</sup>, Emerson, the parent company of Emerson Power Transmission, will begin conducting tests in your neighborhood. In cooperation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Emerson consultants will be drilling in public right of ways for the installation of monitoring points designed for the sampling of vadose zone soil gas. None of these points are being installed on private property. These points are designed to test whether any contamination of soil gas you may have heard about in media reports is present outside the boundaries of the Emerson Power Transmission plant on South Aurora Street.

You may see a pickup truck with drilling equipment starting tomorrow morning and working in the neighborhood through the end of the week. Once the points are installed, you may see a metal canister visible a few inches above the surface of the ground. We ask that you please make sure that these canisters are not disturbed in order to protect the validity of the test results. These canisters will collect samples of the soil gas over an eight hour period and will be removed once the sampling is completed.

Emerson Power Transmission and its parent company, Emerson, have a real and sincere commitment to the environment. We are working closely with the state to remedy a situation that was present when Emerson purchased Morse Chain in 1983.

Please see the attached fact sheet that explains in more detail how Emerson has addressed this environmental issue and our continuing work with the New York State Department of Conservation. If you have any questions, please contact Derek Chase at 314-553-2767.

Thank you.

## **Emerson Power Transmission-Ithaca Fact Sheet**

### **June, 2004**

#### **Site History**

- The Emerson Power Transmission plant in Ithaca was built in 1906 by Morse Industrial Corporation, which manufactured steel roller chain for the automobile industry. From 1906 to approximately 1928, the Morse family owned the property and, during that time, site operations included manufacturing typewriters, airplanes, clocks, and automotive components.
- From approximately 1928 to 1983, Borg Warner owned the company and manufactured automotive components and power transmission equipment at the Ithaca facility.
- Prior to 1983, Morse Industrial Corporation used trichloroethylene, or TCE, a widely-used solvent for cleaning and degreasing metal parts.
- In 1983, Morse Industrial Corporation was purchased from Borg-Warner Corporation by Emerson, and became known as Emerson Power Transmission.
- Emerson Power Transmission manufactures industrial roller chain, bearings and clutching for the power transmission industry.
- Under Emerson ownership, TCE was not used at the Ithaca facility.
- Investigations conducted by Emerson revealed onsite groundwater contamination in 1987, originating from a fire-water reservoir located on the western portion of the facility property. Emerson promptly reported these findings to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.
- In 1988, Emerson entered into a consent order with NYSDEC to conduct a remedial investigation and feasibility study at the site.
- The remedial investigation was completed in 1990 and the feasibility study in 1994.

#### **Completed Cleanup Activities**

- Under the NYSDEC-approved plans, Emerson in 1991 implemented interim measures designed to extract and treat affected groundwater
- In 1994, the final remedial alternative for groundwater was selected and detailed in the Record of Decision by NYSDEC.
- In accordance with the NYDEC Record of Decision, the approved groundwater remedy was constructed in July 1996. This remedy upgraded and expanded the interim groundwater remedy installed in 1991.
- The groundwater remediation system continues to operate today in accordance with NYSDEC's Record of Decision.
- Emerson has worked closely with the State of New York since this problem was discovered in 1987 to ensure that these response actions are adequate and in compliance with the NYSDEC Record of Decision.

#### **Upcoming Cleanup Activities**

- Under NYSDEC-approved plans, Emerson will be installing additional monitoring wells to evaluate the effectiveness of the groundwater remediation system now in place.
- To address vadose zone monitoring of soil gas set out in the Record of Decision, Emerson has submitted an additional work plan and received approval from the New York State Department of Health as well as NYSDEC for the installation of vadose zone sampling points designed to monitor soil gas in the soil layer above the water table.
- The vadose zone sampling points designed for sampling of soil gas will be installed along public right-of-ways in the vicinity of South Cayuga Street and Spencer Street during the month of June.
- Following the sampling and testing of the soil gas from these points, Emerson will provide the results to the NYSDEC and the NYSDOH.