LOCKHEED MARTIN

Great Neck

Fact Sheet | 2025

INTRODUCTION

In 1996, Lockheed Martin acquired Loral Defense Electronics and Systems Integration, which included the former Unisys Corporation site at 1111 Marcus Ave in Lake Success, NY. The site straddles the border between the Village of Lake Success and the Town of North Hempstead. With the acquisition came responsibility for the ongoing environmental cleanup at the site.

The site comprises approximately 90 acres and includes one main building and several smaller buildings south of the main building. The main building was constructed in 1941 by the U.S. government for the manufacture of sonar and related military equipment. Sperry Gyroscope bought the business and property in 1951. Sperry merged with the Burroughs Corporation in 1986 to become Unisys Corporation. In 1995, Loral Corporation acquired the assets of Unisys Defense Systems. In early 1996, Lockheed Martin purchased Loral's electronics and systems integration businesses.

After its purchase, Lockheed Martin discontinued operations at the site in 1998 and in 2000, sold the property. The site is now a commercial property with various tenants occupying the main building.

BACKGROUND

As a part of the original manufacturing operation at the Unisys site, a series of dry wells were constructed at the southeast corner of the main building for the disposal of liquid wastes. These wells were the primary source of the volatile organic compounds that were first found at the site in the 1970s, when the property was owned and operated by Sperry. Environmental contaminants of concern are present at the site in the groundwater, soil, soil vapor, and sediments, and in groundwater off-site.

Between 1978 and 2012, a series of environmental studies identified the nature and extent of these contaminants. Several actions have been taken to address these findings. An area of contaminated groundwater, known as a plume, originates at the site and spreads out under approximately 1.5 square miles, extending north/northwest from the site. Additional information below describes the two groundwater collection and treatment systems that were installed by Lockheed Martin to mitigate the highest contaminant levels within the plume.

The plume lies between 100 and 400 feet below the surface of the ground and has affected some of the public water supply wells for the Water Authority of Great Neck North and Manhasset-Lakeville Water District, as well as the Village of Lake Success Golf Course irrigation well.

Treatment systems are in place on the impacted public water supply and irrigation wells, and the water they supply meets the appropriate water quality standards. The primary contaminants of concern in the groundwater are trichloroethene (TCE), tetrachloroethene (PCE), 1,2-dichloroethene (1,2- DCE), and Freon 113. These chemicals are typically used as cleaning solvents in manufacturing operations.

The contaminants in the soil and sediments include metals, principally copper, barium, and cadmium, and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), principally polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). The contaminated soil is located in defined areas on the property.

In a May 1991 Consent Order, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) designated the former Unisys site as a Class 2 Site on the Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal List. The Consent Order outlined remediation goals for on- and off-site cleanup. The NYSDEC subsequently issued the Operable Unit 1 Record of Decision in early 1997, and an amendment in early 2015, specifying the details of construction, operation, maintenance, and monitoring of the cleanup of groundwater, soil, and soil vapor, and sediments on-site. Additionally, the NYSDEC issued an Operable Unit 2 Record of Decision for the off-site groundwater cleanup in December 2014.

The Records of Decision respond to clean-up alternatives presented by Lockheed Martin following its extensive investigations and ongoing cleanup actions to address the contaminants. During its investigations, Lockheed Martin coordinated with NYSDEC, which discussed all the alternatives and their ramifications with the citizens of the area surrounding the former Unisys site and collaborated with local government officials and water purveyors. Lockheed Martin is committed to doing the right thing and is working closely with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the community to clean up the Site, meet all regulatory standards, and protect public health and the environment.

GROUNDWATER CLEANUP

In April 1993, Unisys installed an interim groundwater treatment system (Operable Unit 1, OU1) to begin removing volatile organic compounds from the on-site groundwater at the 90-acre site's northern boundary and to contain the movement of the plume. The 1997 Record of Decision (ROD) issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) directed the installation of a state-of-the-art groundwater treatment system to replace the interim system.

New Manhasset-Lakeville Water District water treatment facility funded by Lockheed Martin to provide clean water to their customers.

Lockheed Martin began construction of this system in 2001, and it began operation in August 2002. A separate Record of Decision for off-site groundwater, released by the NYSDEC in late 2014, approved Lockheed Martin's proposal to upgrade the capacity of OU1 from 730 gallons per minute to 850 gallons per minute by adding a deeper well for extracting groundwater from the plume for treatment. Design of the upgrade began in 2015, and construction was completed in 2018.

On-Site Groundwater Treatment System

To clean up the contaminated groundwater that had already moved off site, Lockheed Martin constructed a second interim off-site groundwater treatment system (Operable Unit 2, OU2) in June 2004 just south of the Great Neck South school property at a former water supply treatment facility. The Record of Decision issued by the NYSDEC in late 2014 approved Lockheed Martin's proposal to continue operating OU2 at its present rate of 500 gallons per minute. It also approved Lockheed Martin's plan to provide funding to protect the public water supply in the broader area, working with the two water providers, Manhasset-Lakeville Water District and Water Authority of Great Neck North. This plan guarantees the distribution of potable water at the highest quality to local citizens with treatment systems on wells affected by site-related contamination, including continued operation of all existing systems and installation of additional treatment systems or upgrades to existing systems as necessary.

Monitoring well sampling and laboratory analysis will continue to track the movement of groundwater contaminants. Samples from these wells provide early warning of the need to add or adjust the wellhead treatment systems.

Since the two treatment systems began operations, more than 61,000 pounds of volatile organic compounds have been removed from the on-site property and the groundwater plume. The two units have prevented further migration of the plume and captured groundwater from those areas with the highest contaminant concentrations.

Off-Site Groundwater Treatment System

ON-SITE SOIL AND SEDIMENT CLEANUP

Soil

In January 1994, an interim soil vapor extraction system was installed on-site near the original disposal area to remove any leftover volatile organic compounds from the soil. Responding to the 1997 Record of Decision issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), this system was expanded to remove contaminants from soil and water perched in the soil above the groundwater aquifer outside the southeast corner of the main building. In 1998, the effort to remove leftover volatile organic compounds was expanded by excavating down to 30 feet around three dry wells. Approximately 800 tons of contaminated soil were removed and disposed of off-site at an approved disposal facility. The OU1 ROD Amendment required remediation of seven areas onsite. The seven areas were excavated between 2017 and 2021, with contaminated soil taken offsite to a permitted disposal facility and clean soil imported and backfilled in the seven excavations. Lockheed Martin has submitted completion reports to the NYSDEC and is waiting on final approvals.

Sediment

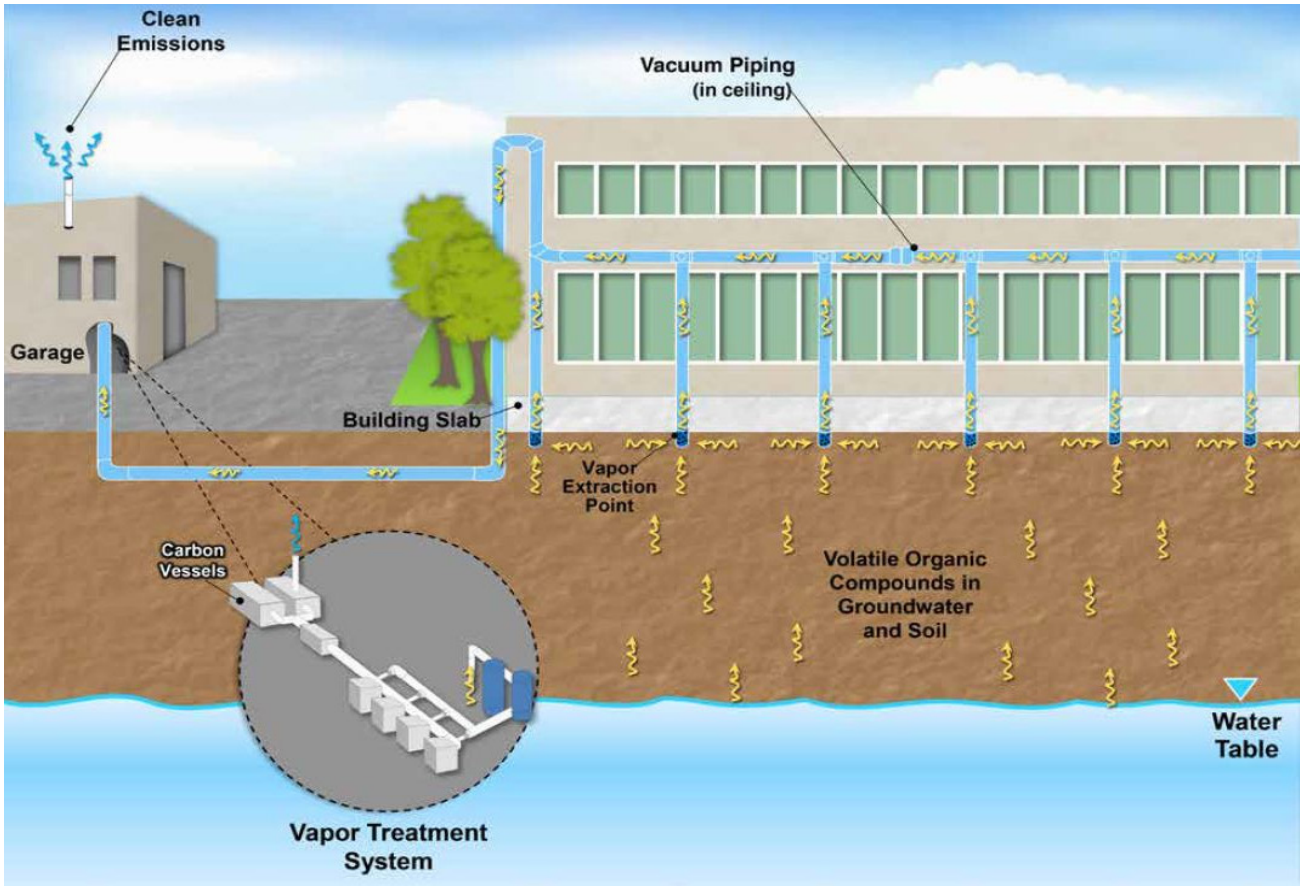
During its investigations, Lockheed Martin discovered contaminants at the bottom of three stormwater basins located at the southwest corner of the site. The contaminants resulted from stormwater runoff from site parking lots, roads, and building roofs and are confined to the sediment. Lockheed Martin proposed, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in its 1997 Record of Decision, accepted that public health would be best served by simply limiting access to these basins. An environmental easement is now in place requiring that these basin sediments not be disturbed and that the basins continue to be used for stormwater management. Deed restrictions have been recorded, a fence was constructed and is maintained around the basins, and warning signs to restrict access are posted at the basins and on the fence.

Main Building Vapor Mitigation

In 2006, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) released guidance on vapor intrusion. Vapor intrusion, or soil vapor intrusion, refers to chemicals in soil that move as a gas or vapor through the soil and into a building. Responding to this guidance, Lockheed Martin investigated whether or not chemical vapors were present at the site. While samples taken in 2007 revealed no indoor air concentrations in the site buildings above the state guidelines, samples taken in 2008 identified two areas in the main building that did not meet state guidelines. Subsequently, Lockheed Martin installed two temporary sub-slab depressurization systems (SSDS) to improve indoor air quality in these locations quickly.

The sub-slab depressurization system (SSDS) ensures safe air quality inside the main building

Sub-slab depressurization (SSDS) systems use a vacuum to collect soil vapor below the foundation of a building, treat it, and move the cleaned air to the outside of the building. Lockheed Martin informed building management of the situation and worked closely with tenants and the property owner to install the sub-slab depressurization systems.



Graphic depicts sub-slab vacuum system which extracts vapors from beneath the entire building and pipes those gases to the garage, where they are treated and clean air is released.

Lockheed Martin then constructed and began operating a new building-wide sub-slab depressurization system in 2013. The system is continuously operated and monitored to ensure that a vacuum is constantly maintained under the building. The NYSDOH concurs that the sub-slab depressurization system protects human health. Lockheed Martin will continue advising tenants and the property owner on the performance of the sub-slab depressurization system. Since startup, over 780 pounds of contaminants of concern have been removed from the soil vapor.

LA Fitness Building Vapor Mitigation

Vapor sampling in the on-site LA Fitness building began in 2007, with results from the 2008 sampling event identifying the need for vapor intrusion mitigation in the unoccupied basement space of the building. A passive venting system was installed to prevent sub-slab soil vapor from entering the occupied portions of the building.

In 2017, the NYSDOH released revised guidance for evaluating soil vapor intrusion, lowering the sub-slab mitigation action threshold for concentrations. Subsequent sampling in the LA Fitness building had concentrations in the sub-slab that required vapor mitigation based on the new, more stringent standards. No exceedances in indoor air were detected. However, due to the sub-slab vapor exceedances, Lockheed Martin installed two extraction points in the building. These two extraction points operate independently of the sub-slab depressurization system located in the main building. Lockheed Martin sampled sub-slab vapors and indoor air in the gym on-site in 2018. Results from the sampling found no exceedances in the indoor air, but the sub-slab vapors met the more stringent requirements for vapor mitigation.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All documents and reports related to the Great Neck site are publicly available from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) website: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/130045/

Technical documents for this site are available at these libraries:

Great Neck Public Library
159 Bayview Avenue
Great Neck, NY 11023
Phone: 516-466-8055

Hillside Public Library
155 Lakeville Road
New Hyde Park, NY 11040
Phone: 516-355-7850

For more information about Lockheed Martin's ongoing Environmental Remediation efforts, visit our dedicated webpage.

Contact Information
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