

# Former Paxar Facility

## Site Investigation and Remediation

### 1 Wilcox Street, Sayre, Pennsylvania

In the mid-1990s, with oversight by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP)'s North Central Regional Office, Paxar began efforts to remediate soil and groundwater found to contain perchloroethylene (PCE) and trichloroethene (TCE) and similar substances known as volatile organic compounds (VOC) at the former Paxar facility located at and near 1 Wilcox Street in Sayre Borough, Pennsylvania.

Avery Dennison Corporation became the owner of the property with its acquisition of Paxar Corporation in 2007, and is working under PADEP oversight to investigate and remediate the soil and groundwater under the requirements of Pennsylvania's voluntary remediation program.

### What is PCE and what is TCE? Who used them?

- PCE and TCE are chlorinated solvents. Both are clear liquids that were commonly and extensively used in America's industrial processes, particularly during the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s.
- These chemicals are still used in some processes today, but much less than in the past. The most common use of PCE is in dry cleaning fabrics, including clothes.
- The most common use of TCE is cleaning of greasy metal parts; however, it is also present in some household items such as adhesives, paint and varnish removers, rug cleaning fluids, and sheet vinyl flooring.
- Avery Dennison does not use PCE or TCE at 1 Wilcox Street, nor has it since it acquired the facility in 2007. These compounds were, however, used by prior occupants of the facility.
- Although Avery Dennison was not the cause of the contamination associated with the former Paxar facility, Avery Dennison is working with PADEP to investigate and address the issue.

### Is your drinking water safe?

- **Yes.** Your drinking water in the Borough of Sayre comes from a public water supply managed by AquaAmerica pursuant to the requirements of Pennsylvania and the United States Safe Drinking Water Acts.
- The source of the Borough's public water is located miles away from the former Paxar facility, in Athens.
- The results of the required public water supply quality testing are available at AquaAmerica's website: <https://www.aquaamerica.com/WaterQualityReports/2016/PA/PA2080028.pdf>

### What Happens Next

- Avery Dennison will continue to work with PADEP to determine the extent of contamination in soil and groundwater that is associated with Paxar and its predecessors. Avery Dennison has reached an agreement with the Borough of Sayre to make use of the Borough's rights-of-way and other Borough-owned property that borders the streets to install additional wells to monitor groundwater and soil vapor quality.
- Avery Dennison will take reasonable steps to minimize any public inconvenience associated with this monitoring work, including limiting the work hours from 7am to 5pm and using traffic control where necessary to minimize traffic disruption. The work to install monitoring wells or soil vapor quality monitoring points may involve the use of drills, trucks, trailers, and front-end loaders.
- Avery Dennison will periodically return to perform tests on the wells and collect groundwater or soil vapor samples, which will be sent to a state-certified laboratory for analysis.
- Avery Dennison installed a system on the former Paxar property to extract and treat groundwater, then return the treated groundwater to the ground in accordance with PADEP requirements. Avery Dennison will operate the system as long as it is needed.
- Based on soil vapor testing results and recently updated PADEP guidance, Avery Dennison has offered to install vapor mitigation systems in homes primarily along Hoover and Draper Streets. The vapor mitigation systems are similar to those used to address radon and will work to prevent soil vapor from migrating into indoor air.

*The purpose of this fact sheet is to inform the public of the activities being undertaken related to the investigation and remediation of historic releases of contaminants at or near the former Paxar Corporation facility at 1 Wilcox Street.*

### For more information

**Alison Spare, Community Contact**  
Phone: 717-919-4723

**Avery Dennison Corporation**  
207 Goode Avenue, Glendale, California 91203