

Site Investigation at Putney Paper Mill, Putney, Vermont

STONE
ENVIRONMENTAL
100% EMPLOYEE-OWNED

Services / Expertise

Emergent Contaminants Investigation and Remediation – PFAS Remedial Investigation
Feasibility Studies

Market

Commercial Private Industry

Project Location

Putney, Vermont

Date Completed

2021-Present

Project Owner

Soundview Vermont Holdings, LLC

Project ID#

20211049

Project Manager

Rebecca Treat, PG

Project Team

Dan Voisin
Michael Smith
Sarah Rathay
Laura Rajnak
Sandra Walser
Jodie Wright

Subconsultants

Con-Test/Pace Analytical Laboratories
Eurofins Environmental Testing
DrillEx Environmental Drilling
Platform Environmental Drilling



Exterior of the mill building in Putney, Vermont.

DEVELOPMENT of the Putney Paper Company property for paper manufacturing began in 1818. The property has been the subject of environmental assessment and management for over 26 years (Sites Management Section [SMS] Site #94-1605; Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System [CERCLIS] Site VTD001087188).

In 2021, Stone conducted site investigation (SI) efforts to address concerns of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VT DEC) regarding potential impacts to environmental media at the Site. Contaminants of concern included per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), metals, dioxins and furans, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The SI efforts consisted of an assessment of soil, groundwater, surface water and sediment in the vicinity of the mill and the former lagoons located on the property. PFAS and arsenic were detected in various media above regulatory standards, most notably groundwater, and the former lagoons were identified as the primary source.

Since late 2021, Stone has implemented a robust groundwater monitoring program to evaluate spatial and temporal trends in the overburden and bedrock aquifers. The program also includes hydraulic monitoring of a nearby brook to determine if it is acting as a hydraulic barrier for further downgradient migration of impacts. Supplemental site investigation (SSI) efforts are planned for fall 2022 to further define the extent and distribution of PFAS in groundwater. The SSI efforts have been designed to provide the data necessary to support closure through groundwater reclassification.