

Putney Paper Mill Site Investigation and Groundwater Monitoring

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

Point of Contact / Reference

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Eurofins Environmental Testing
DrillEx Environmental Drilling
Platform Environmental Drilling



View of drill rig mobilized to investigate PFAS impacts during 2023 supplemental site investigation.

DEVELOPMENT of the Putney Paper Company property in downtown Putney, Vermont, for paper manufacturing began in 1818. The paper mill has been the subject of environmental assessment and management for over 30 years. In 2021, Stone conducted site investigation 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). As part of the site investigation, we tested 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 included 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 efforts were performed in 2022 and 2023 to further define the extent and distribution of PFAS in groundwater. In 2024 and 2025, Stone completed a hydrogeologic assessment to evaluate the need for corrective actions. The assessment determined that corrective actions are not required and a recommendation for site closure is currently undergoing regulatory review.

