

O'Connor, Brendan

From: Graber, Robert
Sent: Wednesday, December 04, 2019 3:03 PM
To: O'Connor, Brendan
Subject: FW: Riverview Innovation and Technology Campus (T. of Tonawanda) - Public Comment Invited on Brownfield Application

From: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation [mailto:nysdec@public.govdelivery.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 04, 2019 2:47 PM
To: Graber, Robert
Subject: Riverview Innovation and Technology Campus (T. of Tonawanda) - Public Comment Invited on Brownfield Application

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NYSDEC Invites Public Comment About Brownfield Application for Site on River Road, Town of Tonawanda

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has received a Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) application from Riverview Innovation & Technology Campus, Inc. for a site known as **Riverview Innovation and Technology Campus, site ID #C915353**. This site is located in the Town of Tonawanda, within the County of Erie, and is located at 3875 River Road.

Access the application and other relevant documents online through the DECinfo Locator: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/C915353/>. The documents also are available at the document repositories located at the Kenmore Branch Library, 160 Delaware Road, Kenmore, NY, 14217; and at the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, One Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY 14203.

There are several ways to comment on BCP applications. Comments can be submitted to the site Project Manager Benjamin McPherson, P.E. at 270 Michigan Avenue, Buffalo, NY, 14203; via email at benjamin.mcpherson@dec.ny.gov; or by calling (716) 851-7220. **All comments must be submitted by January 18, 2020.**

Site information can be viewed by entering the site ID noted above at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/derexternal/index.cfm?pageid=3>

What is the Brownfield Cleanup Program?

New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) is designed to encourage private-sector cleanups of brownfields and to promote their redevelopment as a means to revitalize economically blighted communities. The BCP is an alternative to "greenfield" (land not previously developed or contaminated) development and is intended to remove some of the barriers to, and provide tax incentives for, the redevelopment of brownfields. Since its inception (2003), the BCP has catalyzed the cleanup of more than 300 contaminated sites statewide and incentivized redevelopment. There are more than 350 active sites in the BCP.

Additional information on the State's Brownfield program is available at DEC's website:
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html>

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Basil Seggos, Commissioner

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· 625 Broadway · Albany, NY 12233 · (518) 402-8013



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Environmental Site Remediation Database Search Details

Site Record

Administrative Information

Site Name: Riverview Innovation & Technology Campus

Site Code: C915353

Program: Brownfield Cleanup Program

Classification: A

EPA ID Number:

Location

DEC Region: 9

Address: 3875 RIVER ROAD

City: TONAWANDA Zip: 14150

County: Erie

Latitude: 42.949166667

Longitude: -78.926388889

Site Type:

Estimated Size: 94.6 Acres

Site Owner(s) and Operator(s)

Current Owner Name: Tonawanda Coke Corporation

Current Owner(s) Address: 3875 River Road

Tonawanda, NY, 14150

Site Document Repository

Name: Buffalo and Erie County Public Library

Address: One Lafayette Square

Buffalo, NY 14203

Name: Kenmore Branch

Address: 160 Delaware Rd

Kenmore, NY 14217

Site Description

Site Location: The Riverview Innovation & Technology Campus site is 94.6-acres and is located at 3875 River Road in an industrial area of the Town of Tonawanda. The site is

approximately 0.25 miles west of I-190 on the east side of River Road. The site is bound by the Huntley fly-ash landfill and vacant property to the north, railroad and utility property to the east, the Allied Chemical-Tonawanda (Site No. 915003) and utility property to the south, and Vanocur Refractories and Swift River Associates to the west. Site Features: The site is a former coke production facility with coke ovens, coke by-products plant, storage tanks, maintenance buildings, boiler house, and coal/coke handling infrastructure located in the north-central portion of the site. The southern portion of the property is mainly open area formerly used to store coal and coke piles. The eastern portion of the site was used for outdoor storage of miscellaneous surplus materials. The site is adjacent to the Operable Units 1 and 2 of the Tonawanda Coke Corporation inactive hazardous waste disposal site (Site No. 915055). Current Zoning and Land Use: The facility is inactive and no longer in operation. The site is zoned industrial/commercial. Surrounding parcels are zoned for commercial or industrial use. The nearest residential area is located approximately 0.4-miles south of the site. Past Use of the Site: The site produced metallurgical coke and associated by-products facility from 1917 until 2018. The facility was owned and operated from circa 1917 through 1947 by Semet Solvay Company, a subsidiary of Allied Chemical and Dye corporation. In 1947, Semet Solvay Company was merged into Allied Chemical Corporation, which owned and operated the facility until January 1978 when it was sold to the Tonawanda Coke Corporation. The Tonawanda Coke Corporation filed for bankruptcy protection in 2018 and all manufacturing on the property was shutdown. On September 23, 2019 the sale of the property to Riverview Innovation & Technology Campus, Inc was approved by the bankruptcy court. Historically, manufacturing processes used at the plant have included: by-products coking; light oil distillation; ammonia recovery; and benzene, toluene, and xylene extraction. Coke was produced by the removal of gasses, liquids (oils), and tar from the coal by heating the coal in the absence of oxygen. The resulting carbon material *coke* was used, among other things, for the production of steel. The extracted coke oven gas was used to heat subsequent coking operations or sold as fuel. The liquids and tars were conveyed through pipes to a by-products facility where they were processed for sale as raw or construction materials. Site Geology and Hydrogeology: Previous investigation indicates that fill material, varying up to 5-feet in thickness, is present over the entire site as the uppermost stratigraphic unit. Observed fill during prior investigations consisted mainly of silt, gravel, cinders, slag, coke, and coke breeze (fine particles of coke that could not be sold). Underlying the fill is a native deposit comprised primarily of red-brown clay, with some silt and gravel lenses, that underlies the entire site. The thickness of this unit is unknown, since the prior on-site investigation have not extended to the bottom of the unit. Data from investigations conducted in the surrounding area indicate that the clay averages more than 50-feet thick. Bedrock is expected to underly the native overburden soil. The groundwater on the property has been reported to occur as a shallow unit, typically within

5-feet of the ground surface. The groundwater is perched atop the undulating surface of the top of the clay layer. The clay layer is an aquitard, limiting the vertical migration potential of the groundwater. The undulating surface of the top of the clay layer is the primary factor influencing horizontal groundwater movement in this shallow unit. In some areas of the site, the perched fill zone is dry. The surface water on the site generally flows in the direction of the Niagara River as general overland flow or through constructed stormwater infrastructure.

Site Environmental Assessment

Information submitted with the BCP application regarding the environmental condition at the site are currently under review and will be revised as additional information becomes available.

Site Health Assessment

Information submitted with the BCP application regarding the conditions at the site are currently under review and will be revised as additional information becomes available.

For more Information: E-mail Us

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