



New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

FACT SHEET

Environmental Restoration Program

Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email. See "For More Information" to Learn How.

Site Name: 1318 Niagara Street
DEC Site #: E915213
Site Address: 1318 Niagara Street
Buffalo, NY 14213

June 2012

Interim Remedial Measure Proposed; Public Comment Period Announced, June 4 – July 5, 2012

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is reviewing a Draft "Limited Excavation and Soil Cover Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) Work Plan" for 1318 Niagara Street ("site") located at 1318 Niagara Street, Buffalo, Erie County. Please see the map, located at the end of the fact sheet, for the site location. Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the locations identified below under "Where to Find Information."

Environmental Restoration Program: New York's Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) reimburses municipalities for their costs to investigate and clean up municipality owned contaminated properties. Once cleaned up, the properties may be redeveloped for commercial, industrial, residential or public use.

A brownfield is any real property that is difficult to reuse or redevelop because of the presence or potential presence of contamination.

For more information about the ERP, visit:
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8444.html>

How to Comment

DEC is accepting written comments about the proposed Draft Limited Excavation and Soil Cover IRM work plan for 30 days, from June 4, 2012 through July 5, 2012. The proposed plan is available for review at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the project manager listed under Project Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area below.

Draft Interim Remedial Measure Work Plan

An IRM is a cleanup activity that may be performed when a source of contamination or exposure pathway (the way in which a person may contact contamination) can be effectively addressed without extensive investigation and evaluation.

The draft IRM work plan identifies cleanup activities that include: excavation and offsite disposal of soil in areas with polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) concentrations greater than 10 mg/kg, backfilling excavations with clean fill, and placement of a soil cover consisting of one (1) foot of clean fill and four (4) inches of top soil with hydro-seed over the entire site.

DEC is conducting a public comment period because the IRM is likely to represent a significant part of the cleanup for this site.

Next Steps

DEC will consider public comments, revise the plan as necessary, and approve the IRM work plan in consultation with New York State Department of Health (DOH). The approved work plan will be made available to the public (see "Where to Find Information" below). After the work plan is approved, the activities detailed in the work plan will be implemented. Upon completion of the work, a Construction Completion Report will be prepared that documents the activities that were performed.

DEC will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the site.

Background

Location: The 1318 Niagara Street Site is located in an urban area in the City of Buffalo, Erie County. The site is across from the intersection of Niagara Street and Lafayette Avenue.

Site Features: The site is an empty relatively flat lot and slopes to the west. The site is bordered to the west by Penn Central Railroad and beyond that by NYS I-90 and the Black Rock Canal.

Current Zoning/Use: The site is currently inactive, and is zoned for commercial use. The surrounding parcels are a rail corridor to the west, and commercial residential properties along Niagara Street to the north, south, and east. The nearest residential area is 150 feet east of the site.

Historical Use(s): From 1909 to 1987 the site was used as a brewery, and from 1987 to 2004 utilized by private owners for unknown purpose. Prior uses that appear to have led to site contamination include two 20,000 gallon underground storage tanks (USTs), a furnace pit, and nineteen 55 gallon drums containing PCBs and waste oil. In 2004 the City of Buffalo obtained the property through tax foreclosure and during demolition in 2006 found the USTs and furnace pit. An interim remedial measure (IRM) to remove surface soils impacted by PCBs as well as drums of waste and two 20,000 gallon tanks was completed in 2010. An additional Site Investigation was performed in the fall of 2011 to investigate any remaining contamination. A Site Investigation and Alternatives Analysis Report is expected in late 2012. The site remedial program is being performed by the City of Buffalo under the State's Environmental Restoration Program.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: The site is overlain by 8-10 feet of fill underlain by 8-12 feet of silty clay to limestone bedrock. Shallow groundwater is at 20-25 feet, and generally flows to the west southwest.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on DEC's website at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/58015.html>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION**Where to Find Information**

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed.

Buffalo & Erie County Library
1 Lafayette Square
Buffalo, NY 14203
Phone: (716) 858-8900

NYSDEC Region 9 Office
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
Phone: (716) 851-7220 (Please call for appointment)

Project documents are also available on DEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/58015.html>

Who to Contact

Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project Related Questions

Anthony Lopes
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
270 Michigan Ave
Buffalo, NY 14203-2915
716-851-7220
alopes@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions

Scarlett E. Messier
New York State Department of Health
547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180
518-402-7860
sem10@health.state.ny.us

Site Related Questions

Mr. Dennis Sutton, C.P.G.
Office of Strategic Planning
920 City Hall
Buffalo, NY 14202
716-851-6587
dsutton@city-buffalo.com

We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.

Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page:
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>. It's quick, it's free, and it will help keep you *better informed*.



As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

You may continue also to receive paper copies of site information for a time after you sign up with a county listserv, until the transition to electronic distribution is complete.

Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.

