



FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

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

Site Name: Lee Ave Railroad Area
DEC Site #: 709014
Address: Lee Ave/Route 23 along Railroad
Norwich, NY 13815

Have questions?
See
"Who to Contact"
Below

Remedy Proposed for State Superfund Site; Public Comment Period and Public Meeting Announced

Public Meeting, Tuesday, 3/21/2017 at 6:30 PM

Norwich Fire Department, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 31 E. Main Street, Norwich, NY

NYSDEC invites you to a public meeting to discuss the remedy proposed for the site. You are encouraged to provide comments at the meeting, and during the 30-day comment period described in this fact sheet.

The public is invited to comment on a remedy proposed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) related to the Lee Ave Railroad Area site ("site") located at Lee Ave/Route 23 along Railroad, Norwich, Chenango County. Please see the map 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."

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=709014>

How to Comment

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed plan for 30 days, from **February 24, 2017** through **March 26, 2017**. The proposed plan is available for review at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area below.

The site is listed as a Class "2" site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; action is required.

Proposed Remedial Action Plan

Summary of the Remedy:

The proposed remedy for the site includes excavation of contaminated soil that is a potential continued source to groundwater contamination, in-situ treatment to degrade contaminants in bedrock groundwater, and implementation of controls to prevent exposure to remaining contamination.

Excavation will include removal and off-site disposal of soils which exceed the protection of groundwater soil cleanup objectives for those contaminants found in site groundwater above standards. Treatment of contaminated groundwater will include injection of a commercially available treatment reagent into the fractured bedrock. Determination of the final in-situ treatment technology may require additional investigation, laboratory testing, and smaller scale application testing on-site.

Use of the site will be limited to industrial uses through an environmental easement. The environmental easement also restricts the use of groundwater without proper treatment and requires compliance with a Site Management Plan.

The Site Management Plan will include requirements for: any future excavations at the site; evaluation of the potential for soil vapor intrusion for any buildings developed at the site; groundwater monitoring; inspection and maintenance of off-site sub-slab depressurization systems, and the operation and maintenance of any remedial systems at the site.

The proposed remedy was selected by the NYSDEC and is protective of the environment and public health.

Summary of the Investigation:

Investigation work involved sampling of the following environmental media: groundwater, surface and subsurface soil, soil vapor, and indoor air. Samples were collected according to a plan developed to characterize the nature and extent of contamination. Based on investigations conducted to date, the site related contaminants of concern in groundwater, soil, and soil vapor appear to be associated with past waste disposal by industrial operators at the former Lee Avenue Plant.

NYSDEC developed the proposed remedy after reviewing the detailed investigation of the site and evaluating the remedial options in the "feasibility study" submitted under New York's State Superfund Program by Hercules.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments as it finalizes the remedy for the site. The selected remedy will be described in a document called a "Record of Decision" that will explain why the remedy was selected and respond to public comments. A detailed design of the selected remedy will then be prepared, and the cleanup will be performed.

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

Background

Location: The Lee Avenue Railroad Area site is a three acre parcel within the New York Susquehanna and Western (NYSW) railroad right-of-way (ROW) in the City of Norwich, Chenango County. The site is approximately 1,750 feet west of the Chenango River and less than 0.5 miles north of the city center. The site is adjacent to mixed industrial and residential properties on the east, residential properties on the west, and is bisected north-south by Rexford Avenue (State Route 23).

Site Features: The site is part of a railroad ROW. There is a single rail line aligned generally north-south through the site. Adjacent to the tracks the ground surface is a mix of railroad ballast, other unvegetated coarse fill type material, paved areas, and areas with vegetated cover.

Current Zoning and Land Use: The current zoning is industrial. The Chenango County Industrial Development Authority (CCIDA) is the current site owner of record. The railroad line at this site has been inactive since 2006; however, plans exist to rehabilitate the tracks for reuse.

Past Use of the Site: The rail line in this area dates to pre-1900. It appears that contamination at this site may have occurred through waste disposal actions associated with industrial operations that occurred at the former Lee Avenue Plant, which is adjacent to the northern portion of the site along the east side. The area between the former Lee Avenue Plant and the railroad tracks appears to have been used by operators at the Plant for disposal. Prior uses at the former Lee Avenue Plant that appear to have led to site contamination include manufacturing of electronics and aircraft engine parts.

Site assessments, environmental investigations, soil remediation and performance monitoring were all conducted for portions of this site by Hercules, Inc. between 1991 and 1997. A preliminary soil vapor intrusion evaluation was conducted by the Department in 2004. Environmental investigations were initially continued by the CCIDA through Department's Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) between 2005 and 2009. Investigations were continued by the Department through the State Superfund Program between 2010 and 2012. Currently, the remedial program is being conducted by Hercules, Inc. through an agreement with the Department.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: The site is located on the western edge of the Chenango River Valley. Unconsolidated sediments overlying bedrock on-site range from a few inches to approximately 10 feet thick. The uppermost 2 to 5 feet of bedrock beneath the site appears to be highly weathered and fractured; beneath this weathered zone the bedrock is more competent with occasional vertical fractures. At the site, groundwater is encountered within the upper weathered and fractured zone. The general direction of groundwater flow is to the east.

State Superfund Program: New York's State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

NYSDEC attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

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

Guernsey Memorial Library
3 Court Street
Norwich, NY 13815
phone: 607-334-4034
guernsey@4cls.org

NYSDEC Region 7
1679 Route 11
Kirkwood, NY 13795
phone: 607-775-2545 extension 116
gary.priscott@dec.ny.gov

- Office visits by appointment only.
- Electronic copies of the Proposed Remedial Action Plan can be provided from the NYSDEC upon request.

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

Gary Priscott
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
1679 Route 11
Kirkwood, NY 13204
607-775-2545
gary.priscott@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions

Melissa Doroski
New York State Department of Health
Empire State Plaza Corning Tower Room 1787
Albany, NY 12237
518-402-7860
BEEI@health.ny.gov

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.

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

