New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

February 2013

FACT SHEET

Environmental Restoration Program

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

Site Name: Batavia Iron and Metal Company, Inc.
DEC Site #: E819018
Address: 301&305 Bank Street
Batavia, NY 14020

Have questions? See "Who to Contact" Below

Remedy Proposed for Municipal Brownfield Site; Public Comment Period and Public Meeting Announced

Public Meeting, Wednesday, 3/20/2013 at 6:30 PM
City Hall
One Batavia City Centre
Batavia, New York 14020

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 45-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 Batavia Iron and Metal Company, Inc. site ("site") located at 301&305 Bank Street, Batavia, Genesee County. Please see the map for the site location.

Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information."

How to Comment
NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed remedial action plan for 45 days, from **February 15, 2013** through **March 31, 2013**. 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.

Proposed Remedial Action Plan
The remedy proposed for the site includes:

The proposed remedy for the site is excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil and fill material that exceed NYSDEC residential soil cleanup objectives. Groundwater will be treated by injection of nutrients into the ground to enhance the biological breakdown of the contaminants in groundwater. Sub-slab depressurization systems (similar to radon mitigation systems) will be installed in adjacent properties to mitigate the potential for indoor air contamination. Upon completion of the remedy, groundwater will be monitored to determine the effectiveness of the cleanup.

Additional Project Details
In 2006, an interim remedial measure was conducted at the site. Several leaking drums and stained soils located in a former drum storage area in the southeastern portion of the site were contaminated with PCBs and lead. Approximately 41 tons of PCB and lead contaminated soils were excavated and disposed of off-site at a permitted facility. Several leaking drums were also disposed of off-site at a permitted facility. The area of soil removal was roughly 55' x 15' and it was backfilled with 1 foot of stone. Further remedial actions will be required in this area of the site.

Summary of the Investigation
A remedial investigation was completed at the site in June 2012. The results of the investigation show on-site soils are contaminated with polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and heavy metals. PAHs are a byproduct produced from the incomplete combustion of petroleum or other organic fuels. PAHs are commonly found in coal ash or wood ash and they are one of the most common pollutants in urban environments. PCBs are chemicals that were widely used in the cooling oils for electrical equipment. Their production was banned in the United States in 1979 due to their toxicity and persistence in the environment. These chemical are associated with previous operations at the site.

Low levels of volatile organic compounds were found in on-site groundwater. Groundwater contamination is migrating south and the levels of contaminants near the property line are near the New York State Groundwater Standards. The area is served by public water and no one is using groundwater.

NYSDEC developed the proposed remedy after reviewing the detailed investigation of the site and evaluating the remedial options in the “analysis of alternatives” submitted under New York’s Environmental Restoration Program by City of Batavia.

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.

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

Background
Location:
The Batavia Iron and Metal site is a 6.8-acre property at 301-305 Bank Street in the City of Batavia. The site is located in a residential area adjacent to the northern City municipal boundary.

Site Features:
The site contains an 8,000 square feet building located on the southern portion adjacent to Bank Street. The remaining portions of the property are unpaved and consist of gravel or overgrown vegetation. Assorted debris (i.e., concrete block, scrap metal, wood crates, rubber tires, propane tanks, steel drums, storage tanks, etc.) is scattered throughout the site. The site topography gently slopes to the north to an adjacent Federal Wetland.

Current Zoning/Use:
The site is currently inactive and it is zoned residential. A gated chain link fence is located along the southern portion of the property and along portions of the eastern and western property boundaries. Adjacent properties include a baseball stadium, Batavia High School and several residential homes. The area is served by a public water supply.

Past Use of the Site:
The property was operated as a metal recycling facility from 1951 to 1999. Batavia Iron and Metal Company filed for bankruptcy in February 2000. Reportedly, the site was used to reclaim iron, metal and wire materials for sale to recycling and manufacturing firms. Maintenance files indicated that in addition to recycling metal, Batavia Metals also purchased and handled electrical transformers on the property; maintained a number of above ground and underground storage tanks on the property that were used to store gasoline, diesel fuel, and number 1,2 and 4 fuel oil; and stored used oils in 55-gallon drums at the facility.

Two furnaces were operated on the facility for reclaiming wire and smelting white metals from the early 1970s until 1994. Prior to the use of the furnaces, the facility utilized open burning in dumpsters in the yard to remove the insulation from the wiring.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology:
The overburden deposits encountered at the site generally consist of fill material and glacial tills. In general, fill material depths range in thickness from approximately 0.5 to 8 feet below ground surface (bgs). The native soil encountered at the site appears to be a glacial till generally consisting of a mix of sand, silts, clay, gravel and large cobbles. Groundwater depth is generally 3 feet or less bgs and flows in a southerly direction. The depth to bedrock ranges from 8 to 15 feet below ground surface.

A majority of the site is unpaved and it is expected that surface water infiltrates into the ground, resulting in a limited amount of surface water runoff. Site surface water typically infiltrates into the subsurface or ponds in low lying areas caused by unlevel filled areas.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:
http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=E819018

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

Richmond Memorial Library
19 Ross Street
Batavia, NY 14020
phone: 585-343-9350

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

Project Related Questions
Todd Caffoe
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
6274 East Avon-Lima Road
Avon, NY 14414
585-226-5350
tmcaffoe@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions
Justin Deming
New York State Department of Health
Empire State Plaza Corning Tower Room #1787
Albany, NY 12237
518-402-7860
BEEI@health.state.ny.us

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.

Figure 1
Batavia Iron Site (E819018)
Batavia, NY

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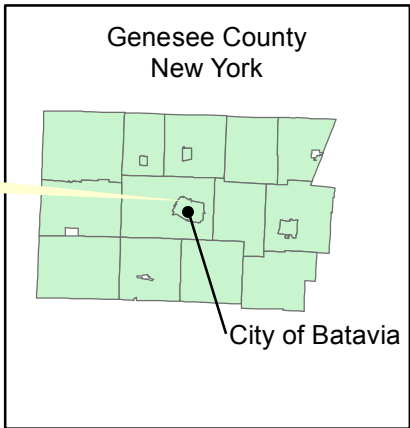
Feet



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