NEW YORK STATE | Department of Environmental Conservation

FACT SHEET

RCRA Corrective Action Program

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Site Name: Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc. (Former Bethlehem Steel Site) **May 2015**
Site No. 915009 – OU02 and OU03
Website: http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/55843.html

Proposed Cleanup Plan Available For Public Comment
Public Meeting Announced

The public is invited to comment on a remedy proposed by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) related to the former Bethlehem Steel site ("site") located on the shores of Lake Erie in Lackawanna. Please see the map for the site location.

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

PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, May 20 at 6:30 p.m.
Lackawanna Senior Center
230 Martin Road, Lackawanna

DEC 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.

How to Comment

DEC is accepting written comments about a proposed cleanup plan, called the draft Statement of Basis for 30 days, from **May 6, 2015** through **June 4, 2015**. The proposed plan is available for review at the location identified below under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to DEC project manager listed under Project Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area below.

Summary of the Proposed Action

Waste material from three Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs), referred to as Operable Unit 02 (OU02), will be stabilized and consolidated on-site into the Acid Tar Pit (ATP) area. The ATP area is referred to as Operable Unit 03 (OU03) and was subject to a prior DEC clean-up decision. In conjunction with the clean-up currently proposed for OU02, the engineering controls for groundwater at OU03 (pumping and treatment) will also be enhanced and the design for the final cap of the ATP area is being modified.

OU02 Material

Approximately 8,600 cubic yards of soil and fill containing contaminants at levels exceeding industrial use cleanup objectives (as per 6NYCRR Part 375-6.8) will be stabilized, removed, and

consolidated in another part of the site (into ATP Operable Unit 3). Removal areas will be backfilled with DEC-approved materials.

The contaminants of concern identified for the OU02 SWMUs are related to coking and steel-making operations and include, lead, arsenic, benzene, ammonia and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

OU03 Groundwater Enhancements

Construction began in 2010 to mitigate contaminated groundwater discharge from OU03 to Smokes Creek. A Slurry Wall Containment System, an Interim Cover System, and Groundwater/Leachate Collection, Conveyance, and Pretreatment System were installed. However, recent monitoring shows that groundwater contamination remains outside of the OU03 Containment System. To address this contamination four pumping wells will be installed to capture this groundwater for treatment.

OU03 Final Cap Modification

The Final Cover System will be modified to accommodate the additional material from OU02. The cover system will consist of a geo-synthetic clay liner, high-density polyethylene geo-membrane liner, geo-composite drainage layer, 18-inch low-permeability barrier soil layer, and 6-inch vegetated soil cover. The final cover system will reduce infiltration of precipitation, promote storm water run-off, and eliminate the potential for direct contact with the waste fill. The cover system also includes a gas venting system.

Site Background

Location: The Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc. (TRI) site is an approximately 500 acre portion of the former Bethlehem Steel Corporation facility in Lackawanna. The TRI property is located between the Metroport Ship Canal and Lake Erie to the west. The property also extends to the south of Smokes Creek along Lake Erie.

Contamination: Site investigations were conducted primarily by Bethlehem Steel Corporation before that company filed for bankruptcy in 2001. Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc., a wholly owned-subsidiary of ArcelorMittal USA, Inc., completed and submitted the final site investigation report.

The investigation identified approximately 40 discrete locations, called Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs), on the TRI Site that exhibit soil/fill and/or groundwater contamination. The United States Environmental Protection Agency and the DEC determined that these locations required further investigation and/or clean-up. The SWMUs are located in the vicinity of the former coke plant, former fuel storage area and slag fill areas along the western part of the site, where solid and/or hazardous waste from former steel-making operations were spilled or disposed many years ago by BSC. Contaminated sediment was also found to be present in several watercourses including Smokes Creek.

Several interim cleanup actions have been undertaken by Tecumseh since 2005 to restrict the migration of contamination from the site, including:

- Installing and operating a groundwater collection and treatment system in the coke by-

products yard near the south-eastern end of the coke batteries;
- Installing a slurry wall, interior groundwater collection system, leachate/groundwater treatment system, and an interim cover system at the ATP (OU03);
- Collecting, treating and disposing or recycling residual wastewater and tar from various pipes, tanks, vessels and containment areas; and
- Dredging contaminated sediment and restoring flood water flow capacity from the lower reach of Smokes Creek to reduce the potential for upstream flooding.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on DEC websites at:

http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/55843.html and
http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=915009.

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.

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

Project Related Questions
Stan Radon
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
270 Michigan Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14203
716-851-7220
stanley.radon@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions
Matthew Forcucci
New York State Department of Health
584 Delaware Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14202
716-847-4501
BEEI@health.ny.gov

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

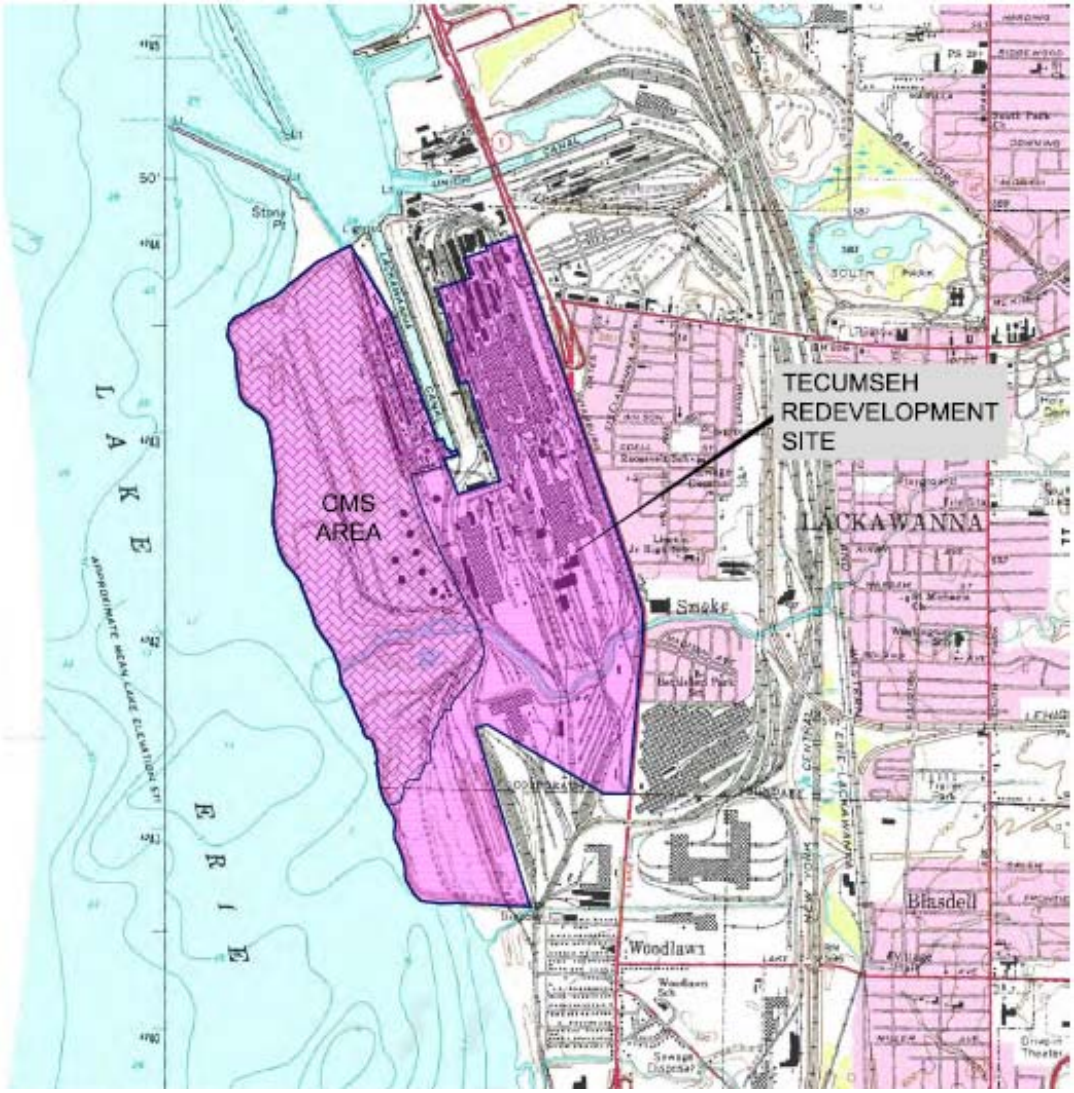
Lackawanna Public Library
560 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, NY 14218

Project documents are also available on DEC website at:
http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/55843.html.

For More Information

Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. DEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page: 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.