



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

**Tonawanda Coke
3875 RIVER ROAD
Tonawanda, Erie County**

**SITE No. 915055
NYSDEC REGION 9**

February 2024

Where to Find Information

Access project documents through the DECinfo Locator and at these location(s):
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/915055/>

**Buffalo and Erie County Public Library
– Central Library**
One Lafayette Square
Buffalo, NY 14203

**Buffalo and Erie County Public Library
– Kenmore Branch**
160 Delaware Road
Kenmore, NY 14217

Who to Contact

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

Project-Related Questions
Benjamin McPherson, Project Manager
NYSDEC
700 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209
716-851-7220
benjamin.mcpherson@dec.ny.gov

Project-Related Health Questions
Angela Martin
NYSDOH
Empire State Plaza
Corning Tower, Room 1787
518-473-4671
beei@health.ny.gov

**For more information about New York’s
State Superfund Program, visit:**
<https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/brownfield-and-state-superfund-programs/state-superfund-sites>

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

**Public Meeting, Thursday 3/21/2024 at 6:00 PM
Buffalo and Erie County Public Library-Kenmore Branch
160 Delaware Road, Kenmore, NY 14217**

Join virtually via WebEx:
<https://meetny.webex.com/meetny/j.php?MTID=m90c0ce8e851b0f57d65345ba5c204075>

NYSDEC invites you to a public meeting to discuss the amended 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.

NYSDEC will provide interpreter services for hearing impaired persons and language interpreter services for individuals with difficulty understanding or reading English at no charge upon written request submitted no later than 1 week prior to meeting date.

The public is invited to comment on an amended remedy being proposed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) to address contamination related to the Operable Unit 02 of the Tonawanda Coke site (“site”), also referred to as ‘Site 109’, located at 3875 River Road, Tonawanda, Erie County. Operable Units 01 and 03 of the Tonawanda Coke site will be addressed under a separate plan. Operable Unit 02 is adjacent to the related Riverview Innovation & Technology Campus (#C915353) that is being managed under the Brownfield Cleanup Program. Please see the map for the site location. The estimated cost to implement the remedy is \$4,936,000.

How to Comment: NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed plan, called an Amended Record of Decision (AROD) for 30 days, from **February 28 to March 29, 2024.**

- Access the AROD and other project documents online through the DECinfo Locator: <https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/915055/>.
- Documents also are available at the location(s) identified at left under “Where to Find Information.”
- Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project-Related Questions in the “Who to Contact” area at left.

STATE SUPERFUND PROGRAM

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. NYSDEC is proposing the following remedy to address these threats:

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

- Excavating contaminated soil which exceeds protection of ecological resources soil cleanup objectives in the area of an on-site drainage ditch. Excavated soil will either be managed on-site or off-site based on the level of contamination in the soil;
- Collecting and analyzing post-remedial soil samples and post-remedial groundwater samples to evaluate the effectiveness of the remedy;
- Importing clean material that meets the established soil cleanup objectives for use as backfill;
- Construction of a cover system over the entire site;
- Implementing a Site Management Plan (SMP) for long term maintenance of the remedial systems; and
- Recording of an Environmental Easement to ensure proper use of the site may be necessary.

NYSDEC developed the proposed amended remedy after reviewing the detailed investigation of the site and evaluating the remedial options in the "Focused Feasibility Study" submitted under New York's State Superfund Program by Honeywell International, Inc. ("remedial party"). The change to the remedy was necessary as the former coking operations have ceased, and additional remedial actions are required to address accessible contamination and provide for a potential higher commercial/industrial use of the property.

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.

Site Description: Operable Unit 2 is approximately 7.5-acres and corresponds with the Site 109 disposal area. It is located adjacent to River Road on the western side of the 3875 River Road parcel. The operable unit contains the paved access driveway for the entire property, a guard house, and the concrete settling ponds used to manage stormwater from the

other portions of the former Tonawanda Coke property. The remainder of the operable unit is covered by grass, trees, or other vegetation.

With the change of site use a commercial use cleanup is currently being evaluated. Future development in the operable units is not known but will be part of the larger Riverview Innovation & Technology Campus redevelopment, which is expected to be related to data storage or other high-tech manufacturing.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the site ID, 915055) at:

<https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/cfm/extapps/dereexternal/index.cfm?pageid=3>

Summary of the Investigation: Investigations were conducted on-site to refine the nature and extent of contamination since the 2008 Record of Decision (ROD). The contaminants of concern in this operable unit are polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), though other contaminants are also present at low concentrations. Soil across the operable unit contain PAHs exceeding commercial soil cleanup objectives, particularly in the area of the southern drainage ditch. Groundwater has only limited impacts from the fill placed on the operable unit in few discrete locations.

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 before committing State funds for investigation and cleanup.

For more information about the SSF, visit:

<https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/brownfield-and-state-superfund-programs/state-superfund-sites>

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.

STATE SUPERFUND PROGRAM

Stay Informed With DEC Delivers

Sign up to receive site updates by email:

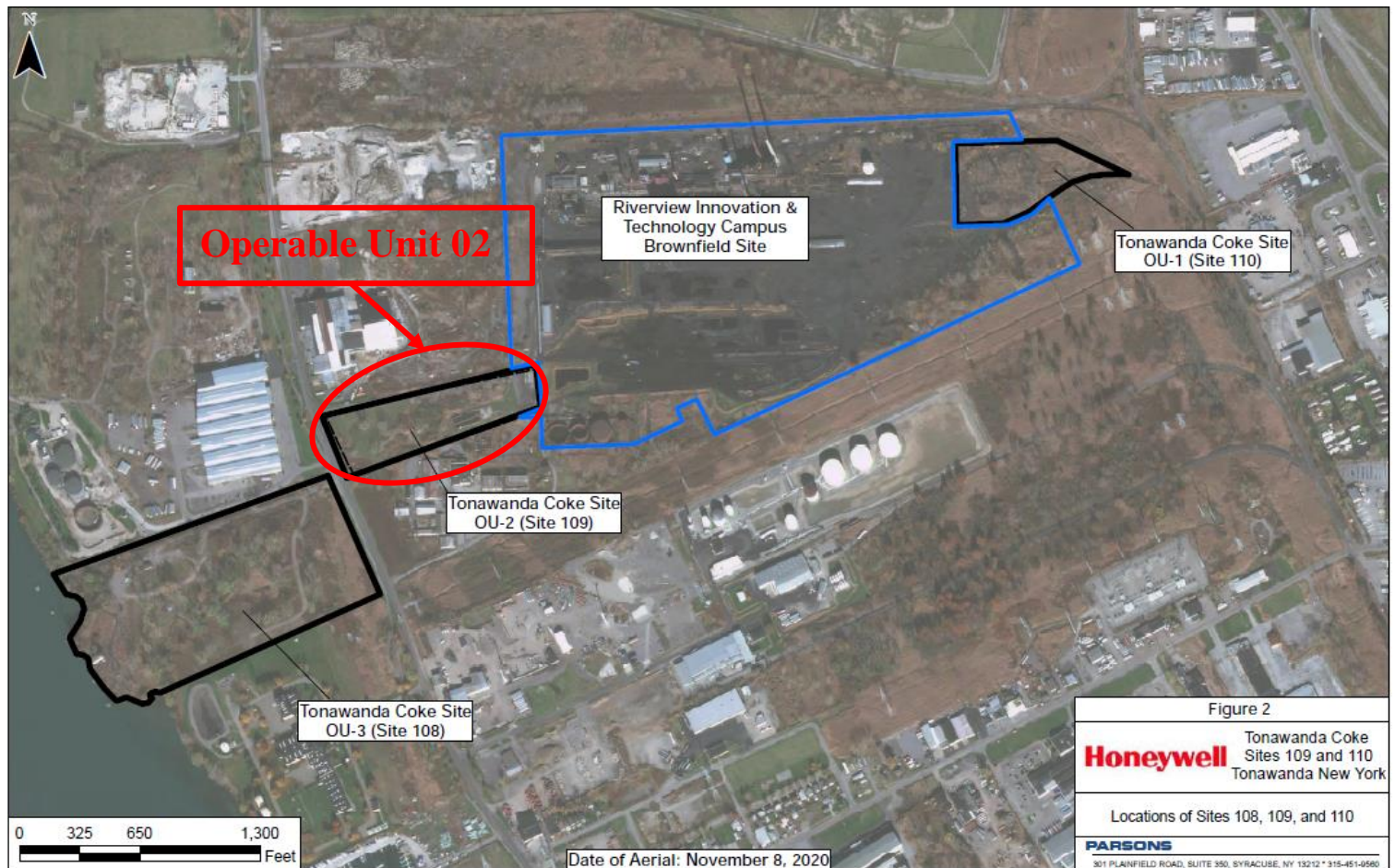
<https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/regional-remediation-project-information/environmental-cleanup-email-newsletters>

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

DECinfo Locator

Interactive map to access DEC documents and public data about the environmental quality of specific sites: <https://dec.ny.gov/maps/interactive-maps/decinfo-locator>

Site Location





Translation Available. Don't see your language? Ask!

English	To have this document translated into a language you can understand, contact the person below. There is no charge for the translation.
Español Spanish	Si necesita la traducción de este documento a un idioma que pueda entender, comuníquese con la persona indicada abajo. La traducción es gratis.
简体字 Simplified Chinese	如需將此文件翻譯成您能理解的語言版本，請聯絡下方人員。本次翻譯不收取費用。
Русский Russian	Чтобы получить перевод этого документа на понятный вам язык, свяжитесь с представителем, данные которого указаны ниже. Плата за эту услугу не взимается.
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Języki Polski Polish	Aby uzyskać tłumaczenie tego dokumentu na język, który jest dla Ciebie zrozumiały, skontaktuj się z poniższą osobą. Za tłumaczenie nie jest pobierana żadna opłata.

Contact: Benjamin McPherson, 716-851-7220, benjamin.mcpherson@dec.ny.gov