



EPA to Begin Cleanup at the Former Vibratex (aka Houdaille) Facility

Buffalo, New York

RECEIVED October 2008

OCT 27 2008

NYSDEC REG 9
FOIL
/ REL UNREL

Our Goal is to Keep You Informed

Public participation is essential to the success of EPA's community involvement program. If you have any questions regarding EPA's cleanup activities at this site, please contact one of the following:

Mike Basile, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, at (716) 551-4410, or by e-mail to:

basile.michael@epa.gov

Or:

Kevin Matheis, EPA On-Scene Coordinator, at (716) 551-4410 or by e-mail to:

matheis.kevin@epa.gov

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has begun cleanup operations within the site buildings at the former Vibratex facility, located at 537 East Delavan Avenue, Buffalo, New York.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

EPA has obtained funding to address the removal of asbestos and PCB-contaminated building materials from within the site buildings. EPA is using its cleanup contractor to remove the contaminated materials from within the buildings in a manner that is safe for the surrounding community. Cleanup activities are expected to begin within the buildings in late-October 2008. Cleanup work will continue until the work is completed, possibly into the spring of 2009. The cleanup will involve the removal of asbestos-coated pipes and other associated debris. EPA will also cleanup the PCB contamination within the buildings that had resulted from illegal salvage operations from fluorescent light ballasts within the site buildings. EPA will locate project trailers at the rear of the site near Northland Avenue and will have site security in place during the cleanup.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

EPA cleanup operations will continue into the spring of 2009. During the cleanup, EPA will provide oversight of the cleanup contractor and will provide air monitoring to ensure the work is being performed in a safe manner.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Site had been utilized for the manufacture of automotive parts since about 1927. Operations consisted of metals turning, degreasing, plating, heat treating and component assembly. Upon cessation of Vibratex's operations in 1997 the facility was taken over by World Series of Sports, Inc., an automobile disassembling and used parts operation. The automobile parts operation (essentially an indoor junk yard) was subsequently closed, having failed to secure the necessary operating permits from the City of Buffalo and having accumulated tens of thousands of old used tires. The tires and automobile parts were removed from the site buildings in 2000 and the Site has been abandoned since.

The Site consists of approximately twelve red brick and cement block buildings, ranging in height from one to three stories and creating a footprint approximately 320,000 square feet in size. Prior to the cleanup actions, EPA secured the facility and continues to monitor the site for vandalism and further deterioration.

10/27/08 - Public Availability Session held. 5-7pm Mt. Olive Baptist Church. 8 people attended. - MLD-