



FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

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Site Name: Tonawanda Forge Site
DEC Site #: 915274
Address: 2390 and 2392 Kenmore Avenue
Tonawanda, New York 14150

Have questions?
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"Who to Contact"
Below

Interim Remedial Measure to Begin at State Superfund Site

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has initiated an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) involving the removal of construction and demolition debris from the Tonawanda Forge Site ("site") located at 2390 and 2392 Kenmore Avenue. An IRM is a discrete set of planned actions for both emergency and non-emergency situations that can be conducted without the extensive investigation and evaluation of a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS). Please see the attached maps for the site location.

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.

Documents related to the IRM for this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." The IRM will be performed by the DEC using State Superfund monies.

Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities

The main goal of the IRM is to remove contaminated, surficial debris that is currently hindering investigations required to properly complete the ongoing RI. Specifically, the IRM includes the removal, transportation and offsite disposal of 3 large surficial piles containing approximately 6,000 tons of construction and demolition debris contaminated with asbestos and/or polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

Additional Details

Engineering design of the cleanup remedy was completed by the DEC in June 2015. Bids for the cleanup contract were opened in July 2015. The Environmental Services Group was awarded the contract and given formal notice to proceed with the project on October 12, 2015. It is anticipated that construction of the remedy will be completed in January 2016, weather pending, at a cost of approximately \$978,500. All construction work will be performed under full-time oversight by URS Corporation, Inc., the engineering consultant hired by the DEC. In addition, the contractor's Health and Safety Plan for the work was reviewed to ensure that onsite workers and the nearby community is protected during these activities.

During cleanup activities, all truck traffic to and from the site associated with excavation and off-site disposal activities are being limited to non-residential areas as much as possible. Furthermore, the contractor is responsible for keeping the transportation route clean of soil and fill materials generated during site cleanup activities.

Following completion of the IRM, the DEC will complete the remedial investigation that was initiated in July 2013.

Next Steps

After completion of the cleanup activities, the DEC will prepare a Final Engineering Report. The Final Engineering Report will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved.

The DEC will keep the public informed throughout the cleanup of the site.

Background

Location: The Tonawanda Forge Site is located in an urban area at 2390 and 2392 Kenmore Avenue in the Town of Tonawanda, Erie County. The site is approximately 2,300 feet southeast of the intersection of Kenmore Avenue and Sheridan Drive.

Site Features: The main site features of the 34.8 acre site include two remaining brick multi-story buildings which were part of the original manufacturing complex. The remaining three-quarters of the southern portion of the site consist of the building floor slab, parking lots or driveways. A large grassed area along Kenmore area consists of a former landfill area on the site.

Current Zoning and Land Use: The site is currently inactive, and is zoned for heavy industrial use. The surrounding parcels are currently used for heavy industrial applications, however a residential area is located 500 feet directly south of the site.

Past Use(s) of the Site: The property was originally part of the General Motors - Tonawanda Engine Plant facility that borders the site to the north, west and south. The forge facility was sold in 1994 to American Axle and Manufacturing, Inc. (American Axle). In 2008, American Axle sold the property to the current owner, Lewis Brothers, LLC (Lewis), of Richmond, Virginia. Upon sale of the property, Lewis began the demolition of the facility starting with the removal of the interior equipment and ending with the removal of all of the buildings superstructure. Upon the owner's refusal to expeditiously address petroleum contamination on the site and in violation of a stipulation agreement with DEC, DEC proceeded with the remediation of petroleum contaminated and a Site Characterization of the property under Spill Site number 0911809. During the demolition of the building, a subcontractor did not properly address a PCB transformer which resulted in a release of PCB oil within the facility. Again, upon the subcontractor and property owner's refusal to adequately address the spill in a timely manner, DEC instituted clean-up procedures under Spill Site number 1112690. While the majority of this contamination has been addressed, the site surface water continues to exhibit elevated levels of PCBs above water quality limits. In addition, several areas of the site also exhibit PCB concentration above the regulatory criteria for a hazardous waste.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: Soil boring results from the subsurface investigation revealed brown silt and clay and some clay with a trace of gravel to a depth of the termination of each soil boring. Bedrock was not encountered at depths up to 24 feet below ground surface (bgs), but is believed to consist of the Upper Silurian-aged Salina Group, which generally consists of shale, and Dolostone.

Depth to groundwater at the property ranged from 1/2 feet bgs to 16 feet bgs. The local groundwater flow direction is estimated to be west towards the Niagara River, and may be influenced by local drainage features, seasonal groundwater level fluctuations, subsurface geology, surface topography, and/or other local site features.

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=915274>

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.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Attn: Michael Hinton
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14203
Telephone: (716) 851-7220
E-mail: michael.hinton@dec.ny.gov

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

David J. Chiusano
Department of Environmental
Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7017
518-402-9814
david.chiusano@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions

Renata Ockerby
New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Environmental Exposure
Investigation 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. DEC 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.



