



FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

*Receive site fact sheets by *email*. See **For More Information** to learn how.

Site Name: Vanadium Corporation of America

August 2013

DEC Site #: 932001

Address: 4400 Lockport Road; Town of Niagara, NY 14305

Have questions? See
Who to Contact
below

Vanadium Update: Cleanup Action Has Begun at State Superfund Site

Action has begun that will address the contamination related to the Vanadium Corporation of America site (“site”) located at 4400 Lockport Road, Town of Niagara, Niagara County under New York's State Superfund Program. Please see the map 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 cleanup of this site can be found at the locations identified below under **Where to Find Information**. The cleanup activities will be performed by NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities

The goal of the cleanup action for the site is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment.

The elements of the remedy are as follows:

1. Completion of the remedial design that will provide the details necessary for the construction, operation, maintenance, and monitoring of the remedial program.
2. Contaminated Soil/Slag materials and sediment in areas around the existing disposal are will be excavated and consolidated. The majority of the slag in the mound area will remain in place; however, grading of this area will be required prior to placement of the cap in order to provide proper drainage. The material to be consolidated will be placed in areas such that work around the transmission towers would be minimized. Following consolidation and grading, the site will be capped.
3. Confirmatory soil samples will be collected from the excavations. Excavated areas determined to have achieved the cleanup goals would be backfilled with clean soil and graded to ensure proper drainage.
4. A site management plan will be developed to address residual contaminated soils that may be excavated from the site during future redevelopment.

5. An environmental easement will be placed on the property that will require compliance with the approved site management plan; limit the use and development of the property to commercial or industrial uses only, restrict the use of groundwater as a source of potable water, without necessary water quality treatment as determined by DOH, restrict access to the property, maintain a fence around the areas of concern and require the property owners to complete and submit to DEC an annual certification. The property owner will provide a certification, prepared and submitted by a professional engineer or such other expert acceptable to DEC, until DEC notifies the property owner in writing that this certification is no longer needed. This submittal will contain certification that the institutional controls and engineering controls, are still in place, allow DEC access to the site, and that nothing has occurred that would impair the ability of the control to protect public health or the environment, or constitute a violation or failure to comply with the site management plan.
6. Implementation of a long term monitoring program which will evaluate the effectiveness of the remedy. The results of the monitoring program will be submitted to DEC for review and approval that will present the results of groundwater and surface water monitoring, and descriptions of Site inspections and maintenance activities.

Next Steps

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

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

Background

Location: The Vanadium Corporation site is located in the industrialized urban area of the Town of Niagara. This 88 acre site was once part of a larger site that included the SKW Site 932001C and the Airco Properties Site 932001B and is bounded on the north by an automobile depot and vacant property; on the west by Witmer Road (Route 31); on the east by Interstate 190; and on the south by vacant land and industrial facilities.

Site Features: The main site features are a large area of elevated ground surface which represents the disposal location of site wastes. There are no buildings associated with the site however water transfer units (conduits) are located beneath the NYPA property. These conduits transfer water from the Upper Niagara River, located to the south, to the NYPA reservoir. Numerous high voltage electrical transmission towers are located on the Site and overhead electrical transmission lines cross the Site. The Vanadium site is also near the Union Carbide site #932035 and the Carborundum Global site #932036, inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. The nearest water bodies are the Lower Niagara River, located approximately 1.4 miles west of the property; the New York Power Authority (NYPA) reservoir, located approximately 0.8 miles north of the property; and Gill Creek, located approximately 1,000 feet east of the site.

Current Zoning/Use(s): Current zoning is industrial and there are no active industrial operations on the property.

Historic Uses: From 1920 to 1964, the site was owned by the Vanadium Corporation of America (Vanadium). The extent of land originally owned by Vanadium is not fully known. However, it is estimated that Vanadium originally owned 150 acres. The size of the Vanadium site (consisting of Operable Units 1, 2, and 3) is estimated to be approximately 150 acres.

A Record of Decision (ROD) was issued in March 2006. The ROD requires waste consolidation and capping, site management plan, Environmental Easement and Periodic certification with long term monitoring. The Remedial Design was approved with comments in July 2010 and amended in April 2012. A Remedial Action (RA) Order was signed in March 2011 to implement the approved remedy for this site. The remedial action to implement the remedy began in August 2013.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on DEC's website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/92828.html> and <http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=932001>

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. DEC 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>.

Site Location



Where to Find Information

Public interest in this project is valued and appreciated. Project documents are available at the following location to help the public stay informed.

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions:

Michael Hinton
NYS DEC, Division of Environmental Remediation
270 Michigan Ave
Buffalo, NY 14203
716-851-7220
mjhinton@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions:

Matthew Forcucci
NYS DOH
584 Delaware Ave
Buffalo, NY 14202
716-847-4501
bee@health.state.ny.us

For More Information

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*.

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