## NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

# **Public Meeting Invitation**

Tuesday December 18, 2007 7:00 pm

Gloversville City Hall 1st Floor Council Chambers 3 Frontage Road Gloversville, NY 12078

The New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health (NYSDEC and NYSDOH) will discuss the proposed remedy for the Risedorph Tannery Brownfield Site. At the meeting, representatives from the NYSDEC and NYSDOH will:

- Describe results of the interim remedial actions and site investigations;
- Explain the proposed remedial action;
- Answer your questions about the remedy; and
- Receive your verbal or written comments about the proposal.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

From: November 20, 2007 To: January 3, 2008

## FACT SHEET

November 20, 2007

Former Risedorph
Tannery Site
Site No. B00150
130-146 West Eighth Street,
Gloversville, NY 12078

# Remedial Action Planned for the Risedorph Tannery Brownfield Site

\*\*\*

### Public Meeting, Comment Period Announced

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), working cooperatively with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and the City of Gloversville, is proposing a remedy to address contamination at the Risedorph Tannery site. The Risedorph Tannery Brownfield site is an Environmental Restoration Program Project, in Gloversville, New York (see location map on page 4).

A Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) was developed following a detailed investigation of the site. The Proposed Remedial Action Plan contains different proposals to clean up the site and presents the alternative preferred by the NYSDEC and NYSDOH. The full Proposed Remedial Action Plan, including all plans and controls described below, is available for your review at the document repositories listed on page 3.

#### **Summary of the Proposed Action**

The preferred proposed remedy is Alternative 4: Excavation of all Contaminated Soils above Standards, Criteria, and Guidance and Targeted Sediment Removal, as described in the Proposed Remedial Action Plan.

This remedy includes excavating and properly disposing of approximately 32,300 tons of contaminated soils, backfilling the excavated areas and covering with top soil and grass, and the collection of soil vapor samples in the former area of the main tannery building after soil remediation is complete. Additionally, approximately 8,700 tons of contaminated sediments would be removed from the lower pond and stream and properly disposed of off-site.

This remedy would also include developing a site management plan, a long term monitoring program, and limiting future actions at the site through environmental easements.

The site management plan would include controls such as monitoring of contaminant levels in groundwater and identifying use restrictions.

The proposed environmental easements would limit the use and development of the property, restrict the use of ground and surface waters as a source of drinking water; require compliance with the site management plan, and require the periodic submittal of reports certifying compliance with the requirements to NYSDEC.

#### **Opportunities to Comment on the Proposed Remedy**

Release of the Proposed Remedial Action Plan begins a process to finalize selection of the remedy for the site. Your comment and input about the proposed remedy are important and encouraged. Your oral and written comments about the Proposed Remedial Action Plan are welcome at the December 18, 2007 public meeting (see page 1) and during the public comment period which runs until January 3, 2008.

Written comments may also be mailed to:

Mr. Michael P. McLean, P.E.

NYSDEC Region 5

Division of Environmental Remediation

P.O. Box 296

Ray Brook, NY 12977

#### What Happens Next

All comments received during the public comment period will be considered as the remedy for the Risedorph Tannery site is finalized. Public input will be factored into the Record of Decision (ROD) which will describe the remedy selected and why it was chosen. NYSDEC will respond to comments in a responsiveness summary included in the Record of Decision.

#### **Site History**

The Risedorph Tannery site is located at 130-146 West Eighth Avenue in the City of Gloversville, Fulton County. The site is approximately 13 acres in size and is bounded by one residence and wooded undeveloped land to the north, West Eighth Avenue and residences to the south, one residence and the City of Gloversville recreation area (public pool) to the west, and Wilson Street and Colonial Tanning to the east.

The Risedorph Leather Tannery site had been used to de-hair, tan, dye, and finish animal skins since the mid-1800s. The tanning and finishing of hides involves many processes, each of which utilizes particular chemicals, and generates various liquid and solid waste streams. Chemicals and products used in these processes and identified at this location include: mineral spirits, aerosols, degreaser, sulfuric acid, formic acid, nitrobenzene, tar, hydrogen peroxide, selenium, sodium hydroxide, methyl ethyl ketone, chromium, dyes, petroleum products, paints, and fungicides.

In the late 1980s, Risedorph Leather shut down operations. Tanning chemicals, products, and wastes were left on-site. The site was then used for leather storage with no active tanning activities. The leather storage operations ceased in the late 1990s. The City took title of the property in March of 2000 from the Feuer Leather Group, Inc. Since 2002, the City of Gloversville uses part of the site for storage of Department of Public Works vehicles and equipment.

A Remedial Investigation (RI) was completed in August of 2006 on behalf of the City of Gloversville.

#### **Remedial Investigation**

The purpose of the remedial investigation (RI) was to define the nature and extent of any contamination resulting from previous activities on the site. The Remedial Investigation was conducted between July 2000 and August 2006. The investigative tasks performed as part of the Remedial Investigation included surface soil sampling and analysis, soil boring and monitoring well installation, subsurface soil sampling and analysis, sediment sampling and analysis, surface water and groundwater sampling and analysis, and the performance of a soil gas survey.

As further detailed in the Remedial Investigation reports, the main contaminants of concern detected on-site include predominantly inorganic metals (arsenic and chromium), and to a much lesser degree, VOCs and SVOCs in surface and subsurface soil, sediment, surface and groundwater. The Remedial Investigation reports are available at the document repositories listed on Page 3.

#### **Interim Remedial Measures**

An interim remedial measure (IRM) is conducted at a site when a source of contamination or exposure pathway can be effectively addressed before completion of the Remedial Investigation. In response to the preliminary findings of the Remedial Investigation, several interim remedial measures were conducted from January 2001 to December 2002.

These measures included the removal of 104 drums of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes; the closure of numerous petroleum, chemical, and process storage tanks; the removal and disposal of the contents of the pre-treatment wastewater plant; the disposal of electric motors, transformers, and light fixtures; and asbestos abatement and demolition of the main tannery building.

#### **Document Repositories**

To review the complete Proposed Remedial Action Plan and other site information visit:

NYSDEC Region 5 Ray Brook Office 1115 Route 86, P.O. Box 296 Ray Brook, NY 12977 Hours: Mon - Fri, 8:30am to 4:45pm (518) 897-1242 City of Gloversville
Department of Public Works
3 Frontage Road
Gloversville, NY 12078
Hours: Mon - Fri, 8am - 3pm
(518) 773-4539

Gloversville Free Library 58 East Fulton Street Gloversville, NY 12078 Hours: Tues-Wed, 10am -7pm Thurs-Fri 10am - 6pm Sat, 10am - 4pm (518) 725-2819

#### **For More Information**

Call or write the following staff for more information about:

Meeting/Comment Period/ Technical Information: Mr. Michael P. McLean, P.E. NYSDEC Region 5

1115 Route 86, P.O. Box 296 Ray Brook, NY 12977

Phone: (518) 897-1242

**Health Related Information:** 

Ms. Wendy Kuehner, P.E. NYSDOH Flanigan Square 547 River Street Troy, NY 12180-2216 Phone: (518) 402-7880 Citizen Participation:

Mr. David Winchell NYSDEC Region 5 1115 Route 86, P.O. Box 296 Ray Brook, NY 12977 Phone: (518) 897-1211

