



FACT SHEET

October 2007

Environmental Cleanup at 815 River Road Site Scheduled for Fall 2007 Completion

Environmental Restoration Program

Project No. B00178

INTRODUCTION

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is pleased to inform you that final cleanup activities have been scheduled to address environmental contamination at 815 River Road, located across the street from the City waste water treatment plant, in the City of North Tonawanda. (See map at right for location.) The cleanup activities are scheduled for completion in the fall of 2007.

Cleanup work at the site will be performed under New York State's 1996 Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act "Environmental Restoration Program" (ERP). The ERP provides financial assistance to local governments for the cleanup of contaminated properties known as "brownfields" so that they can be reused and redeveloped.

SITE BACKGROUND

The site is a one acre parcel and was formerly occupied by a company which leased and maintained school buses. The DEC accepted an application from the City to participate in the ERP in April 2002. A Site Investigation and Remedial Alternatives Assessment work plan was approved in 2002. In 2003, the City's engineering consultant prepared an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) work plan for the site. An IRM is a cleanup action that can be conducted at a site relatively quickly in order to minimize risks to people's safety or health and to the environment. The IRM included demolition of the site buildings, removal of the underground storage tanks, and removal and proper disposal of petroleum impacted soils.

In the summer of 2003, the building demolition and tank removal work was completed. In the spring and summer of 2004, approximately 6100 tons of petroleum impacted soils were removed and sent to an off-site disposal facility. About 2200 tons of crushed concrete was placed in the excavation as backfill. In September 2004 the City's consultant requested that the City authorize a substantial cost increase (more than doubling the previous estimate) in order to complete the work. In response to the cost overruns by its consultant, the City issued a "Stop Work" order. The consultant and the City are currently in litigation over these cost overruns.

CURRENT STATUS

In 2006, the City hired another consultant to complete cleanup work at the site. In the summer of 2007, this consultant collected soil and groundwater data necessary to complete the Site Investigation and Alternatives Assessment. In addition, plans and specs have been prepared, and a contract has been awarded by the City for the completion of the IRM activities. The excavation and backfill work are expected to be completed by November 2007. The Site Investigation and Alternatives Assessment Reports are expected to be completed by the City's consultant in late 2007 or early 2008. In addition, a Final Engineering Report will be completed by the City's consultant which will document the remedial work performed to date.



NEXT STEPS

Once completed, the DEC will review the various reports referenced above. After approval of the reports, the DEC will prepare a Proposed Remedial Action Plan which will be released to the public for review and comment. This Proposed Plan will detail the additional actions, if any, which are required to address any remaining contamination on the property. Another Fact Sheet will be mailed in 2008 informing the public of the Proposed Plan and the associated public comment period for the Proposed Plan.

WHO SHOULD I CALL IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SITE?

Should you have any question about this project, please feel welcome to contact these representatives:

Project Related Questions

Mr. Jeff Konsella, P.E, Project Manager.
Division of Environmental Remediation
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203-2399
(716) 851-7220

Health Related Questions

Mr. Matt Forcucci
Public Health Specialist
NYS Department of Health
582 Delaware Avenue,
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 847-4385

LOCATIONS TO VIEW PROJECT RELATED DOCUMENTS

Public interest and input in this project is valued and appreciated. To keep you informed, the City of North Tonawanda and DEC have set up two locations at which you may view site-related project documents. These locations include:

City of North Tonawanda Public Library
505 Meadow Dr.
North Tonawanda, NY 14120
(716) 693-4132

Department of Environmental Conservation
Region 9 Office
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 851-7220
(Please call for an appointment.)