



## Public Meeting Invitation

**Monday,  
November 3, 2008  
7:00 PM**

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

The New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health (NYSDEC and NYSDOH) will discuss the proposed cleanup plan for the 815 River Road Site. At the meeting, representatives from the NYSDEC and NYSDOH will:

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

## PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

**From: October 7, 2008  
To: November 21, 2008**

# FACT SHEET

October 2008

815 RIVER ROAD SITE  
SITE No. B00178  
815 River Road,  
North Tonawanda, NY

## Cleanup Plan Proposed for the 815 River Road Site

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### Public Meeting, Comment Period Announced

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The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), working cooperatively with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), has proposed a cleanup plan, or remedy, designed to address contamination identified at the 815 River Road Environmental Restoration Project in North Tonawanda, New York (*see location map on page 3*). The project is funded by New York State's Environmental Restoration Program (ERP), which provides financial assistance to local governments to cleanup and restore brownfield properties.

**The Proposed Action:** Highlights of the proposed remedy include groundwater monitoring with an environmental easement with periodic certification. An environmental easement is an administrative tool that can be used to restrict the use of a property to specified categories (e.g., commercial, industrial) or to require long-term operation, maintenance, and monitoring of engineering controls (e.g., a landfill cover system). In this instance, the easement will require periodic groundwater monitoring and reporting, along with annual certification that the remedy remains effective.

This proposal is described in the site's Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP). The PRAP was developed following a detailed investigation of the site. The PRAP evaluates different options to clean up the site and presents the alternative preferred by the NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

**Your Opportunities to Comment on the Proposed Remedy:** Release of the PRAP 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 PRAP are welcome at the **public meeting** (see sidebar) and during a **public comment period** which runs from **October 7 - November 21, 2008**. Written comments may be mailed until the end of the comment period to Mr. Jeff Konsella, who's contact information appears on the last page of this fact sheet.

**What Happens Next:** All comments received during the public comment period will be considered as the remedy for the 815 River Road 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 ROD.

## Site Location

The 815 River Road site is a 1 acre parcel located in a commercial/industrial area of North Tonawanda in Niagara County. It is located on the east side of River Road, directly across the road from the City's waste water treatment plant. The Niagara River is located about 500 feet to the west. Commercial properties, including a concrete and asphalt recycling operation, are located to the north and south of the site. A rail line runs on the east side of the site, and beyond the rail line is the former Roblin Steel site, which was cleaned up by the City in 2005 (see map on page 3).

## Site History

The site was used for several decades for automotive repairs, most recently by a company which leased and maintained school buses. The City acquired the property through tax foreclosure in 2000. The presence of underground storage tanks (USTs) were documented on the site as far back as 1961. It is believed that several of these tanks have leaked petroleum products into site soils.

## Site Investigation

Site investigations were begun in 2002 by the City utilizing funding under the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP). These investigations were halted by the City in 2004 due to cost concerns. The site investigations were completed by the City in 2007 using another consultant. The investigation concluded that the tank and soil removals (described below) addressed the soil contamination on the site. The investigation also noted that a small area of residual groundwater contamination (from past petroleum product use) is present in the front of the site along River Road. Details of the investigation are discussed in the June 2008 "Site Investigation/Remedial Alternatives Report", which can be reviewed at one of the locations listed below.

## 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/Feasibility Study. An IRM was

begun in 2003 and resulted in the removal of the site buildings, 14 USTs, and 6,200 tons of contaminated soils. The IRM work was halted in September 2004 by the City, and then resumed in 2007. During 2007, 1,500 tons of additional contaminated soils were removed and properly disposed. Clean crushed concrete was used to fill the excavations.

Details of the 2007 IRM work are discussed in the June 2008 "Final Engineering Report for 2007-2008 Interim Remedial Measures", which can be reviewed at one of the locations listed below.

## Summary of Proposed Remedial Action

The PRAP identifies the remedy preferred by the NYSDEC and NYSDOH to address the residual groundwater contamination at the site. The proposed alternative was chosen following a detailed investigation of the site and evaluation of alternatives for remediating the contamination.

The elements of the proposed remedy include:

- annual monitoring of site groundwater;
- an environmental easement which restricts the use of groundwater; and
- periodic certification of monitoring and site controls to ensure that the remedy remains protective of the environment and/or public health.

## Costs and Funding for the Site Remedy

The total present cost to construct and implement the proposed remedy is estimated at \$31,000. There are no additional capital costs, and the annual monitoring and reporting costs are estimated at \$2,000 per year. The intended future use of the property is for commercial purposes.

## Health Issues

The IRM has removed the sources of petroleum contaminants from the site. While some residual groundwater contamination is present, human contact with site groundwater is unlikely. An environmental easement will restrict the use of site groundwater.

## Locations To View Project-related Documents

To review the complete PRAP and other site information, you may visit:

North Tonawanda Public Library  
505 Meadow Drive  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120  
(716) 693-4132  
Hours:  
M-Thurs. 9:30am - 9:00pm  
F-Sat. 9:30am - 5:00pm  
Sun. 1:00pm - 5:00pm

NYSDEC Region 9  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
(716) 851-7220  
Hours: M-F 8:30am - 4:30pm

**For More Information:** Call or write the following staff for more information about:

### Meeting/Comment Period/ Technical Information:

Mr. Jeff Konsella  
NYSDEC Region 9  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
(716) 851-7220  
E-mail: [jakonsel@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:jakonsel@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

### Health-Related Information:

Mr. Matt Forcucci  
NYSDOH  
584 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14202-1295  
Phone: (716) 847-4385  
E-mail: [mjf13@health.state.ny.us](mailto:mjf13@health.state.ny.us)

### Citizen Participation:

Mr. Mark Baetzhold  
NYSDEC Region 9  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
(716) 851-7220  
E-mail: [mtbaetzh@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:mtbaetzh@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

## Site Location Map



