

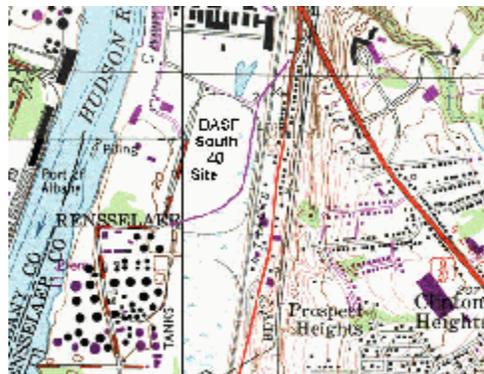
BASF Corporation South 40 Site
Brownfield Cleanup Program Remedial Action
BCA Index # A4-0507-0604
Site No. C-241047
City of Rensselaer, Rensselaer County
October 2007

Introduction

Besicorp-Empire Power Company, LLC (BEPCO) and BASF Corporation (BASF) have completed remediation work at the South 40 site owned by BASF at 36 Riverside Avenue in the City of Rensselaer pursuant to a joint Brownfield Cleanup Agreement with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). DEC has consulted with the New York State Department of Health (DOH) regarding the remedial program at this site. The cleanup followed the DEC and DOH approved Remedial Action Work Plan.

Background

The site is approximately 35 acres in size and reportedly was used as a drum storage/disposal area before BASF's ownership up until the mid-1970s. It is bounded by Riverside Avenue to the west, by Conrail railroad tracks to the east, by the BASF manufacturing plant to the north, and by an abandoned railroad bed to the south. Since the Port Access Highway was built, a small portion of the site is located south of the highway. There are no residential properties adjacent to the site.



Site Status

Previous investigations at the Site had identified the presence of approximately 50 to 100 buried (or partially buried) drum carcasses within the centrally located raised (elevated) region of the Site (Dunn, 1992). A remediation plan was developed for the BASF South 40 Site during the summer of 2004 as described in the Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) dated July 14, 2003.

The remedial activity conducted in 2004 consisted of the following:

- All drum carcasses located in the raised (elevated) region and all contaminated soil associated with these drum carcasses were removed;
- Samples were collected on a 25' by 25' grid to determine the extent of soil contaminated with arsenic. All soil with arsenic concentrations greater than 500 mg/kg was excavated and sent off-site to an approved facility for proper disposal. Then, the excavated areas were backfilled with clean material,

In August through October 2007, the residually impacted soil area was cleared of trees less than 12 inches in diameter, graded, a demarcation fabric was laid across the site, and a one foot thick layer of clean fill material was placed over the approximately 8 acre area.

South 40 Brownfield Cleanup Program Fact Sheet – October 2007

The Final Engineering Report documenting completion of the RAWP has been prepared and submitted.

Document Repositories

Public understanding and involvement are important to the success of New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program. As the project progresses the DEC will distribute fact sheets, like this one, to keep you informed. In addition, the DEC has also placed site documents in a document repository. The DEC has established a document repository for the BASF South 40 site at

Rensselaer Public Library
810 Broadway (old National Bank)
Rensselaer, NY
(518) 482-1193
M-F: 10:00am to 5:00pm, then 6:00pm to 9:00pm on M-W ONLY
Saturday: 9:00 to 12 noon

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About the Brownfield Cleanup Program

New York established its Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) to address the environmental, legal, and financial barriers that often hinder the redevelopment and reuse of contaminated properties. The BCP was developed to enhance private sector cleanups and to reduce the development pressures on "greenfield" sites. Under the program, a volunteer agrees to investigate and remediate a site to a level which is protective of public health and the environment for the present or intended use of the property. Investigation and remediation is carried out under the oversight of DEC and DOH. When the volunteer completes the work, the State provides release from certain State liability for site contaminants.