



FACT SHEET

Brownfield Cleanup Program

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Old Champlain Mill Site
Site No: C558036
Village of Whitehall, NY

August 2011

Report Recommends Cleanup of Brownfield Site Contamination

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is reviewing a report that recommends cleanup action at the Old Champlain Mill Site ("site"), located at 16-50 Poultny Street in Village of Whitehall, Washington County under New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program. See map for site location.

The report, called a "Remedial Investigation Report," was submitted to NYSDEC by Poultny Street Partners, LLC ("applicant"). The report describes the results of the site investigation and recommends action to address contamination.

Based on the findings of the investigation, NYSDEC in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has determined that the site poses a significant threat due to elevated concentrations of contaminants in groundwater and soil. The activities discussed below have been designed to address the identified contamination and the threat posed.

Highlights of the Investigation Report

The investigation report has several goals:

- 1) describe the investigation activities completed
- 2) describe the nature and extent of contamination at the site
- 3) provide information about off-site contamination issues
- 4) recommend whether cleanup of contamination is required.

Brownfield Cleanup Program: New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) encourages the voluntary cleanup of contaminated properties known as brownfields so that they can be reused and redeveloped. These uses may include recreation, housing, business or other uses.

A **brownfield** is any real property that is difficult to reuse or redevelop because of the presence or potential presence of contamination.

For more information about the BCP, visit:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html

The remedial investigation included an evaluation of various site media (i.e. surface soil, subsurface soils, groundwater and surface water in the wetland areas) across the site. Samples of the site media were collected and analyzed for petroleum fuel related compounds, metal cleaning fluids, metals, PCBs and pesticides. The primary contaminants identified within the site were metal cleaning fluid compounds in groundwater, and petroleum fuel related compound in near surface soils. Groundwater contamination is most prevalent in the northwestern section of the site. Near

surface soil impacts are primarily found within the western section of the site.

Based on the findings of the Remedial Investigation, cleanup of the site is warranted to be protective of human health and the environment.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will complete its review, make any necessary revisions and, if appropriate, approve the investigation report. The approved Remedial Investigation Report will be made available to the public (see “Where to Find Information” below). The applicant may then develop a cleanup plan, called a “Remedial Work Plan”. This plan describes how contamination will be addressed, with NYSDEC and NYSDOH overseeing the work. NYSDEC will present the draft cleanup plan to the public for its review and comment during a 45-day comment period.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the site.

Background

NYSDEC previously accepted an application from the applicant to participate in the Brownfield Cleanup Program. The application proposes that the site will be used for commercial or industrial purposes.

The site is approximately 11.49 acres located in a commercial area at 16-50 Poultney Street in the Village of Whitehall. The site was initially developed in the early 1900s and used as a silk knitting mill until 1959. From 1959 until 2001 the site was used to manufacture newspaper vending machines. The on-site buildings were removed and demolished in 2003, with the only remnants of the buildings being the concrete floor slabs and a brick smoke stack. Previous uses of the site have resulted in contamination in the site’s soil and groundwater.

Several investigations of the site have been performed. The most recent investigation was the BCP Remedial Investigation. The Remedial Investigation Report presents the investigative results for all of the site investigations completed to date.

The primary groundwater impacts to the site are related to volatile organic compounds and semi-volatile organic compounds. The groundwater contamination appears to be concentrated in the northwestern portion of the site. Soils have also been impacted, primarily by semi-volatile organic compounds, generally within the shallow soils.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed.

The Whitehall Free Library
12 William Street
Whitehall, New York 12887
Attn: Reference Librarian
Phone: (518) 499-1366
Hours:
-Monday: 2:30pm-8:30pm
-Tuesday: 3:00pm-7:00pm
-Wednesday: 5:00pm-8:30pm
-Thursday: 2:00pm-6:00pm
-Friday: 5:00pm-8:30pm
-Saturday: 10:00am-2:00pm
-Sunday: Closed

NYSDEC, Region 5
232 Golf Course Road
Warrensburg, NY 12885
Attn: Alicia Thorne
Hours: Mon. – Fri. 8:30 am to 4:45 pm
Phone: (518) 623-1200
(call for appointment)

Village of Whitehall Clerk's Office
1 Saunders Street
Whitehall, New York 12887
Hours: (call for appointment)
Phone: (518) 499-0871

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

Alicia Thorne, P.E.
NYSDEC, Region 5
232 Golf Course Road
Warrensburg, NY 12885
Phone: (518) 623-1200
ajthorne@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions

Wendy Kuehner, P.E.
New York State Department of Health
Flanigan Square, Room 300
547 River Street Troy, NY 12180-2216
Phone: (518) 402-7860
Fax: (518) 402-7859
wsk01@health.state.ny.us

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. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page: www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html . It's *quick*, it's *free*, and it will help keep you *better informed*.



As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

You may continue also to receive paper copies of site information for a time after you sign up with a county listserv, until the transition to electronic distribution is complete.

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