



# FACT SHEET

## Brownfield Cleanup Program

Former Ames/Hills Plaza Site

October 2004

C 9-07-029

Jamestown, Chautauqua County, NY

### Draft Remedial Investigation Work Plan Available for Public Comment

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) requests public comments as it reviews an application to the New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) and a draft work plan to investigate the Ames/Hills Plaza Site located at the intersection of Harrison Road and South Main Street in the City of Jamestown, Chautauqua County. See map on page 3 for the location of the site. The draft "Remedial Investigation (RI) Work Plan" was submitted by Krog Corporation under the BCP. The Krog Corporation proposes that the site will be used for a professional office park.

### Public Comments About the Application and the Proposed Remedial Investigation Work Plan

The NYSDEC is accepting public comments about the application and the proposed RI work plan for 30 days, from October 27, 2004 through November 26, 2004. The application and the proposed work plan are available for public review at the document repository identified on page 3 of this fact sheet.

Comments should be submitted to:

J.S. Walia, P.E., Project Manager  
N.Y.S. Department of Environmental Conservation  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14203-2999

### Highlights of the Proposed Investigation

The remedial investigation has several goals:

- 1) define the nature and extent of contamination in soil, surface water, groundwater and any other impacted media;
- 2) identify the source(s) of the contamination;
- 3) assess the impact of the contamination on public health and/or the environment; and,
- 4) provide information to support the development of a Remedial Work Plan to address the contamination.

The investigation will be performed by Krog Corporation with oversight by NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

**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 include recreation, housing and business.

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.state.ny.us/website/der/bcp](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/der/bcp)

Elements of the field investigation activities defined in the proposed work plan include:

- investigation of subsurface soils and groundwater using soil borings and shallow groundwater monitoring wells; and
- characterization of the extent and thickness of soil-fill material deposited at the site. Soil and groundwater samples will be collected for chemical analyses to supplement the existing soil and groundwater analytical data.

The Remedial Investigation field activities are scheduled to begin during the Fall 2004.

## **Next Steps**

NYSDEC will consider public comments when it completes its review, has any necessary revisions made, and approves the application and RI Work Plan. NYSDOH must concur in the approval of the RI Work Plan. The approved RI Work Plan will be placed in the document repository (see page 3). After the RI Work Plan is approved, the Krog Corporation may proceed with the remedial investigation of the site.

The applicant will then develop a Remedial Investigation Report that summarizes the results of the remedial investigation. It is expected this report will be available in early 2005.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed during the investigation and remediation of the Ames/Hills Plaza site.

## **Site Background Information**

The now vacant Ames/Hills department store occupies the eastern-most portion of the property and a parking lot occupies the remainder of the site currently scheduled for investigation. Past activities at the site included: furniture manufacturing and storage facilities, mills and, a tire service center and gasoline filling station. A parking lot now occupies the westernmost portion of the site where similar businesses and work activities previously took place.

In December 2000, the New York State Department of Transportation removed four underground storage tanks adjacent to the site on South Main Street. Site investigations have been conducted on behalf of the Krog Corporation since 2003. A drilling program, completed in November 2003 included 37 boreholes and found low concentrations of petroleum based compounds and selected volatile organic compounds (VOCs) at eight borehole locations. The data suggest that the source of the VOCs and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) may be related to the past release of a petroleum based products.

Along with the soil samples submitted for VOC and SVOC analysis, soil samples were also collected for selected metals analysis. The testing found elevated concentrations of arsenic, mercury and silver that exceeded NYSDEC guidance values for soils.

To better characterize the site media and potential groundwater impacts, additional investigations have been completed since February 2004. Groundwater samples collected from temporary wells installed to determine the direction of groundwater movement (piezometers) and monitoring wells generally indicate no significant impacts to the shallow groundwater. In July 2004, a total of 18 soil borings were taken and eight test pits were dug within the site boundaries to again characterize the physical and chemical nature of the site's fill material.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Document Repository

To help keep you informed, the following local document repository has been established to help the public review important project documents including the proposed remedial investigation work plan and the approved application to participate in the BCP.

James Prendergast Library  
509 Cherry Street  
Jamestown, New York 14701  
(716) 484-7135  
<http://www.prendergastlibrary.org/>

NYSDEC's Buffalo Office  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14203-2999  
Contact Mr. J. S. Walia at (716) 851-7220  
for an appointment.

### Who to Contact

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

#### Project Related Questions:

J. S. Walia, P.E., Project Manager  
NYSDEC  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14203-2999  
(716) 851-7220  
Email address:  
[jswalia@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:jswalia@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

#### Health Related Questions:

Cameron O'Connor, Public Health Specialist  
NYS Department of Health  
584 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14202  
(716) 847-4385

### Site Location

