



FACT SHEET

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Tank 75

August 2006

Site # 915008B, Class 3

Town of Tonawanda, Erie County, NY

Draft Remedial Work Plan Available for Public Comment

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) requests public comments as it reviews a proposed cleanup remedy to address contamination related to the Tank 75 site located at 4625 River Road in the Town of Tonawanda, Erie County, New York. See map on last page for site location. The proposed remedy is described in a draft “Remedial Work Plan” that was submitted by URS Corporation (URS) on behalf of Ashland Inc., under New York’s Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP).

Ashland Inc. is submitting an application to participate in the BCP to NYSDEC along with the draft Remedial Work Plan. The application proposes that the site will be used for industrial purposes.

“*Remediation*” or “*remedial*” refers to all necessary cleanup actions to address any known or suspected contamination associated with the site.

Public Comments about the Draft Remedial Work Plan

NYSDEC is accepting written public comments about the BCP application and the draft Remedial Work Plan for 45 days, from **August 9, 2006** through **September 25, 2006**. The draft Remedial Work Plan and BCP application are available for public review at the document repository identified in this fact sheet.

Written comments should be submitted to:

Mr. Michael Hinton, P.E.
Project Manager
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Region 9
Division of Environmental Remediation
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14203-2999

Highlights of the Draft Remedial Work Plan

Goals of the Remedial Work Plan are to:

- 1) identify cleanup levels to be attained or the process to be used to determine these levels;
- 2) explain why the Remedial Work Plan concludes that the results of remediation will protect public health and the environment; and
- 3) provide a detailed description of the remedy selected to address site contamination.

Cleanup work will be performed by URS on behalf of Ashland Inc. with oversight by NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

To address the Tank 75 contents, which consists of accumulated rainwater, referred to as supernatant water, and sludge, the selected remedial action incorporates the following elements:

- Pump supernatant water to the United Refining oily water sewer system.
- Following removal of the water, stabilize remaining sludge in the bottom of Tank 75.
- Remove the steel catwalk, pumps/associated piping, and steam coils, and transport the scrap steel from the demolition activities off the site for either disposal as debris at a RCRA-permitted hazardous waste landfill or decontaminate the debris for sale as scrap.
- Collect soil confirmation samples from soil beneath the gunite liner for laboratory analysis to document that cleanup levels have been met. Cleanup levels to be attained for site soil were selected based on the soil cleanup objectives (SCOs) for the protection of public health, restricted industrial scenario. T
- Place and compact approximately 14 feet of NYSDEC-approved clean imported backfill material above the stabilized sludge to bring the excavation up to match surrounding grade. The backfilled area will be graded such that rainwater will not pond or stand on the surface and will be seeded with fast growing native grasses to prevent erosion.

Following implementation of the remedial action, a NYSDEC-approved Site Management Plan (SMP) will be implemented. The objectives of the SMP are to establish procedures such that the approved site remedy provides effective short- and long-term protection of the public and the environment and to support future plans and industrial development. Under the SMP:

- Annual groundwater monitoring will be conducted with annual reporting and 5-year evaluations. To demonstrate that the remediation goals have been achieved for site groundwater, analytical results will be screened against NYSDEC Groundwater Quality Standards for Class GA Groundwater, 6 NYCRR Part 703 amended August 1999. Class GA waters are fresh groundwaters and these groundwater standards meet drinking water requirements.
- Institutional controls (ICs) that consist of environmental easements will be implemented such that the future use of the property remains consistent with the appropriate restricted industrial uses. ICs will restrict the use of groundwater for potable purposes.
- Certification will be provided with the annual groundwater monitoring report stating that the institutional controls are in-place and remain effective.
- Overall site maintenance, including groundwater monitoring well and backfilled tank area maintenance, will be performed and documented on an annual basis.

The plans and specifications to implement the remedy and the SMP are included in the draft Remedial Work Plan as Appendices A and B, respectively.

Significant Threat Determination

NYSDEC has determined that the Tank 75 site does not pose a significant threat to human health and the environment. The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) concurred in the determination that the site does not pose a significant threat to human health.

Tank 75 is listed on the New York State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites as a Class 3 site. The Class 3 designation indicates that the site does not pose a significant threat to human health and the environment.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments when it completes its review, makes any necessary revisions, and, if appropriate, approves the Remedial Work Plan. NYSDOH must agree in the approval of the

Remedial Work Plan. The approved Remedial Work Plan will be available for public review at the locations listed below under the heading “For More Information.”

When NYSDEC approves the Remedial Work Plan, URS, on behalf of Ashland Inc., may proceed with the design and construction of the site cleanup. It is estimated that design and construction activities will take about one year to complete.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed during the remediation of the Tank 75 site.

Background

Tank 75 was constructed during World War II as a gunite-lined in-ground No. 6 fuel oil storage tank. Although owned by Ashland Inc., the 1.25 acre site is located within the United Refining facility. The site and surrounding United Refining property was once an active refinery and now operates as a petroleum terminal. Current and future land use for the site and surrounding area is industrial.

Tank 75 currently contains sludge and supernatant water. Previous site investigation activities have included groundwater monitoring well installation, and sampling the tank’s contents. Based on the investigation results:

- Tank 75 sludge contains refinery wastes.
- To date, the supernatant water has been pumped to the United Refining oily water sewer system and then to the Tonawanda water treatment facility.
- Groundwater analytical results indicate that Tank 75 has not impacted the underlying groundwater. Although some metals, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) have been detected in groundwater collected from site monitoring wells, the detections are sporadic in nature and/or are not associated with refining operations and, therefore, are not site-related.

The BCP application and the draft Remedial Work Plan were submitted to NYSDEC and are under public review. Following approval, a Brownfield Cleanup Agreement will be executed between Ashland Inc. and the NYSDEC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Locations to View Project Documents

The public is welcome to review project documents at the locations identified below. Project documents include the draft Remedial Work Plan and the application to participate in the BCP.

City of Tonawanda Public Library
333 Main Street
Tonawanda, New York 14150
(716) 693-5043

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

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

Mr. Michael Hinton, P.E.
Project Manager
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203-2999
(716) 851-7220
Email Address: mjhinton@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Health Related Questions

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

If you know someone who would like to be added to the project mailing list, have them contact the NYSDEC project manager above. 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.

Site Location

