



# Steelfields Area IV (Hydro-Air Components) Site # 915205 - Project Bulletin

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September 2007

## Cleanup Activities Complete at Steelfields Area IV Site

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### Availability of Final Engineering Report

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New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is pleased to announce that construction activities to clean up the former Steelfields Area IV (also known as Hydro-Air Components or Site), are complete. DEC has received a Final Engineering Report for work completed in Area IV and is anticipating acceptance of the final document.

The State is providing this bulletin to announce the availability of this document and satisfactory completion of the cleanup in Area IV as well as to update the community on the status of the site.

#### **Site Background**

In October, 2002 Steelfields, Ltd. purchased several vacant industrial properties in Buffalo, New York out of bankruptcy from the LTV Steel and Hanna Furnace Corporation. At the same time, Steelfields entered in to a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement (VCA) with DEC. The subject property was broken up into four "Areas", based on operational and ownership history and given a voluntary cleanup program site number V00619. Following the December 27, 2002 approval of a "Work Plan for Voluntary Cleanup Program Remedial Design/Remedial Action for the Former Steel and Coke Manufacturing Site", dated September 2002, by Turnkey Environmental Restoration, work was started to clean up the four areas. In August of 2006 Hydro-Air Components, Inc. purchased the approximately 30.9 acre Area IV parcel from Steelfields Ltd. Area IV was formerly known as the Donner Hanna Coke Yard Parcel. Hydro-Air entered into a brownfields cleanup agreement (BCA) with NYSDEC on August 21, 2006 to continue to completion the remedial program activities required at the Site.

#### **Progress to Date:**

There have been several project updates to the community regarding the cleanup activities from Steelfields, the last in May of 2006. At that time the overall site remedial construction activities were about 80% complete. Excavation of the tar materials had been ongoing in areas to the west of the Site and all marketable coke materials had been removed and the area had been backfilled with clean soils.

At this time all tar soils have been removed and properly disposed. Groundwater monitoring wells were installed and, Oxygen Releasing Compound materials were placed into select wells to address residual groundwater contamination. It is important to note that this groundwater is limited in quantity, and is not used for drinking. All drinking water in the area is supplied by the City of Buffalo.

The area of remediation that is not covered by the manufacturing building has received a required minimum of one foot over clean soil cover, has been seeded and is awaiting establishment of vegetative cover. A major construction component, not required under the BCA, was that, Hydro-Air Components Inc, a division of Rittling Hydronic Heating and Cooling Systems Inc., completed construction of a new 144,000 square foot

manufacturing facility. The new facility is now home to the world headquarters of Hydro-Air Components. Hydro-Air is a designer and manufacturer of advanced heating and cooling systems.

**Availability of the Area IV - Final Engineering Report :**

In addition to updating you on the preceding activities, this update is intended to announce the completion of the Final Engineering Report. This report details work that was completed to satisfy the remedial activities detailed in the Brownfield Cleanup work plan. This document also includes a Site Management Plan which incorporates required institutional and engineering controls, such as prohibition of using groundwater for potable uses, maintenance of a one foot soil cover, and how to handle excavated soils, as well as, operation, maintenance and monitoring required at the site.

**For More Information:**

Documents describing the activities at the Site are available for your review at the locations listed below. You are encouraged to review these documents, and to contact State representatives should you have any questions concerning the project.

**Site-related documents are available for review at the following locations:**

Dudley Branch Library  
South Park Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14202

NYSDEC Region 9 Office  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14203

Appointment Needed – contact  
Maurice Moore at (716) 851-7220

**Contact the following representatives for more information about:**

**Site Construction:**

Maurice Moore  
NYSDEC  
Environmental Remediation  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14203  
(716) 851-7220

**Site Related Health Concerns**

Cameron O'Connor  
NYS DOH  
584 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14202  
(716) 847-4385