

Cleanup Proposed for Steel Winds Site - Plans Available for Public Comment

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Project No. C915205

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Steel Winds are pleased to announce that environmental investigations at the Steelwinds (formerly Bethlehem Steel) site in Lackawanna have been completed. Investigation results, as well as a proposed cleanup activities for the site, are available for public review and comment in a document called the Site Investigation/Remedial Alternative/Interim Remedial Measures Report (SI/RAR/IRM). This report summarizes information collected during environmental investigations at the site, and presents proposed cleanup plans for the site. **This report is available for review at the locations identified at the end of this fact sheet, under the heading, "Locations to View Project Documents." Public comments will be accepted until September 19, 2007.**

Cleanup work at the site is being performed under New York State's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) as part of the ongoing effort to transform a portion of the former Bethlehem Steel Corporation site into a productive use. The BCP provides financial incentives to promote the cleanup, redevelopment, and revival of brownfield sites. A brownfield is a property that may have been used for industrial purposes in the past, but is currently unused or under-used property due to the presence of real or perceived environmental contamination.

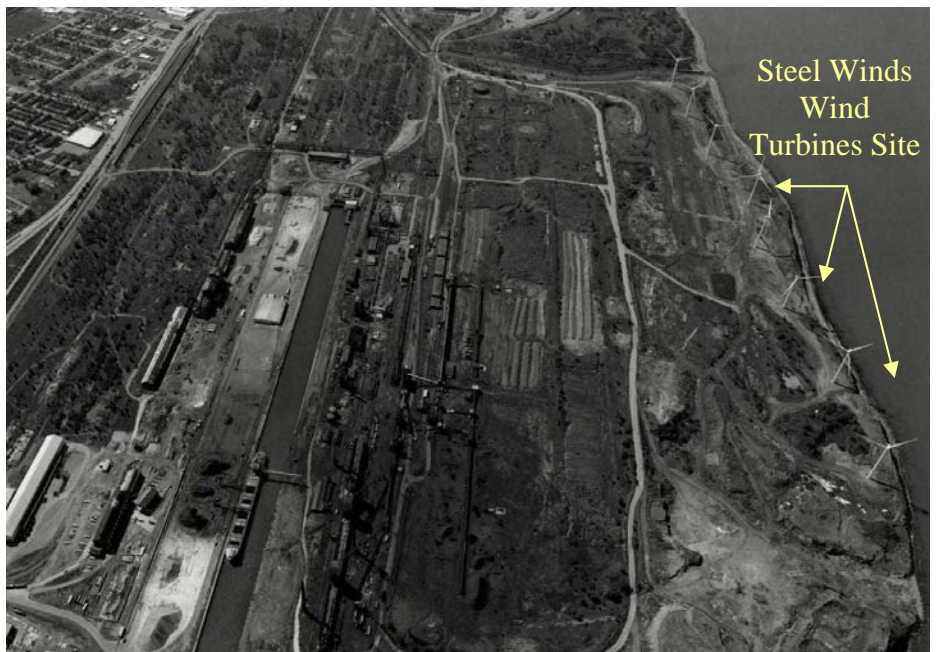
SITE BACKGROUND

The property, located west of Route 5 in the City of Lackawanna, was once home to the Bethlehem Steel Corporation (BSC), and was used for the production of steel, coke and related product. The Steel Winds site is a smaller, approximately 30 acre portion of the BSC site on the western edge of the property, just off the shores of Lake Erie. The entire BSC property has been the subject of previous and ongoing environmental investigations that have identified several environmental conditions of concern.

Since the September 2006, groundbreaking, BQ Energy and UPC Wind, along with a group of stakeholders, have created a clean energy project called "Steel Winds". Today, the eight turbine wind farm on the shores of Lake Erie utilizing state-of-the-art technology wind turbines produces an estimated 20 mega watts of clean electric power.

Prior to the development of the Steel Winds wind farm, the site developers hired the consulting firm of TurnKey Environmental Restoration, LLC to conduct an environmental assessment at the site. Analysis of the soil and slag fill samples that were collected at the site indicated that levels of arsenic, manganese and SVOCs common to steel production and coking operations were present on the site at levels exceeding DEC's cleanup standards for the site's intended future use.

A cleanup effort known as an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) began in July 2007. An IRM is a cleanup action that can be conducted at a site relatively quickly in order to minimize environmental or health risks. The IRM includes



A view of the former Bethlehem Steel property note: completed wind turbines to right of picture.

The IRM includes

placing one foot of clean soil cover over most of the approximately 30 acre site to prevent human contact with the impacted soil/slag fill materials, and is consistent with DEC guidelines to expedite completion of cleanup work.

DETAILS OF THE SI/RAR/IRM REPORT

The SI/RAR/IRM report has confirmed the presence of contamination typical of steel-making activities in surface and sub-surface slag materials. Additionally, an area of the site has been noted to contain SVOC contamination in the sub-surface sands beneath the slag fill that potentially could contribute to a more widespread groundwater contamination which eventually impacts Smoke Creek and Lake Erie.

The SI/RAR/IRM report also presents cleanup activities proposed to address environmental concerns at the site, including:

- Grading the existing surface of the site, where necessary, to achieve better drainage and reduce the potential for erosion;
- Transporting and placing approximately 40,000 cubic yards of clean soil over the surface of the site to a depth of one foot;
- Placing Oxygen Releasing Compound (ORC™) “socks” which encourage clean up of the SVOCs in the groundwater by enhancing the natural degradation of these compounds;
- Long term monitoring of the progress of the groundwater and associated treatment;
- Re-vegetating the site following cleanup construction activities;
- Disposing of soil excavated during the excavating of the wind turbine foundations;
- Implementing an Environmental Easement that prohibits use of groundwater and ensures that a Site Management Plan is followed; and
- Annually certifying that the chosen alternative is maintained.

OPPORTUNITIES TO COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED PLAN

DEC will accept comments on the proposed cleanup alternatives in the SI/RAR/IRM report for the Steel Winds site for 45 days, from

August 6, 2007 until September 19, 2007.

Please call or send written comments to:

Mr. Maurice Moore, Project Manager
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 851-7220

or email to:

Region9@gw.dec.state.ny.us

NEXT STEPS

Following the public comment period, cleanup activities will be selected and will begin in late September. Cleanup activities are expected to be completed during the fall of 2007. Fact sheets, similar to this one, will be sent to you to keep you updated throughout the project's progress. The site will remain in industrial use following cleanup.

WHO SHOULD I CALL IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SITE?

If you have questions about the site or cleanup activities, please feel welcome to contact the representatives below:

Site-Related Project Questions

Mr. Patrick Martin P.E.
Project Manager
TurnKey Env. Restoration, LLC
726 Exchange Street, Suite 624
Buffalo, NY 14210
(716) 856-0635

Site-Related Environmental Questions

Mr. Maurice Moore
Project Manager
NYSDEC
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 851-7220

Site-Related Health Questions

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

LOCATIONS TO VIEW PROJECT RELATED DOCUMENTS

To keep you informed, the City of Buffalo and DEC have set up two locations at which project documents, including the SI/RAR/IRM report, are available for your review. These locations include:

Lackawanna Public Library
560 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, NY 14218
Attn Jennifer Hoffman, Librarian
(716) 823-0630

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