# **FACT SHEET**

Brownfield Cleanup Program

275 Franklin Street Site No. C915208 City of Buffalo, New York September 2008

# Environmental Cleanup Activities to begin at 275 Franklin Street Site

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is pleased to announce that environmental cleanup activities have commenced at the Buffalo Development Corporation (BDC) site, located at 275 Franklin Street, City of Buffalo, Erie County, New York.

Cleanup activities at the site will be performed under New York State's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP). NYSDEC previously approved a BCP application, Remedial Investigation /Alternatives Analysis Report (RI/AAR) Work Plan and Interim Remedial Measures (IRM) Work Plan submitted by Buffalo Development Corporation.



## HIGHLIGHT OF THE PROPOSED INTERIM REMEDIAL MEASURES

Based on environmental investigations conducted at the site, it has been determined that cleanup is needed to address on-site contaminated soil and groundwater. To address this concern, a cleanup effort called an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) began in August 2008. An IRM is a cleanup action that can be conducted at a site relatively quickly in order to minimize risks to human health and the environment. All cleanup activities conducted at the site will be in accordance with the IRM Work Plan that has been approved by NYSDEC and New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

Cleanup activities include:

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 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

- Injecting a fuel source, called a bioremediation substrate, in on-site soil and groundwater to stimulate microorganisms that break down contaminants;
- Installing a Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) system to collect and remove volatilized contaminants (compounds that evaporate) in the affected subsurface soils; and
- Monitoring groundwater to confirm the effectiveness of the treatment.

# **BACKGROUND**

BDC is redeveloping the 275 Franklin Street and surrounding properties for commercial purposes. The BCP site consists of two parcels that have been used for various purposes since the late 1800s. 275-277 Franklin Street contained a structure that was used for dry cleaning from approximately 1951 until 2000. The building on the parcel was demolished in 2005 and paved over to be used as a surface parking lot. 279 Franklin Street was used for residential purposes from the late 1800s through the 1950s and as a parking lot from the early 1980s to the present. The BCP parcels currently do not contain any structures.

The type and location of chemical constituents in soil/fill and groundwater at the site, as well as at the adjacent site, were described during past investigations. Based on the investigations, it was determined that groundwater and soils are contaminated with chlorinated volatile organic compounds (VOCs) due to past operations at the site.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

NYSDEC determined that the onsite contaminant levels pose a significant threat that warrants offsite investigations to assess the nature and extent of the groundwater plume and soil vapor intrusion into structures along the plume. If the results of the NYSDEC offsite investigations warrant mitigation and remediation, the NYSDEC will pursue offsite remediation measures as necessary to protect human health and the environment.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed about developments at 275 Franklin Street with fact sheets similar to this one.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

# **Locations to View Project-related Documents**

The following locations have been established to help the public review important project documents.

Erie County Public Library

1 Lafayette Square

270 Michigan Avenue

Buffalo, New York 14203

Phone: (716) 858-8900

Hours: M-F 8:30 am – 6 pm

NYSDEC Region 9 Office
270 Michigan Avenue

Buffalo, New York 14203

Phone: (716) 851-7220

(Please call for appointment)

Sun. 1-5 (closed Sundays in summer)

## Who to Contact

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

Citizen Participation Questions **Project Related Questions** Health Related Questions Mr. Eugene Melnyk, P.E. Mr. Cameron O'Connor Mr. Mark Baetzhold **NYSDEC** NYSDOH **NYSDEC** 270 Michigan Avenue 584 Delaware Avenue 270 Michigan Avenue Buffalo, New York 14203 Buffalo, New York 14202 Buffalo, New York 14203 716-851-7220 716-847-4385 716-851-7220 mtbaetzh@gw.dec.state.ny.us ewmelnyk@gw.dec.state.ny.us cho01@health.state.ny.us

If you know someone who would like to be added to the project mailing list, please 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.