



FACT SHEET

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Buffalo Color
(Site Numbers C915230, C915231, C915232)
Erie County

September 2008

Draft Environmental Investigation, Alternative Analysis, and Cleanup Plan for Buffalo Color Site Available for Public Comment

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) requests public comments as it reviews a proposed Remedial Investigation (RI), Alternative Analysis (AA) and Remedial Work Plan (RWP) to address contamination related to the former Buffalo Color site located at 1337 South Park Avenue, 229 Elk Street and 85 Lee Street in Buffalo, Erie County (see map on page 4 of this fact sheet). The draft reports were submitted by South Buffalo Development Corporation under New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP).

NYSDEC is currently reviewing an application submitted by South Buffalo Development Corporation to participate in the BCP. The application proposes that the site will be used for commercial purposes.

Public Meeting
Thursday September 25, 2008
7:00pm

Valley Community Center
93 Leddy Street
Buffalo, NY 14210

South Buffalo Development Corporation and
NYSDEC invite you to a public meeting to
discuss the draft Remedial Work Plan to
address contamination at the former Buffalo
Color Site. You are encouraged to provide
comments at the meeting, or during the 45-day

Public Comments About the Draft Reports

NYSDEC is accepting written public comments about the draft RI, AA and RWP for 45 days, from **September 3** through **October 17, 2008**. The draft reports are available for public review at the locations identified at the end of this fact sheet.

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

Written comments should be submitted to:

Ms. Linda Ross
NYSDEC Region 9
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203

Highlights of the Reports

The Remedial Investigation (RI) describes the scientific studies which were performed to better understand the site soils, groundwater and soil vapor.

alternatives for the Buffalo Color Site.

The Alternative Analysis (AA) presents the cleanup

The Remedial Work Plan has several goals:

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

The work would be performed by South Buffalo Development Corporation with oversight by NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). Cleanup activities defined in the remedial work plan include:

- Removing asbestos and demolishing buildings;
- Removing any remaining tanks and chemicals;
- Excavating contaminated soils;
- Installing a barrier wall along the Buffalo River in Area A and continuing operation of the groundwater extraction system in Area A;
- Remediating the sewer system;
- Disposing of all hazardous or significantly contaminated materials in an approved offsite facility;
- Providing for a cover system over the entire site;
- Providing for soil vapor cleanup systems in all new buildings on site; and
- Collecting additional field data to assist in the design of groundwater and soil remediation.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments when it completes its review of the Remedial Investigation, Alternative Analysis and Remedial Work Plan. The draft reports will be available for public viewing at the locations identified at the end of this fact sheet. NYSDEC is also still reviewing the Application to the Brownfield Cleanup Program. If NYSDEC approves the Application and Remedial Work Plan, South Buffalo Development Corporation would proceed with the design and construction of the site remedy.

Because of the complex engineering involved with the design and construction of the planned cleanup activities, it is estimated that design and construction activities will take about five full years. Additional submittals, such as engineering designs, will be submitted on a schedule to be included in the final Remedial Work Plan.

A public meeting about the cleanup plan at the former Buffalo Color site will be held **Thursday September 25, 2008 at 7pm** at the **Valley Community Center**, 93 Leddy Street, Buffalo, NY 14210. At the meeting, representatives from South Buffalo Development, LLC, NYSDEC and NYSDOH will be available to explain the RA Work Plan and answer questions from the public.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed during the cleanup process at the former Buffalo Color Site with fact sheets similar to this one.

Background

The BCC plant occupies approximately 42 acres of land adjacent to the Buffalo River. The area surrounding the BCC site is currently zoned for heavy industry. For over one hundred years, the BCC facility has been involved in the continuous production of dyestuffs and organic chemicals.

In 2005, Honeywell, a potentially responsible party, conducted a cleanup effort called in interim corrective measure (ICM). The ICM included:

- installing a groundwater extraction system in Area A to control the migration of groundwater to the Buffalo River;
- controlling the discharge location of groundwater in Areas B, C and E;
- repairing a breach in the sewer sheet pile in Area E for proper water drainage at the site;
- performing stream bank erosion control in Area A; and
- properly disposing of all materials generated during cleanup at an off-site permitted location.

South Buffalo Development Corporation plans to purchase the property and develop the site for commercial purposes in accordance with community plans as discussed in the “Elk Street Redevelopment Area Report” prepared by Wendel Duchserer for the Buffalo Urban Development Corporation.

Locations to View Project-related Documents:

DEC values public understanding and involvement in this project. Project related documents are available for your review at the following locations:

Dudley Branch Library
2010 South Park Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14220
(716) 823-1854

NYSDEC Region 9 Office
270 Michigan Ave.
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

Ms. Linda Ross,
Project Manager
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 851-7220

Project Related Questions

Mr. Ron Chapin
Project Manager
South Buffalo Development
LLC
333 Ganson Street
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 856-3333 x319

Health Related Questions

Mr. Cameron O’Connor,
Public Health Specialist
New York State
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 Map

