



FACT SHEET

Brownfield Cleanup Program Application & Remedial Investigation Work Plan for the Former American Linen Supply Company Facility Available for Public Comment

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Project No. C915241

January 2011

Introduction

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) welcomes public comment as it reviews a Brownfield Cleanup Program Application and a draft Remedial Investigation (RI) Work Plan for the Former American Linen Supply Company Facility located at 822 Seneca Street in Buffalo, Erie County, New York ("Site"). The work plan outlines an environmental investigation to be performed at the Site to assess impacts to soil and groundwater resulting from previous industrial activities at the Site. A Remedial Investigation will help to evaluate the nature and extent of contamination at the Site as well as options for cleaning it up, if necessary.

The investigation work is proposed to be performed under New York State's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP). The BCP provides existing or potential property owners financial incentives to promote the voluntary cleanup and redevelopment of brownfield sites. Brownfields typically are former industrial properties where the real or perceived presence of contamination impedes reuse of the Site. AmeriPride Services, Inc. (formerly American Linen Supply Company) has volunteered to clean up the Site for future commercial or industrial use.



Are People Exposed to Contamination?

Due to the restricted nature of the Site via a locked fence and pavement cover, and considering that groundwater is not used as a potable drinking water source, there are currently no known pathways through which people may be exposed to contamination. Additional sampling and evaluation of potential exposure pathways will be completed during the Remedial Investigation.

Public Comments about the Remedial Investigation Work Plan

The BCP Application and Draft RI Work Plan are available for public viewing at the locations listed in this fact sheet. The NYSDEC will accept written public comments about the BCP Application and Draft RI Work Plan for 30 days, from **February 2 to March 3, 2011**. Written comments should be submitted to the DEC project manager listed on the following page.

What Will the Upcoming Investigation Work Involve?

The planned remedial investigation will provide additional environmental data to evaluate the nature and extent of contamination and to assess whether certain areas of the Site require cleanup or other remedial measures. The RI work will include:

- Conducting site preparation activities, including building demolition;
- Drilling soil borings;

- Excavating test pits;
- Installing groundwater monitoring wells; and
- Sampling and analyzing subsurface soil, fill materials, groundwater, and soil vapor.

Next Steps

The NYSDEC will consider public comments before it approves the BCP Application and Draft RI Work Plan. The approved plan will be available for public review at the locations listed below and on the DEC website (see link below). After the work plan is approved, AmeriPride Services, Inc. may proceed with the environmental investigation at the Site. The RI is expected to begin in Spring 2011. The NYSDEC will keep the public informed about the Brownfield Cleanup Program activities at the Former American Linen Supply Company Facility Site through fact sheets similar to this one.

Site Background

The Site is an approximately 2.9 acre parcel located at 822 Seneca Street in Buffalo, New York. The Site was formerly occupied by an industrial laundering facility. The former laundry building and associated parking lots cover most of the Site.

The Site building was first developed in 1910. Prior to 1910, the Site was occupied by residential and commercial properties. Between 1910 and 1978, the Site appeared to be used as a book binding and printing facility. The facility was used for laundering operations reportedly beginning in 1978. Dry cleaning operations using tetrachloroethylene (PCE) was conducted at the Site between 1978 and 1985. Use and/or storage of PCE were not reported after 1985, though laundering operations continued at the Site until 2004. Between April 2004 and July 2005 the Site was used as a laundering depot and later as a fleet vehicle maintenance shop. The Site has been vacant since July 2005.

Previous environmental investigations at the Site revealed two primary environmental impacts: (1) Low levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (compounds typically associated with petroleum products) have been identified in urban fill at the Site. The presence of these compounds is likely the result of typical constituents found in urban fill and/or possible former Site uses; and (2) Chlorinated volatile organic compounds (dry-cleaning related chemicals) have been identified in groundwater on the southern portion of the Site. The presence of these compounds is likely the result of former dry cleaning operations and related activities at the Site.

Who Should I Call If I Have Questions About the Site?

NYSDEC encourages public involvement in site cleanups. If you have questions or comments, please contact the following representatives:

Site-Related Environmental Questions

Mr. Jaspal S. Walia, P.E.
NYSDEC
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 851-7220
jswalia@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions

Mr. Matthew Forcucci
NYSDOH
584 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 847-4501
mjf13@health.state.ny.us

Locations to View Project Documents

To keep you informed, NYSDEC has set up two locations at which you may view project documents. These locations include:

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library

1 Lafayette Square
Buffalo, New York 14203
Phone: (716) 856-8900

NYSDEC Region 9 Office

270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14203-2999
Phone: (716) 851-7220 (Please call for appointment)

You may also view electronic copies of project documents at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/71917.html>.