



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Citizen Participation Plan for Clayton Street Residences SITE # C915409

September 2025

Site # C915409
127 Clayton Street
Buffalo
Erie County, New York 14207

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Note: The information presented in this Citizen Participation Plan was current as of the date of its approval by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Portions of this Citizen Participation Plan may be revised during the site's investigation and cleanup process.

Applicant: **Elmwood Forest, LLC (“Applicant”)**
Site Name: **Clayton Street Residences (“Site”)**
Site Address: **127 Clayton Street, Buffalo, New York 14207**
Site County: **Erie County**
Site Number: **Site # C915409**

1. What is New York’s Brownfield Cleanup Program?

New York’s Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) works with private developers to encourage the voluntary cleanup of contaminated properties known as “brownfields” so that they can be reused and developed. These uses include recreation, housing, and business.

A *brownfield* is any real property that is difficult to reuse or redevelop because of the presence or potential presence of contamination. A brownfield typically is a former industrial or commercial property where operations may have resulted in environmental contamination. A brownfield can pose environmental, legal, and financial burdens on a community. If a brownfield is not addressed, it can reduce property values in the area and affect economic development of nearby properties.

The BCP is administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) which oversees Applicants who conduct brownfield site investigation and cleanup activities. An Applicant is a person who has requested to participate in the BCP and has been accepted by NYSDEC. The BCP contains investigation and cleanup requirements, ensuring that cleanups protect public health and the environment. When NYSDEC certifies that these requirements have been met, the property can be reused or redeveloped for the intended use.

For more information about the BCP, go online at:
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html> .

2. Citizen Participation Activities

Why NYSDEC Involves the Public and Why It Is Important

NYSDEC involves the public to improve the process of investigating and cleaning up contaminated sites, and to enable citizens to participate more fully in decisions that affect their health, environment, and social well-being. NYSDEC provides opportunities for citizen involvement and encourages early two-way communication with citizens before decision makers form or adopt final positions.

Involving citizens affected and interested in site investigation and cleanup programs is important for many reasons. These include:

- Promoting the development of timely, effective site investigation and cleanup programs that protect public health and the environment
- Improving public access to, and understanding of, issues and information related to a particular site and that site's investigation and cleanup process
- Providing citizens with early and continuing opportunities to participate in NYSDEC's site investigation and cleanup process
- Ensuring that NYSDEC makes site investigation and cleanup decisions that benefit from input that reflects the interests and perspectives found within the affected community
- Encouraging dialogue to promote the exchange of information among the affected/interested public, State agencies, and other interested parties that strengthens trust among the parties, increases understanding of site and community issues and concerns, and improves decision making.

This Citizen Participation (CP) Plan provides information about how NYSDEC will inform and involve the public during the investigation and cleanup of the site identified above. The public information and involvement program will be carried out with assistance, as appropriate, from the Applicant.

Project Contacts

Appendix A identifies NYSDEC project contact(s) to whom the public should address questions or request information about the site's investigation and cleanup program. The public's suggestions about this CP Plan and the CP program for the site are always welcome. Interested people are encouraged to share their ideas and suggestions with the project contacts at any time.

Locations of Reports and Information

The locations of the reports and information related to the site's investigation and cleanup program also are identified in Appendix A. These locations provide convenient access to important project documents for public review and comment. Some documents may be placed on the NYSDEC web site. If this occurs, NYSDEC will inform the public in fact sheets distributed about the site and by other means, as appropriate.

Site Contact List

Appendix B contains the site contact list. This list has been developed to keep the community informed about, and involved in, the site's investigation and cleanup process. The site contact list will be used periodically to distribute fact sheets that provide updates about the status of the project. These will include notifications of upcoming activities at the site (such as fieldwork), as well as availability of project documents and announcements about public comment periods.

The site contact list includes, at a minimum:

- chief executive officer and planning board chairperson of each county, city, town and village in which the site is located;
- residents, owners, and occupants of the site and properties adjacent to the site;
- the public water supplier which services the area in which the site is located;
- any person who has requested to be placed on the site contact list;
- the administrator of any school or day care facility located on or near the site for purposes of posting and/or dissemination of information at the facility;
- location(s) of reports and information.

The site contact list will be reviewed periodically and updated as appropriate. Individuals and organizations will be added to the site contact list upon request. Such requests should be submitted to the NYSDEC project contact(s) identified in Appendix A. Other additions to the site contact list may be made at the discretion of the NYSDEC project manager, in consultation with other NYSDEC staff as appropriate.

Note: The first site fact sheet (usually related to the draft Remedial Investigation Work Plan) is distributed both by paper mailing through the postal service and through DEC Delivers, its email listserv service. The fact sheet includes instructions for signing up with the appropriate county listserv to receive future notifications about the site. See <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html> .

Subsequent fact sheets about the site will be distributed exclusively through the listserv, except for households without internet access that have indicated the need to continue to receive site information in paper form. Please advise the NYSDEC site project manager identified in Appendix A if that is the case. Paper mailings may continue during the investigation and cleanup process for some sites, based on public interest and need.

CP Activities

The table at the end of this section identifies the CP activities, at a minimum, that have been and will be conducted during the site's investigation and cleanup program. The

flowchart in Appendix D shows how these CP activities integrate with the site investigation and cleanup process. The public is informed about these CP activities through fact sheets and notices distributed at significant points during the program. Elements of the investigation and cleanup process that match up with the CP activities are explained briefly in Section 5.

- **Notices and fact sheets** help the interested and affected public to understand contamination issues related to a site, and the nature and progress of efforts to investigate and clean up a site.
- **Public forums, comment periods and contact with project managers** provide opportunities for the public to contribute information, opinions and perspectives that have potential to influence decisions about a site's investigation and cleanup.

The public is encouraged to contact project staff at any time during the site's investigation and cleanup process with questions, comments, or requests for information.

This CP Plan may be revised due to changes in major issues of public concern identified in Section 3 or in the nature and scope of investigation and cleanup activities. Modifications may include additions to the site contact list and changes in planned citizen participation activities.

Technical Assistance Grant

NYSDEC must determine if the site poses a significant threat to public health or the environment. This determination generally is made using information developed during the investigation of the site, as described in Section 5.

If the site is determined to be a significant threat, a qualifying community group may apply for a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG). The purpose of a TAG is to provide funds to the qualifying group to obtain independent technical assistance. This assistance helps the TAG recipient to interpret and understand existing environmental information about the nature and extent of contamination related to the site and the development/implementation of a remedy.

An eligible community group must certify that its membership represents the interests of the community affected by the site, and that its members' health, economic well-being or enjoyment of the environment may be affected by a release or threatened release of contamination at the site.

As of the date the declaration (page 2) was signed by the NYSDEC project manager, the significant threat determination for the site had not yet been made.

To verify the significant threat status of the site, the interested public may contact the NYSDEC project manager identified in Appendix A.

For more information about TAGs, go online at
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/2590.html>

Note: The table identifying the citizen participation activities related to the site's investigation and cleanup program follows on the next page:

Citizen Participation Activities	Timing of CP Activity(ies)
Application Process:	
• Prepare site contact list • Establish document repository(ies)	At time of preparation of application to participate in the BCP.
• Publish notice in Environmental Notice Bulletin (ENB) announcing receipt of application and 30-day public comment period • Publish above ENB content in local newspaper • Mail above ENB content to site contact list • Conduct 30-day public comment period	When NYSDEC determines that BCP application is complete. The 30-day public comment period begins on date of publication of notice in ENB. End date of public comment period is as stated in ENB notice. Therefore, ENB notice, newspaper notice, and notice to the site contact list should be provided to the public at the same time.
After Execution of Brownfield Site Cleanup Agreement (BCA):	
• Prepare Citizen Participation (CP) Plan	Before start of Remedial Investigation Note: Applicant must submit CP Plan to NYSDEC for review and approval within 20 days of the effective date of the BCA.
Before NYSDEC Approves Remedial Investigation (RI) Work Plan:	
• Distribute fact sheet to site contact list about proposed RI activities and announcing 30-day public comment period about draft RI Work Plan • Conduct 30-day public comment period	Before NYSDEC approves RI Work Plan. If RI Work Plan is submitted with application, public comment periods will be combined and public notice will include fact sheet. Thirty-day public comment period begins/ends as per dates identified in fact sheet.
After Applicant Completes Remedial Investigation:	
• Distribute fact sheet to site contact list that describes RI results	Before NYSDEC approves RI Report
Before NYSDEC Approves Remedial Work Plan (RWP):	
• Distribute fact sheet to site contact list about draft RWP and announcing 45-day public comment period • Public meeting by NYSDEC about proposed RWP (if requested by affected community or at discretion of NYSDEC project manager) • Conduct 45-day public comment period	Before NYSDEC approves RWP. Forty-five day public comment period begins/ends as per dates identified in fact sheet. Public meeting would be held within the 45-day public comment period.
Before Applicant Starts Cleanup Action:	
• Distribute fact sheet to site contact list that describes upcoming cleanup action	Before the start of cleanup action.
After Applicant Completes Cleanup Action:	
• Distribute fact sheet to site contact list that announces that cleanup action has been completed and that NYSDEC is reviewing the Final Engineering Report • Distribute fact sheet to site contact list announcing NYSDEC approval of Final Engineering Report and issuance of Certificate of Completion (COC)	At the time the cleanup action has been completed. Note: The two fact sheets are combined when possible if there is not a delay in issuing the COC.

3. Major Issues of Public Concern

This section of the CP Plan identifies major issues of public concern that relate to the site. Additional major issues of public concern may be identified during the course of the site's investigation and cleanup process.

There are no major issues of public concern. However, the community air monitoring program will be maintained during all investigation and remedial actions. Special attention will be given to dust monitoring during the soil investigation and remedial activities.

4. Site Information

Appendix C contains a map identifying the location of the site.

Site Description

The Clayton Street Residents project is located in the City of Buffalo, New York in a mixed commercial/residential neighborhood. The 1.77-acre property is currently vacant and is bound by Clayton Street to the west, rail lines to the north, residential property to the south and vacant land and a solar field to the east. The western side along Clayton Street is a long grass and weed covered field. The middle part of the property is tree covered, and the eastern portion is soil/fill covered where trees were recently removed. Clayton Street is a small side street bounded in a larger area by Military Road to the west, Hinman Street to the north, Elmwood Avenue to the east, and Hertel Avenue to the south. The area is a typical northeast urban-suburban setting with residential streets, commercial establishments, rail and mall/strip plaza complexes. As indicated, the property is adjacent to a new solar array located just east.

A map locating the site is included in Appendix C.

History of Site Use, Investigation, and Cleanup

The property has been vacant with the exception of some rail lines. The property may have been filled in the past. Historic aerial photographs indicate substantial disturbance over the history of the property and the initial subsurface assessment suggests fill materials including ash, pieces of cement, brick, clay pipe and glass.

The contaminants related to the site that are known or suspected are metals and semi-volatile organic compounds which are mostly polyaromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) compounds. These are most likely associated with fill materials brought to the property. Please note, PAH compounds are a group of chemicals that are formed during incomplete burning of wood, coal, gas, garbage, or other organic substances and are widely

distributed in the environment and particularly in older urban environments where coal, gas, and petroleum were burned for heat and other energy uses. PAH compounds are common constituents of fill material found in urban environments, and are typically associated with both fill material, coal tar, and asphalt-based materials or ash and are frequently found in rail base materials.

An environmental assessment was completed by the site developer on the property to assess the environmental nature prior to re-development plans. The assessment indicated that there are urban fill conditions existing at the properties ranging from at least one to three (1-3) or more feet below ground surface. Soil sample laboratory results from this fill material indicated elevated metal and semi-volatile compounds (primarily PAHs compounds) above NYSDEC restricted residential, commercial and industrial soil cleanup objectives SCOs.

The remedial plan will be finalized after the remedial investigation but will include excavation and removal of fill materials and replacement with clean materials or hardscape.

5. Investigation and Cleanup Process

Application

The Applicant has applied for and been accepted into New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) as a volunteer. This means that the Applicant was not responsible for the disposal or discharge of the contaminants or whose ownership or operation of the site took place after the discharge or disposal of contaminants. The Volunteer must fully characterize the nature and extent of contamination onsite, and must conduct a "qualitative exposure assessment," a process that characterizes the actual or potential exposures of people, fish and wildlife to contaminants on the site and to contamination that has migrated from the site.

The Applicant in its Application proposes that the site will be used for either restricted residential or unrestricted purposes. To achieve this goal, the Applicant will conduct additional investigations and will perform cleanup activities at the site with oversight provided by NYSDEC. The Brownfield Cleanup Agreement executed by NYSDEC and the Applicant sets forth the responsibilities of each party in conducting these activities at the site.

Investigation

The Applicant has completed a partial site investigation before it entered into the BCP. For the partial investigation, NYSDEC will determine if the data are useable.

The Applicant will conduct an investigation of the site officially called a “remedial investigation” (RI). This investigation will be performed with NYSDEC oversight. The Applicant must develop a remedial investigation workplan, which is subject to public comment.

The site investigation has several goals:

- 1) define the nature and extent of contamination in soil, surface water, groundwater and any other parts of the environment that may be affected;
- 2) identify the source(s) of the contamination;
- 3) assess the impact of the contamination on public health and the environment; and
- 4) provide information to support the development of a proposed remedy to address the contamination or the determination that cleanup is not necessary.

The Applicant submits a draft “Remedial Investigation Work Plan” to NYSDEC for review and approval. NYSDEC makes the draft plan available to the public review during a 30-day public comment period.

When the investigation is complete, the Applicant will prepare and submit a report that summarizes the results. This report also will recommend whether cleanup action is needed to address site-related contamination. The investigation report is subject to review and approval by NYSDEC.

NYSDEC will use the information in the investigation report to determine if the site poses a significant threat to public health or the environment. If the site is a “significant threat,” it must be cleaned up using a remedy selected by NYSDEC from an analysis of alternatives prepared by the Applicant and approved by NYSDEC. If the site does not pose a significant threat, the Applicant may select the remedy from the approved analysis of alternatives.

Interim Remedial Measures

An Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) is an action that can be undertaken at a site when a source of contamination or exposure pathway can be effectively addressed before the site investigation and analysis of alternatives are completed. If an IRM is likely to represent all or a significant part of the final remedy, NYSDEC will require a 30-day public comment period.

Remedy Selection

When the investigation of the site has been determined to be complete, the project likely would proceed in one of two directions:

1. The Applicant may recommend in its investigation report that no action is necessary at

the site. In this case, NYSDEC would make the investigation report available for public comment for 45 days. NYSDEC then would complete its review, make any necessary revisions, and, if appropriate, approve the investigation report. NYSDEC would then issue a “Certificate of Completion” (described below) to the Applicant.

or

2. The Applicant may recommend in its investigation report that action needs to be taken to address site contamination. After NYSDEC approves the investigation report, the Applicant may then develop a cleanup plan, officially called a “Remedial Work Plan”. The Remedial Work Plan describes the Applicant’s proposed remedy for addressing contamination related to the site.

When the Applicant submits a draft Remedial Work Plan for approval, NYSDEC would announce the availability of the draft plan for public review during a 45-day public comment period.

Cleanup Action

NYSDEC will consider public comments, and revise the draft cleanup plan if necessary, before approving the proposed remedy. The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) must concur with the proposed remedy. After approval, the proposed remedy becomes the selected remedy. The selected remedy is formalized in the site Decision Document.

The Applicant may then design and perform the cleanup action to address the site contamination. NYSDEC and NYSDOH oversee the activities. When the Applicant completes cleanup activities, it will prepare a final engineering report that certifies that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved within a specific time frame. NYSDEC will review the report to be certain that the cleanup is protective of public health and the environment for the intended use of the site.

Certificate of Completion

When NYSDEC is satisfied that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved for the site, it will approve the final engineering report. NYSDEC then will issue a Certificate of Completion (COC) to the Applicant. The COC states that cleanup goals have been achieved, and relieves the Applicant from future liability for site-related contamination, subject to certain conditions. The Applicant would be eligible to redevelop the site after it receives a COC.

Site Management

The purpose of site management is to ensure the safe reuse of the property if contamination will remain in place. Site management is the last phase of the site cleanup program. This phase begins when the COC is issued. Site management incorporates any institutional and engineering controls required to ensure that the remedy implemented for the site remains protective of public health and the environment. All significant activities are detailed in a Site Management Plan.

An *institutional control* is a non-physical restriction on use of the site, such as a deed restriction that would prevent or restrict certain uses of the property. An institutional control may be used when the cleanup action leaves some contamination that makes the site suitable for some, but not all uses.

An *engineering control* is a physical barrier or method to manage contamination. Examples include: caps, covers, barriers, fences, and treatment of water supplies.

Site management also may include the operation and maintenance of a component of the remedy, such as a system that pumps and treats groundwater. Site management continues until NYSDEC determines that it is no longer needed.

Appendix A - Project Contacts and Locations of Reports and Information

Project Contacts

For information about the site's investigation and cleanup program, the public may contact any of the following project staff:

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC):

Assistant Engineer, Division of
Environmental Remediation/Project
Manager
NYSDEC Region 9
Division of Environmental Remediation
700 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209
P: (716) 851-7220

Kayla Baker
Citizen Participation Specialist
NYSDEC
700 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209
716-851-7220

New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH):

New York State Department of Health
(NYSDOH):
NYSDOH
Empire State Plaza
Corning Tower, Room 1787
Albany, NY 12237
518-402-7860

Locations of Reports and Information

The facilities identified below are being used to provide the public with convenient access to important project documents:

April Tompkins
Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
1 Lafayette Square
Buffalo, NY 14203
Phone: (716) 858-8900
Hours: M-Sat. – 9-5 Sunday 12-5

NYSDEC – Region 9
700 Delaware Ave, Buffalo, NY 14209
Attn: Matthew King Phone: 716-851-
7220
Hours: 8:30-4:45 (call for appointment)

Appendix B - Site Contact List

All of the following contacts and adjacent property owners will receive fact sheets throughout the project duration.

Erie County Contacts:

Honorable Mark Poloncarz

Erie County Executive

95 Franklin Street

Buffalo, NY 14202

Daniel Castle, AICP

County Environment and Planning Commissioner

Edward A. Rath County Office Building

95 Franklin Street, 16th Floor

Buffalo, NY 14202

Phone: (716) 858-8500

Hon. Michael H. Kooshoian

Erie County Legislator - District 3

1701 Hertel Ave.,

Buffalo, NY 14216

Mr. Michael P. Kearns

Erie County Clerk

92 Franklin Street

Buffalo, NY 14202

Mr. John Cappellino
President & CEO
Eire County Industrial Development Agency - ECIDA
95 Perry Street – Suite 403
Buffalo, NY 14203

Commissioner Gale Burstein, MD
Erie County Health Department (ECDOH)
95 Franklin Street, Room 931
Buffalo, NY 14202

Commissioner Daniel Neaverth, Jr.
Erie County Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Services
45 Elm Street
Buffalo, NY 14203

City of Buffalo Contacts:

Christopher P. Scanlon
City of Buffalo Mayor 65 Niagara Square
Buffalo, NY 14202

Crystal Middleton Director of Planning
65 Niagara Square, Room 901
Buffalo, NY 14202

Joseph Golombek Jr.

North District Council Member 65 Niagara Sq., Rm. 1502

Buffalo, NY 14202

James K. Morrell

City of Buffalo Chairman 65 Niagara Square

Buffalo, NY 14202

City Water

Buffalo Water Department Veolia Water

2 Porter Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14201

Erie County Water Authority 295 Main Street #350

Buffalo, NY 14203

Local News/Media

Buffalo News 1News Plaza

Buffalo, New York 14240

WGRZ TV - Ch. 2

259 Delaware Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14202

WIVB - Ch. 4

2077 Elmwood Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14207

WKBW News Channel 7 7 Broadcast Plaza

Buffalo, NY 14202

WJYE

ATTN: Environmental News Desk 1700 Rand Building

Buffalo, NY 14203

Business First 465 Main Street

Buffalo, NY 14203-1793

WBEN News Radio 930 Entercom Radio of Buffalo

500 Corporate Pkwy, Suite 200

Buffalo, NY 14226

Buffalo Rising

617 Main St., Suite 203, Buffalo, New York 14203

Nearby Schools & Day Cares

Public School 79

225 Lawn Ave,

Buffalo, NY 14216

Holy Cross Head Start Program

155 Lawn Ave,

Buffalo, NY 14207

KIAS LITTLE ANGELS DAYCARE LLC

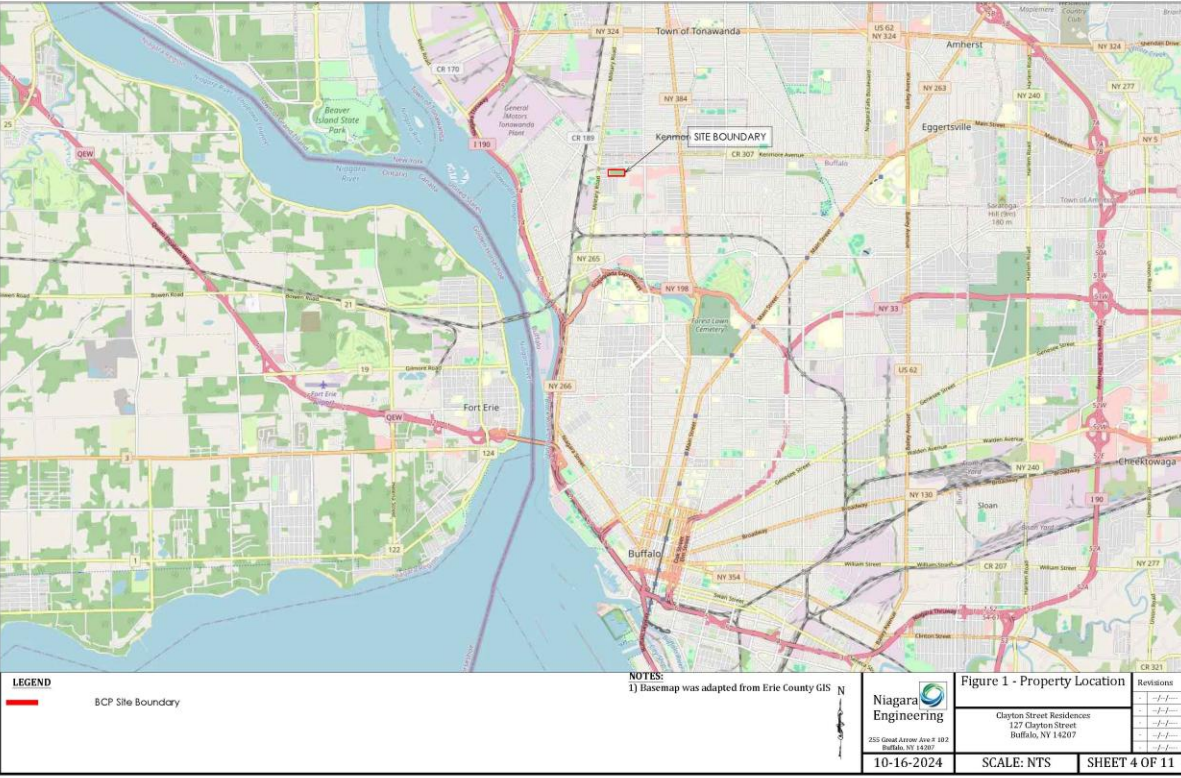
1846 Kenmore Ave Apt D, Buffalo, NY 14216

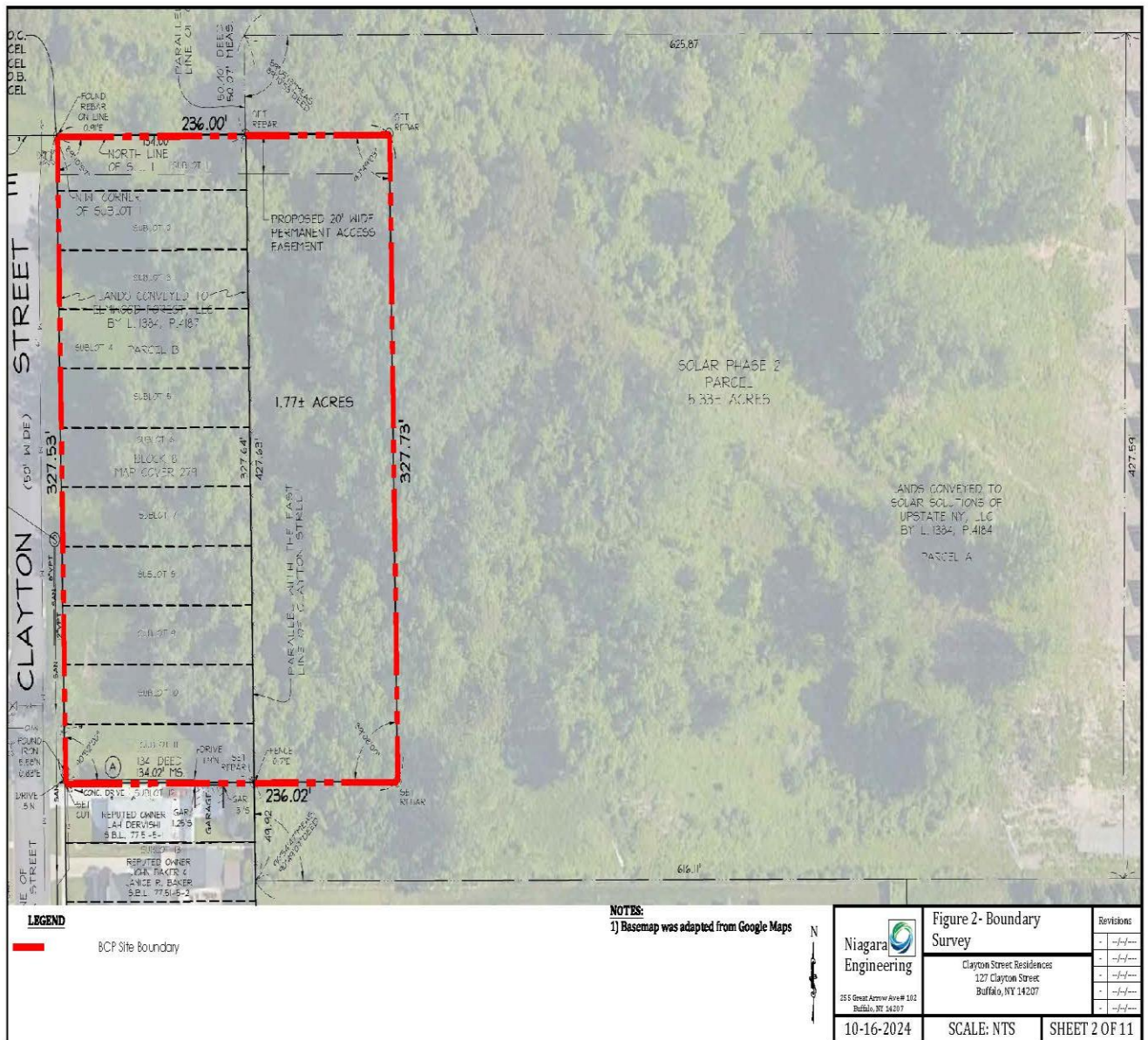
West Hertel Academy
489 Hertel Ave,
Buffalo, NY 14207

Document Repository

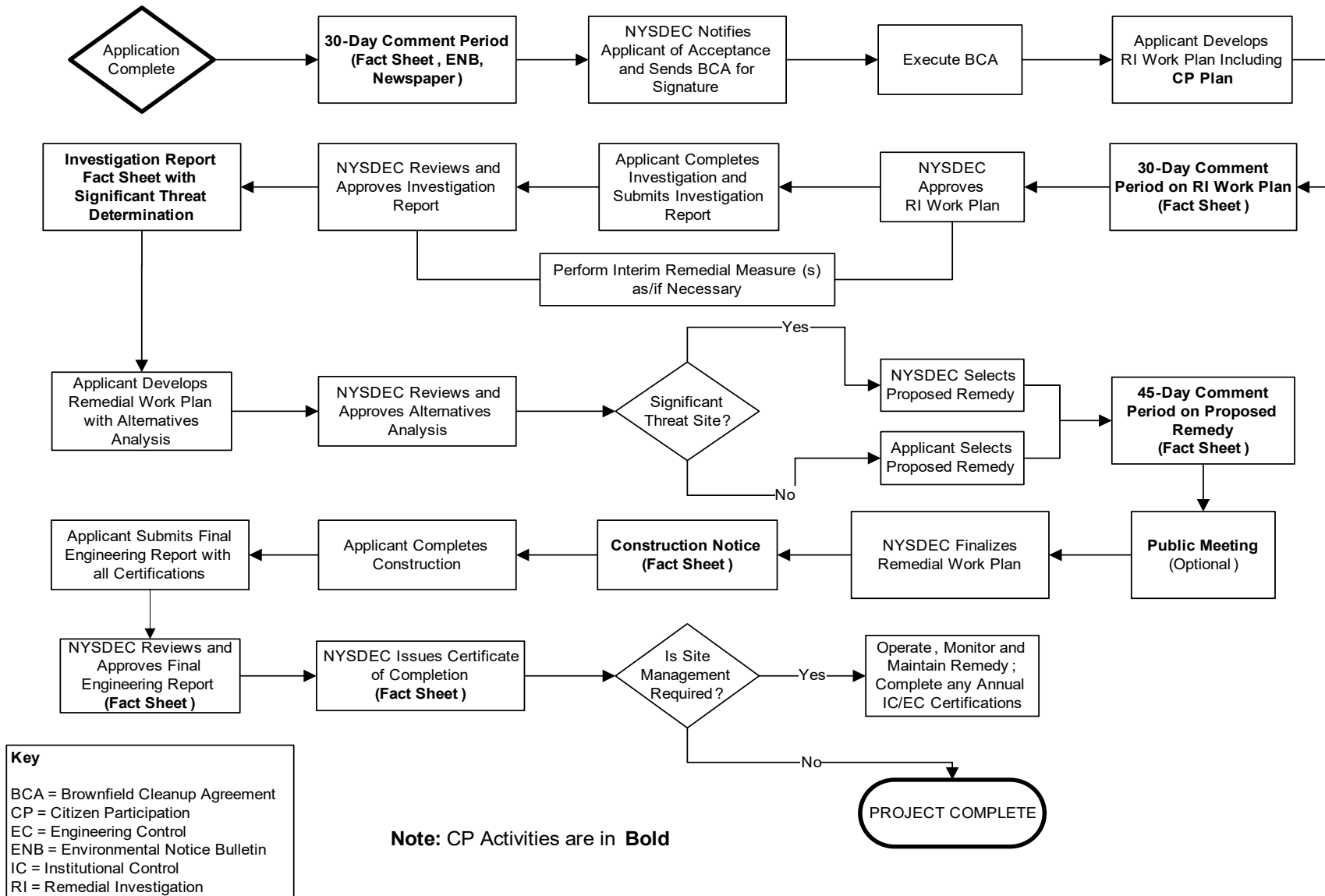
April Tompkins
Buffalo and Erie County Public Library 1 Lafayette Square
Buffalo, NY 14203

Appendix C - Site Location





Appendix D– Brownfield Cleanup Program Process





Division of Environmental Remediation

Remedial Programs Scoping Sheet for Major Issues of Public Concern

Instructions

This Scoping Sheet assesses major issues of public concern; impacts of the site and its remedial program on the community; community interest in the site; information the public needs; and information needed from the public.

The information generated helps to plan and conduct required citizen participation (CP) activities, and to choose and conduct additional CP activities, if appropriate. The scoping sheet can be revisited and updated as appropriate during the site's remedial process to more effectively implement the site's CP program.

Note: Use the information as an aid to prepare and update the Major Issues of Public Concern section of the site CP Plan.

General Instructions

- When to prepare: During preparation of the CP Plan for the site. It can be revisited and updated anytime during the site remedial process.
- Fill in site name and other information as appropriate.
- The Scoping Sheet may be prepared by DEC or a remedial party, but must be reviewed and approved by the DER site project manager or his/her designee.

Instructions for Numbered Parts

Consider the bulleted issues and questions below and any others that may be unique or appropriate to the site and the community to help complete the five Parts of this Scoping Sheet. Identify the issue stakeholders in Parts 1 through 3 and adjust the site's contact list accordingly.

Part 1. List Major Issues of Public Concern and Information the Community Wants.

- Is our health being impacted? (e.g. Are there problems with our drinking water or air? Are you going to test our water, yards, sumps, basements? Have health studies been done?)
- There are odors in the neighborhood. Do they come from the site and are they hazardous?
- Are there restrictions on what we may do (e.g. Can our children play outside? Can we garden? Must we avoid certain areas? Can we recreate (fish, hunt, hike, etc. on/around the site?)
- How and when were the site's contamination problems created?
- What contaminants are of concern and why? How will you look for contamination and find out where it is going? What is the schedule for doing that?
- The site is affecting our property values!
- How can we get more information (e.g. who are the project contacts?)
- How will we be kept informed and involved during the site remedial process?
- Who has been contacted in the community about site remedial activities?
- What has been done to this point? What happens next and when?
- The site is going to be cleaned up for restricted use. What does that mean? We don't want redevelopment on a "dirty" site.

Part 2. List Important Information Needed From the Community, if Applicable.

- Can the community supplement knowledge about past/current uses of the site?
- Does the community have knowledge that the site may be significantly impacting nearby people, properties, natural resources, etc.?
- Are activities currently taking place at the site or at nearby properties that may need to be restricted?
- Who may be interested or affected by the site that has not yet been identified?
- Are there unique community characteristics that could affect how information is exchanged?
- Does the community and/or individuals have any concerns they want monitored?
- Does the community have information about other sources in the area for the contamination?

Part 3. List Major Issues and Information That Need to be Communicated to the Community.

- Specific site investigation or remediation activities currently underway, or that will begin in the near future.
- The process and general schedule to investigate, remediate and, if applicable, redevelop the site.
- Current understanding about the site contamination and effects, if any, on public health and the environment.
- Site impacts on the community and any restrictions on the public's use of the site and/or nearby properties.
- Planned CP activities, their schedule, and how they relate to the site's remedial process.
- Ways for the community to obtain/provide information (document repositories, contacts, etc.).

Part 4. Community Characteristics

a. - e. Obtain information from local officials, property owners and residents, site reports, site visits, "windshield surveys," other staff, etc.

f. Has the affected community experienced other **significant** present or past environmental problems unrelated to this site? Such experiences could significantly affect public concerns and perspectives about the site; how the community will relate to project staff; the image and credibility of project staff within the community; and the ways in which project staff communicate with the community.

g. In its remedial programs, DER seeks to integrate, and be consistent with, environmental justice principles set forth in *DEC Commissioner Policy 29 on Environmental Justice* and *DER 23 – Citizen Participation Handbook for Remedial Programs*. Is the site and/or affected community wholly or partly in an Environmental Justice (EJ) Area? Use the Search feature on DEC's public web site for "environmental justice". DEC's EJ pages define an EJ area, and link to county maps to help determine if the site and/or community are in an EJ area.

h. Consider factors such as:

- Is English the primary language of the affected community? If not, provisions should be considered regarding public outreach activities such as fact sheets, meetings, door-to-door visits and other activities to ensure their effectiveness.
- The age demographics of the community. For example, is there a significant number of senior citizens in the community? It may be difficult for some to attend public meetings and use document repositories. This may suggest adopting more direct interaction with the community with activities such as door-to-door visits, additional fact sheets, visits to community and church centers, nursing homes, etc.
- How do people travel about the community? Would most people drive to a public meeting or document repository? Is there adequate public transportation?

Part 5. Affected/Interested Public.

Individuals and organizations who need or want information and input can change during the site's remedial process. This need is influenced by real, potential, or perceived impacts of the site or the remedial process. Some people may want information and input throughout the remedial process. Others may participate only during specific remedial stages, or may only be interested in particular issues.

It is important to revisit this question when reviewing this scoping sheet. Knowing who is interested in the site – and the issues that are important to them – will help to select and conduct appropriate outreach activities, and to identify their timing and the information to be exchanged.

Check all affected/interested parties that apply to the site. **Note: Adjust the site's contact list appropriately.** The following are some ways to identify affected/interested parties:

- Tax maps of adjacent property owners
- Attendees at public meetings
- Telephone discussions
- Letters and e-mails to DER, the remedial party, and other agencies
- Political jurisdictions and boundaries
- Media coverage
- Current/proposed uses of site and/or nearby properties (recreational, commercial, industrial)
- Discussions with community organizations: grass roots organizations, local environmental groups, environmental justice groups, churches, and neighborhood advisory groups



Division of Environmental Remediation

Remedial Programs
Scoping Sheet for Major Issues of Public Concern (see instructions)

Site Name: Clayton Street Residences

Site Number: Site # C915409

Site Address and County: 127 Clayton Street, Buffalo, Erie County, New York 14207

Remedial Party(ies): Elmwood Forest, LLC

Note: For Parts 1. – 3. the individuals, groups, organizations, businesses and units of government identified should be added to the site contact list as appropriate.

Part 1. List major issues of public concern and information the community wants. Identify individuals, groups, organizations, businesses and/or units of government related to the issue(s) and information needs. **Use this information as an aid to prepare or update the Major Issues of Public Concern section of the site Citizen Participation Plan.**

There are no issues of major concern affecting the public with existing site conditions. Environmental impacts identified associated with the property are restricted to the property and are associated with fill placed on the property. These are not currently affecting any properties outside the site. Once remedial actions occur on the property, they will involve removal/covering of soils that are impacted by industrial levels of non-volatile organic compounds. Dust associated with these remedial efforts will be monitored and suppressed in accordance with an approved community air monitoring plan.

How were these issues and/or information needs identified?

The known information on the subject property was identified during an assessment of subsurface soils to determine if the property was eligible for brownfields.

Part 2. List important information needed **from** the community, if applicable. Identify individuals, groups, organizations, businesses and/or units of government related to the information needed.

At this time there is no information needed from the community. However, the community should feel free to provide any information it deems necessary concerning: past/current uses of the site; knowledge that the site may be significantly impacting nearby people, properties, or natural resources. Additionally, any additional information or concerns should be brought to the NYSDEC attention.

How were these information needs identified?

At this time no additional information needs were identified

Part 3. List major issues and information that need to be communicated **to** the community. Identify individuals, groups, organizations, businesses and/or units of government related to the issue(s) and/or information.

Site investigation including soil, groundwater and possibly soil vapor will begin within the next month. Based on those results, removal or coving of soil will occur. Investigation and re-development will occur over the next year. As mentioned, currently there are no site impacts on the community or restrictions on the public's use of nearby properties. Public notices will be sent to adjacent property owners and key public officials at every key juncture including prior to investigations and remedial actions. All key documents will be provided to the document repository.

How were these issues and/or information needs identified?

Through technical review of site history and Phase II ESA findings.

Part 4. Identify the following characteristics of the affected/interested community. This knowledge will help to identify and understand issues and information important to the community, and ways to effectively develop and implement the site citizen participation plan (mark all that apply):

a. Land use/zoning at and around site:

☒ **Residential** ☐ **Agricultural** ☐ **Recreational** ☒ **Commercial** ☒ **Industrial**

b. Residential type around site:

☒ **Urban** ☐ **Suburban** ☐ **Rural**

c. Population density around site:

☐ **High** ☒ **Medium** ☐ **Low**

d. Water supply of nearby residences:

☒ **Public** ☐ **Private Wells** ☐ **Mixed**

e. Is part or all of the water supply of the affected/interested community currently impacted by the site?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

Provide details if appropriate:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

f. Other environmental issues significantly impacted/impacting the affected community?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

Provide details if appropriate:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

g. Is the site and/or the affected/interested community wholly or partly in an Environmental Justice Area?

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

h. Special considerations:

☐ **Language** ☐ **Age** ☐ **Transportation** ☐ **Other**

Explain any marked categories in **h**:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Part 5. The site contact list must include, at a minimum, the individuals, groups, and organizations identified in Part 2. of the Citizen Participation Plan under 'Site Contact List'. Are *other* individuals, groups, organizations, and units of government affected by, or interested in, the site, or its remedial program? (Mark and identify all that apply, then adjust the site contact list as appropriate.)

☐ **Non-Adjacent Residents/Property Owners:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

☒ **Local Officials:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

☒ **Media:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

☐ **Business/Commercial Interests:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

☐ **Labor Group(s)/Employees:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

☐ **Indian Nation:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

- ☐ **Citizens/Community Group(s):** Click here to enter text.
- ☐ **Environmental Justice Group(s):** Click here to enter text.
- ☐ **Environmental Group(s):** Click here to enter text.
- ☐ **Civic Group(s):** Click here to enter text.
- ☐ **Recreational Group(s):** Click here to enter text.
- ☐ **Other(s):** Click here to enter text.

Prepared/Updated By: Peter J Gorton

Date: 11-26-2024

Reviewed/Approved By: Akos Seres

Date: 11-26-2024