



FACT SHEET

Investigation and Cleanup Activities to Begin at 1501 College Avenue Site in Niagara Falls

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Project No. C932134

September 2010

Introduction

Environmental investigation and cleanup activities have begun at the 1501 College Avenue site in Niagara Falls. The site was once the location of the Union Carbide plant and heavy industrial manufacturing. The site is now contaminated with metals, semi-volatile compounds (SVOCs), and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

Work at the site is being conducted under New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP), a program that encourages private individuals, developers, or businesses to voluntarily clean up and redevelop former brownfield sites. Santarosa Holdings, Inc., the BCP Applicant, is performing the investigation and cleanup activities, with oversight from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).



Site Location Map for 1501 College Avenue Site

Highlights of the Environmental Investigation

The environmental investigation has several goals:

- Define the nature and extent of contamination in soil, surface water, groundwater and any other impacted media;
- Identify the source(s) of the contamination;
- Assess the impact of the contamination on public health and/or the environment; and
- Provide information to support the development of a Remedial Action Work Plan, if required upon completion of IRM activities, to address the contamination.

The investigation includes the following activities:

- Completing test pits and soil borings, and installing groundwater monitoring wells on-site;
- Collecting surface samples across the Site;
- Collecting sediment samples from within sumps and catch basins;
- Analyzing surface and subsurface soil, sediment and groundwater samples to assess soil, sediment and groundwater quality and to collect site-specific hydrogeological data; and,
- Sampling contents of drums and other containers for waste characterization and disposal purposes.

Highlights of the Interim Remedial Measures

In concurrence with RI activities, cleanup action will immediately address environmental concerns at the site. The planned cleanup approach and related activities include the following:

- Excavating and properly disposing visibly-impacted surface soils;

- Removing soil/fill/debris piles;
- Removing and properly disposing aboveground storage tanks, drums and other containers;
- Removing underground storage tanks (USTs), if encountered;
- Excavating and properly disposing petroleum-impacted subsurface soil/fill in the area of historic USTs, if encountered;
- Removing and properly disposing galbestos roofing and siding materials;
- Placing a soil cover system, if necessary; and
- Implementing a Soil/Fill Management Plan during redevelopment.

Next Steps

Santarosa Holdings, Inc. began the environmental investigation and cleanup work at the site early in September 2010. The work is expected to continue through Fall 2010. Following completion of the work, Santarosa will prepare a report called the Remedial Investigation / Interim Remedial Measures / Alternatives Analysis (RI/IRM/AA) Report, which will describe the findings of the investigation and the cleanup actions that were performed. The report will also explain cleanup alternatives that can be taken, if necessary, to address any remaining contamination.

Background

The Site is currently an abandoned industrial site located in a heavy industrial area of Niagara Falls, New York. The Site is bound by College Avenue to the north, with a private gated access road along the western property boundary, and industrial properties to the east and south. Site neighbors include industrial/commercial buildings to the north, south, east, and west of the Site, with residential properties located approximately 500 feet to the southwest of the subject property.

The Site was used for heavy industrial manufacturing from at least 1910 to the mid-1980s, and at one time was part of a larger Union Carbide Co. manufacturing complex encompassing the Site and the eastern and western adjoining parcels. Previous investigations of the Site and the adjoining eastern site (former Hazorb Site) have identified elevated semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), metals and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) as contaminants of concern. Areas of concern include former aboveground and underground tank areas, former transformer areas, soil/fill/debris piles, areas of drum storage and floor drains, sumps and vaults, areas of visibly-stained soil, former illegal scrapping areas and numerous areas of general dumping.

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

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

Project Related Questions
Mr. Jeffrey Konsella, P.E.
NYSDEC
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14203
716-851-7220
region9@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Health Related Questions
Mr. Matthew Forcucci
New York State Department of Health
584 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202
716-847-4501
mjf13@health.state.ny.us

Locations for Viewing Public Documents

The public may view project documents at two locations, including:

Niagara Falls Public Library
1425 Main Street
Niagara Falls, New York 14304
Phone: (716) 283-8309

Doris Jones Family Resource Center
3001 9th Street
Niagara Falls, New York 14305
Phone: (716) 285-5374

NYSDEC Region 9 Office
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14203
Phone: (716) 851-7220

Electronic versions of project documents are also available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/68496.html>.