



# FACT SHEET

## NYSDEC Certifies Cleanup at 3807 Highland Avenue (Globe and Solsil) Site in Niagara Falls

Brownfield Cleanup Program

No. C932145

June 2010

### Introduction

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has determined that Globe Metallurgical, Inc., and Solsil, Inc. (Globe and Solsil) have achieved cleanup requirements to address contamination at the 3807 Highland Avenue Site, located at 3807 Highland Avenue in Niagara Falls, Niagara County under New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP).

NYSDEC has issued a Certificate of Completion to the applicants regarding the Site. The applicants are now eligible to redevelop the Site. A copy of the Notice of the Certificate of Completion is available at the locations identified in this fact sheet.



*Globe and Solsil Site Location Map*

### What Actions Were Taken to Address Contamination at the Site?

To address contamination, Globe and Solsil completed Interim Remedial Measures (IRMs), cleanup actions that may be conducted without extensive investigation in order to address obvious environmental problems and reduce risk to public health and the environment. The IRM measures included:

- Excavating impacted surface and subsurface soils and properly disposing them;
- Removing impacted sediments, stack deposits, drums and other containers and properly disposing them;
- Cleaning and removing aboveground storage tanks;
- Developing a Soil/Fill Management Plan to be implemented during redevelopment; and
- Preparing a Site Management Plan and an environmental easement that describes institutional controls for the site (see below).

The IRM was completed in March 2010. Because it successfully addressed contamination, it served as the final remedy for the site. The NYSDEC approved the Final Engineering Report (FER) and Site Management Plan (SMP) in June 2010, and the Certificate of Completion was issued on June 29, 2010.

### Are Controls In Place to Ensure the Effectiveness of the Cleanup?

Institutional controls and engineering controls generally are designed to reduce or eliminate exposure to contaminants of concern. An *institutional control* is a non-physical restriction placed on a site to prevent some uses when contamination left over after the cleanup makes the site suitable for some, but not all uses. An *engineering control* is a physical barrier or method to manage contamination. No engineering control was implemented at the Site.

The following institutional controls have been placed on the site:

- Site use is restricted to industrial purposes per the Environmental Easement filed with Niagara County;
- Any use of groundwater as a source of potable or process water without necessary water quality treatment, as determined by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), and prior notification and approval of the NYSDEC, shall not be permitted;
- Future intrusive activities and soil/fill handling at the Site must be completed in a safe, environmentally responsible manner in accordance with the Excavation Work Plan found in the SMP; and
- A Site-wide Inspection assuring that the Institutional Controls have not been altered and remain effective must be conducted in accordance with the SMP.

### **Next Steps**

NYSDEC issued the Certificate of Completion based on review and approval of a Final Engineering Report submitted by the applicant. With its receipt of a Certificate of Completion, the applicant is eligible to redevelop the site. In addition, the applicant

- has no liability for contamination at or coming from the site, subject to certain conditions; and
- is eligible for tax credits to offset cleanup and redevelopment costs.

A Certificate of Completion may be modified or revoked if, for example, the applicant commits fraud regarding its application or its certification that it has met cleanup levels.

### **Background**

The Globe and Solsil Site is located in a heavily industrialized area of Niagara Falls and is surrounded by current or former heavy industrial properties that may also be impacting the Site. It was used for heavy industrial manufacturing since at least 1913. Most recently, the Site was used to manufacture silicon and ferrosilicon metals. Operations at the Site ceased in 2003, but Globe reactivated a portion of the facility in October 2009.

### **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. Michael Hinton  
NYSDEC  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14203  
716-851-7220

#### **Health Related Questions**

Mr. Matthew Forcucci  
NYSDOH  
584 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14202  
716-847-4501

### **Locations for Viewing Public Documents**

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

#### **Niagara Falls Public Library**

1425 Main Street  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304  
Phone: (716) 283-8309

#### **Doris Jones Family Resource Center**

3001 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Niagara Falls, NY 14305  
Phone: (716) 285-5374

#### **NYSDEC Region 9 Office**

270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
Phone: (716) 851-7220

Electronic versions of project documents are also available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/50224.html>.