



FACT SHEET

Remedial Investigation Work Plan for 6100 – 6200 Niagara Falls Boulevard (Former SGL Carbon) Site Available for Public Comment

June 2009

Project No. C932146

Introduction

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) welcomes public comment as it reviews a draft Remedial Investigation (RI) Work Plan for the 6100–6200 Niagara Falls Blvd. (Former SGL Carbon) Site in Niagara Falls, Niagara County. The work plan outlines an environmental investigation to be performed at the site. Previous industrial activities at the site have contaminated soil, groundwater, and soil vapor. A Remedial Investigation will help to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the site as well as options for cleaning it up if necessary.

The investigation work will 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. Ashland Advanced Materials, LLC volunteered to clean up the site and plans to reuse it to expand their graphite products manufacturing facility in support of the solar energy industry.



Public Comments about the Remedial Investigation Work Plan

The RI Work Plan is available for public viewing at the locations listed in this fact sheet. NYSDEC will accept written public comments about the RI Work Plan for 30 days, from **June 10 to July 9, 2009**. Written comments should be submitted to the DEC project manager listed on the following page.

Site Background

The project site includes two adjoining parcels located at 6100 and 6200 Niagara Falls Boulevard in a mixed industrial / commercial area of Niagara Falls, New York. It totals approximately 15 acres. Four manufacturing buildings, paved roads and parking lots cover most of the site, which is currently vacant.

In the late 1950's, Great Lakes Carbon Corporation began producing graphite at the site. In the decades that followed, a number of different companies continued to produce and/or research graphite. The last occupant, SGL Carbon, vacated the property in 2002. Manufacturing operations have not been conducted since 1998.

Previous environmental investigations at the site revealed a number of environmental impacts. Materials such as ash, graphite, and demolition debris littered the surface of the site, and investigators located a 10,000 gallon fuel oil

underground storage tank. Samples of soils, groundwater, and soil vapor revealed concentrations of various organic compounds and/or metals that exceeded New York State standards.

What Will the Upcoming Investigation Work Involve?

The planned remedial investigation will provide further environmental data to determine the nature and extent of contamination and if certain areas of the site require cleanup or other remedial precautions. The RI work will include:

- Drilling soil borings;
- Excavating test pits;
- Installing groundwater monitoring wells, and
- Sampling and analyzing surface and subsurface soil, fill materials, surface water, sediment, groundwater, and sub-slab soil vapor to evaluate risks to human health, if any.

Possible Health Impacts

A previous investigation at the site identified contamination in site soil, groundwater, and soil vapor. There are no known immediate health impacts to site-users and the surrounding community. However, additional sampling and evaluation of potential health risks is warranted and will be completed during the remedial investigation.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments before it approves the RI work plan. The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) must concur in the approval of the 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 it is approved, Ashland Advanced Materials, LLC may proceed with the environmental investigation at the site. The RI is expected to begin in Fall 2009. NYSDEC will keep the public informed during the cleanup and redevelopment process of the 6100-6200 Niagara Falls Blvd site through fact sheets similar to this one.

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

Site-Related Environmental Questions

Mr. Jeffrey A. Konsella, Project Manager
NYSDEC
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 851-7220

Site-Related Health Questions

Mr. Matthew J. Forcucci, Public Health Specialist III
NYSDOH
584 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 847-4385

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:

Niagara Falls Public Library

LaSalle branch
8728 Buffalo Ave.
Niagara Falls, New York 14304
Phone: (716) 283-8309
Hours: Mon to Sat, 10:00 to 6:00 PM

NYSDEC Region 9 Office

270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14203-2999
Phone: (716) 851-7220
Hours: M-F 8:30am-4:45pm
(Please call for appointment)

You may also view project documents on NYSDEC's Region 9 Environmental Remediation Project Information page at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37554.html>. Look for the SGL Carbon entry under the Niagara County heading.