

Mr. Michael Hinton
N.Y.S. D.E.C., Region 9
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203



Erin M. Crotty
Commissioner

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Dear Interested Citizen:

This Fact Sheet is to tell you about the upcoming Remedial Investigation at the Niacet Corporation facility in the City of Niagara Falls. If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact:

Mr. Michael Hinton
Project Manager
NYSDEC
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 851-7220

or

Mr. Michael Podd
Public Affairs
NYSDEC
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 851-7220

For site related health questions, please contact the following New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) representatives at:

Mr. Matthew Forcucci
NYSDOH
584 Delaware Ave
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 847-4385

or

Mr. Mark VanValkenburg
NYSDOH
547 River Street
Troy, New York 12180
1 (800) 458-1158, Ext. 27860

FACT SHEET

V00373-9
Corres. File

Niacet Corporation Facility Voluntary Cleanup Program Remedial Investigation

(Site V-00373-9)
City of Niagara Falls
February 2002

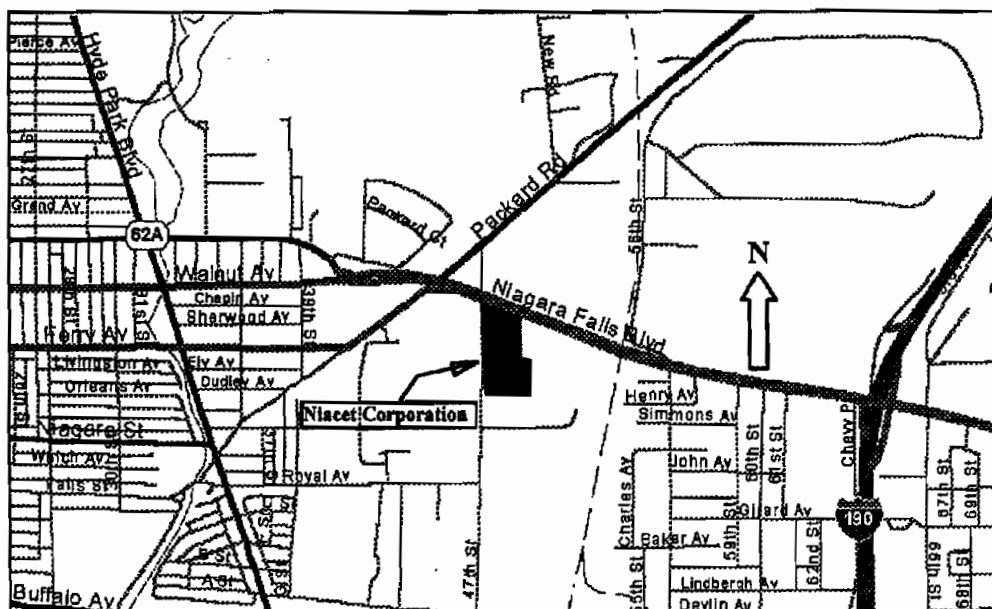
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INTRODUCTION

The Niacet Corporation is located on 400 47th Street in the City of Niagara Falls. Construction activities at the site have revealed the presence of mercury in soils at the plant. The previous owner, The Union Carbide Corporation (UCC), has entered into a voluntary agreement with the State of New York to investigate and remediate this contamination.

BACKGROUND

Operating under various corporate names, the facility produced acetaldehyde and related products from approximately 1925 to 1978. In 1978, the Niacet (Niacet) Corporation purchased the facility from UCC. Niacet currently produces chemical products for food, pharmaceutical and industrial applications, and anticipates continuation of these operations into the future. Recent excavations at the plant site revealed the presence of mercury in soil. Mercury was used at the site and mercury/aluminum sludge was identified as a waste generated at the site during UCC's tenure as plant operator. While no longer operating the facility, UCC has agreed to investigation of this contamination pursuant to the State Voluntary Cleanup Program.



Facility Location Map

PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

In 1978, the Union Carbide Corporation and the Niacet Corporation completed a New York State Hazardous Waste Survey report that identified the products produced, manufacturing processes and the waste and by-products generated at the facility. In 1987 the NUS Corporation conducted a Potential Hazardous Waste Site Preliminary Assessment for the USEPA. The NUS report indicated a low priority for further action and recommended followup site inspection on a time available basis.

REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION OBJECTIVES

As reported by the Union Carbide Corporation, the Niacet Corporation discovered mercury contaminated soil during construction activity at the facility. The extent and significance of the mercury and other contaminants present in soil and groundwater of the study area is unknown and will be determined during the Department approved investigation. The soil and groundwater in the study area will be evaluated for mercury and other inorganic contamination along with volatile organic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds, PCBs and pesticides/herbicides. The Department has approved the investigation work plan and expects fieldwork to begin soon.

DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES

The NYSDEC will distribute fact sheets, like this one, to keep you informed about activities at the site. We will place site documents, when available, in a repository so you can read them. The NYSDEC will establish a document repository for future reports and documents for the Niacet Corporation facility at:

Niagara Falls Public Library
1425 Main Street
Niagara Falls, NY
Reference Department
(716) 286-4881

NYSDEC's Buffalo Office
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, N.Y.
(716) 851-7220

Any **site related questions or concerns** can be addressed by contacting Mr. Michael Hinton, at (716) 851-7220; or by calling, toll free, 1-800-342-9296 and leaving your name, address and request.

For health related concerns regarding this site feel free to contact the New York State Department of Health's Mr. Matthew Forcucci, Assistant Environmental Engineer, at (716) 847-4385; or by calling Mr. Mark VanValkenburg, at 1 (800) 458-1158, Ext. 27860.

ABOUT THE VOLUNTARY CLEANUP PROGRAM

The Voluntary Cleanup Program was developed to enhance private sector cleanup of properties by enabling businesses to remediate sites using private rather than public funds, and to reduce the development pressures on "greenfield" sites. Under the Program, a volunteer agrees to investigate and remediate a site to a level which is protective of public health and the environment for the present or intended use of the property. Investigation and remediation is carried out under the oversight of NYSDEC and NYSDOH. When the volunteer completes the work, the State provides a release from State liability for the work done, returning the site to productive use. For more information regarding New York State's Voluntary Cleanup Program, please visit the Department's web site at: <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/der/vcp/vcpfs.html>.