



Steelfields Ltd. Project Bulletin

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Cleanup Activities Complete at Steelfields Site

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Final Engineering Report Available for Review

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New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in cooperation with New York State Department of Health (DOH) is pleased to announce that cleanup activities at the former Steelfields, Ltd. (Steelfields) site are complete. DEC has received a Final Engineering Report detailing work completed in Area 2 and 3 and is anticipating the report will be approved.

DEC is providing this bulletin to announce the satisfactory completion of the cleanup in Area 2 and 3 and the availability of the Final Engineering Report, as well as to update the community on the remainder of the site.

Site Background

In October 2002, Steelfields, Ltd purchased several vacant industrial properties in Buffalo, New York out of bankruptcy from the LTV Steel and Hanna Furnace Corporation. At the same time, Steelfields entered in to a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement (VCA) with DEC to clean up the site. The site had been impacted by industrial wastes associated with steel manufacturing operations by the LTV Steel and Hanna Furnace Corporations. The subject property was broken up into four areas based on operational and ownership history. After the initial purchase and cleanup agreement, Steelfields purchased the Former August Feine facility adjacent to Area II. DEC approved a cleanup plan in December 2002, and cleanup work in the four areas began shortly thereafter.

Progress to Date

When last updated the cleanup activities at the entire site were almost complete. A Construction Completion Report has been accepted for the Area 1 portion of the site and is available for review. In addition, DEC approved a Final Engineering Report for Area 4 (now HydroAir) and issued a Certificate of Completion in December 2007. Since then, all remaining work has been completed and a Final Engineering Report has been submitted documenting the cleanup in Areas 2 and 3.

Activities Completed

Cleanup activities completed include:

- Capping the containment cell in Area 2 with a polyethylene liner with appropriate barrier protection soils and topsoil. The cell, constructed to cover and enclose a number of buildings and hazardous wastes left onsite, has been seeded and vegetation established.
- Installing additional groundwater monitoring wells in Area 3. Groundwater monitoring has started.

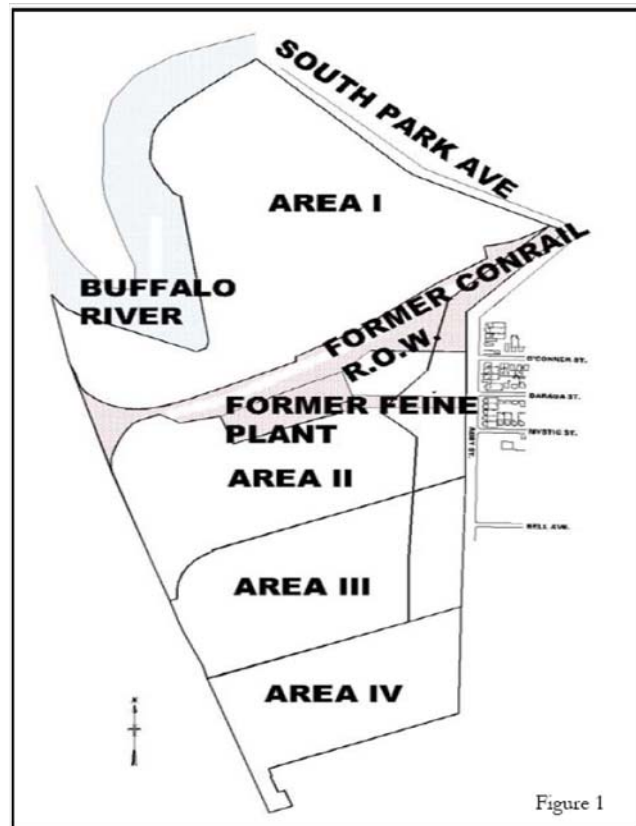


Figure 1

- Installing Oxygen Releasing Compound (ORC) socks into Area 3 wells to address low level benzene contamination. ORC socks are tubular bags that release oxygen into the groundwater to enhance degradation of benzene and other contaminants.
- Fencing off Area 2 and 3 and placing a vehicular traffic barrier consisting of pipes and cable around the containment cell.
- Demolishing the former August Feine office building.

Remaining Activities

Cleanup activities at the Steelfields Ltd. site are complete. A legal document will be filed with Erie County that details Operation and Maintenance requirements as well as restrictions on land use and groundwater use for all future owners of the property.

The Final Engineering Report

The Final Engineering Report describes the completed cleanup activities. It also includes a Site Management Plan which consists of required institutional and engineering controls as well as necessary operation, maintenance and monitoring required at the site. An *institutional control* is a non-physical restriction on use of the site, such as an environmental easement, when the remedial action leaves residual contamination that makes the site suitable for some, but not all uses. An *engineering control* is a physical barrier or method to manage contamination such as a soil cover or vapor barrier. For more information on institutional controls, please see the EPA's citizen's guide to institutional controls at www.epa.gov/superfund/policy/ic/guide/citguide.pdf.

For More Information

Documents describing the activities at the former Steelfields Site, including the Final Engineering Report, are available for your review at the locations listed below. You are encouraged to review these documents and to contact project managers should you have any questions.

Site-related documents are available for review at the following locations:

Dudley Branch Library
2010 South Park Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202

NYSDEC Region 9 Office
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14203
Appointment Needed – call 851-7220

Contact the following representatives for more information:

Maurice Moore
NYSDEC
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14203
(716) 851-7220

Cameron O'Connor
NYSDOH
584 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 847-4385

The Department would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience and participation in this monumental cleanup project. Your participation in the effort to restore and reuse properties impacted by the presence or potential presence of contaminants is important and appreciated. We hope that the remaining Steelfields property will be redeveloped to benefit the region. As demonstrated by the relocation of HydroAir to Area IV, land that was once undesirable can be returned to productive use.