



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

# FACT SHEET

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Former Barnet Mills

20 Forbes Avenue  
Rensselaer, Rensselaer County

SITE No. C442065

NYSDEC REGION 4

December 27, 2023

## Where to Find Information

Access project documents through the DECinfo Locator and at these location(s):

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/C442065/>

### Rensselaer Public Library

676 East Street  
Rensselaer, NY 12144  
518-462-1193  
[library@rensselaerlibrary.org](mailto:library@rensselaerlibrary.org)

## Who to Contact?

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

### Project-Related Questions

Matthew Dunham, Project Manager  
NYSDEC  
Region 4  
1130 North Westcott Road  
Schenectady, NY 12306-2014  
518-357-2396  
[matthew.dunham@dec.ny.gov](mailto:matthew.dunham@dec.ny.gov)

### Project-Related Health Questions

Christopher Budd  
NYSDOH  
Empire State Plaza  
Corning Tower Room 1787  
Albany, NY 12237  
518-402-1769  
[beci@health.ny.gov](mailto:beci@health.ny.gov)

For more information about New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program, visit:

[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html)

## Draft Investigation Work Plan for Brownfield Site Available for Public Comment

The public is invited to comment on a draft work plan being reviewed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to investigate the Former Barnet Mills site ("site") located at 20 Forbes Avenue, Rensselaer, Rensselaer County. Please see the map for the site location.

**Draft Investigation Work Plan:** The draft investigation work plan, called a "Remedial Investigation Work Plan," (RIWP) was submitted to NYSDEC under New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program. The investigation will be performed by BBL Barnett LLC ("applicant") with oversight by NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

**How to Comment:** NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the Draft RIWP for 30 days, from **December 27, 2023 through January 26, 2024**.

- Access the RIWP and other project documents online through the DECinfo Locator:  
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/C442065/>.
- Documents also are available at the location(s) identified at left under "Where to Find Information."
- Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project-Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area at left.

**Highlights of the Proposed Site Investigation:** The investigation will define the nature and extent of contamination in soil, surface water, groundwater and any other parts of the environment that may be affected.

Previous investigations have detected volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds (VOCs and SVOCs), metals and PCBs in soil and/or groundwater on site.

Key components of the investigation work include:

- Drilling and sampling soil borings to identify possible on-site sources of contamination;
- Collecting soil vapor, sub-slab soil vapor and indoor air samples (where applicable);

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- Installing and sampling groundwater wells to monitor impacts from areas of concern on-site; and
- Excavating test pits to observe subsurface conditions.

**Next Steps:** NYSDEC will consider public comments, revise the plan as necessary, and approve the work plan. NYSDOH must concur with the plan. After the work plan is approved, the activities detailed in the work plan will be implemented.

When the investigation is completed, a report will be prepared and submitted to NYSDEC that summarizes the results. NYSDEC will review the report, make any necessary revisions and, if appropriate, approve the report.

After the investigation, a proposed cleanup plan, called a “Draft Remedial Action Work Plan” will be developed. The cleanup plan will include an evaluation of the proposed site remedy or recommend a no action or no further action alternative. The goal of the cleanup plan is to ensure the protection of public health and the environment. NYSDEC will present the proposed cleanup plan to the public for its review and comment during a 45-day comment period.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the site.

**Site Description:** The 6.33-acre site is bound by active railroad tracks, a city park and the Hudson River to the west, a wooded parcel to the north and residential areas to the east and south. The Hudson River is approximately 300 feet west of the site. The site is currently vacant and contains several unoccupied structures, old foundations, and piles of debris. Previously, the site was used as a brewery, textile mill and industrial park.

Anticipated use of the site is for residential apartment and commercial space. The commercial areas will vary, but are currently planned to include a restaurant, office and self-storage uses.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the site ID, C442065) at:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/derexternal/index.cfm?pageid=3>.

**Brownfield Cleanup Program:** New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) encourages the voluntary cleanup of contaminated properties known as "brownfields" so that they can be reused and redeveloped. These uses may include recreation, housing, business or other uses. A brownfield site is any real property where a contaminant is present at levels exceeding the soil cleanup objectives or other health-based or environmental standards, criteria or guidance adopted by NYSDEC that are applicable based on the reasonably anticipated use of the property, in accordance with applicable regulations.

For more information about the BCP, visit:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html>

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*We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.*

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#### Stay Informed With DEC Delivers

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<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>

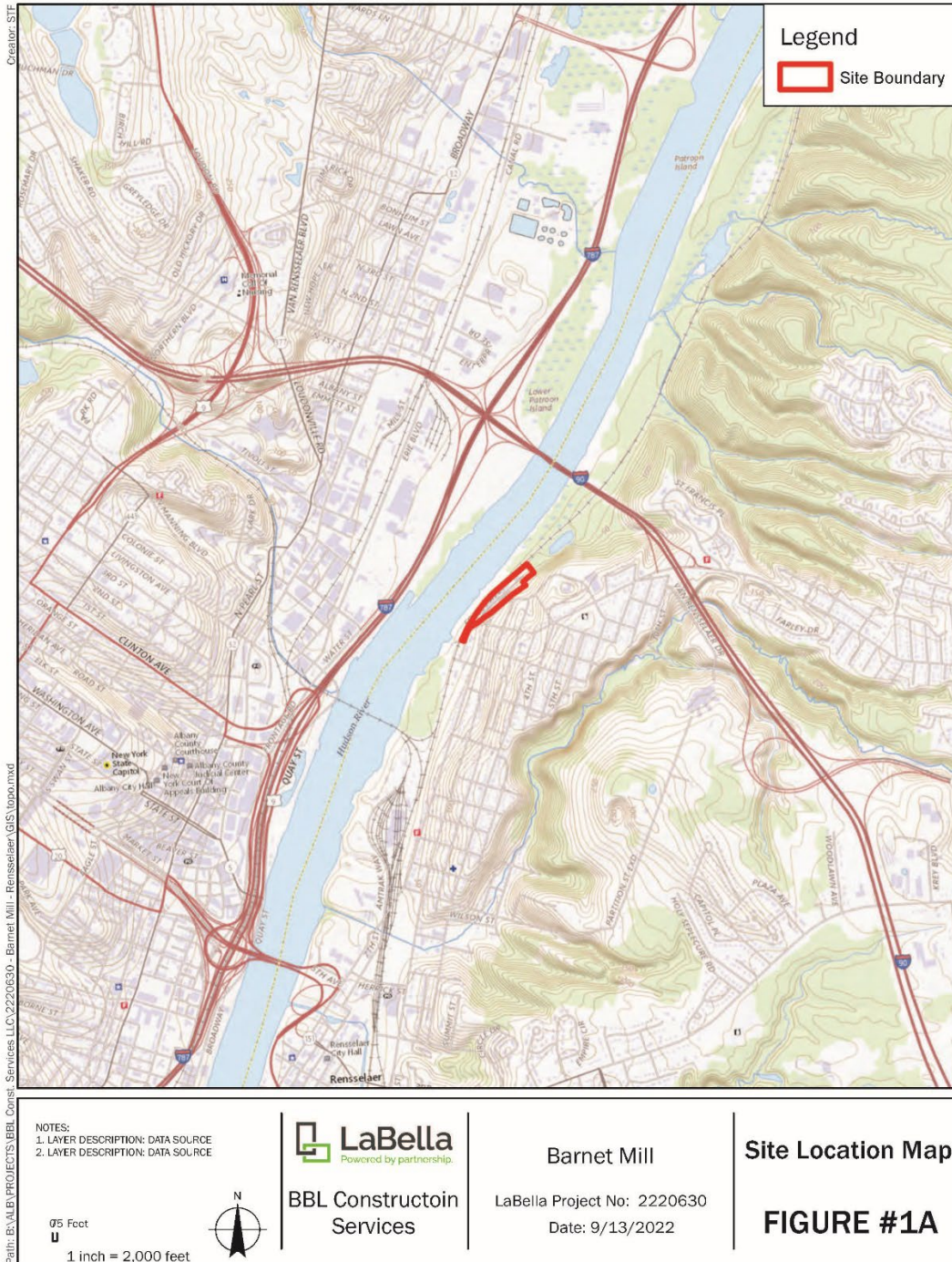
Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.

#### DECinfo Locator

Interactive map to access DEC documents and public data about the environmental quality of specific sites: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/109457.html>

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## Site Location





## Translation Available. Don't see your language? Ask!

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<b>Español Spanish</b>	Si necesita la traducción de este documento a un idioma que pueda entender, comuníquese con la persona indicada abajo. La traducción es gratis.
<b>简体字 Simplified Chinese</b>	如需將此文件翻譯成您能理解的語言版本，請聯絡下方人員。本次翻譯不收取費用。
<b>Русский Russian</b>	Чтобы получить перевод этого документа на понятный вам язык, свяжитесь с представителем, данные которого указаны ниже. Плата за эту услугу не взимается.
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<b>বাঙালি Bengali</b>	এই নথিটি আপনি বুঝতে পারেন এমন একটি ভাষায় অনুবাদ করতে, নিম্নলিখিত ব্যক্তির সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন। অনুবাদের জন্য কোন চার্জ দিতে হবে না।
<b>한국어 Korean</b>	이 언어를 본인이 이해할 수 있는 언어로 받아보려면 아래 담당자에게 문의하십시오. 번역료는 없습니다.
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<b>Języki Polski Polish</b>	Aby uzyskać tłumaczenie tego dokumentu na język, który jest dla Ciebie zrozumiały, skontaktuj się z poniższą osobą. Za tłumaczenie nie jest pobierana żadna opłata.

**Contact: Matthew Dunham, 518-357-2396, and [matthew.dunham@dec.ny.gov](mailto:matthew.dunham@dec.ny.gov)**