

Former Miller Hill Yard BCP Site



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Site No. C851045

Fremont, Steuben County

June 2026

Cleanup Proposed for Brownfield Site Contamination Public Comment Period Announced

The public is invited to comment on a proposed remedy being reviewed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (DOH), to address contamination related to the Former Miller Hill Yard BCP Site ("site") located in Fremont, Steuben County. Please see the map for the site location. DEC in consultation with DOH has determined that the site does not pose a significant threat to public health or the environment. This decision is based on the concentrations of the existing contaminants identified at the site, the potential for off-site migration of contaminants in the groundwater, the previously completed Interim Remedial Measures (IRMs) and the potential for human exposure to site-related contaminants via soil vapors. To address this threat, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) developed the proposed cleanup plan summarized below.

How to Comment

DEC is accepting written comments about the proposed plan, called a "Draft Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP)," which includes a cleanup alternatives analysis (AA), for 45 days, from **June 26th through August 11th, 2026**.

- Access the Remedial Investigation Report (RIR), draft RAWP, and other project documents online through the DECinfo Locator: <https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/C851045/>.
- Documents also are available at the location(s) identified under "Where to Find Information."
- Please submit comments to the DEC project manager listed under Project-Related Questions in the "Contact Information" area.

Draft Remedial Investigation Report and Draft Remedial Work Plan with Alternatives Analysis

The proposed cleanup plan consists of:

- Delineation of the limits of remaining soil/fill exhibiting CVOC concentrations exceeding Protection of Groundwater (POGW) SCOs;
- Excavation of identified remaining soil/fill exhibiting CVOC concentrations exceeding POGW SCOs;
- Screening for indications of contamination of all excavated soil during any intrusive Site work.
- Collection and analysis of post excavation soil samples;
- Appropriate off-site disposal of all excavated material;
- Import of materials to be used for backfilling and cover in compliance;
- Maintenance of a site cover;
- Installation, development, survey, gauging, and sampling of two new downgradient offsite monitoring wells;

- Implementation and publication of a Site Management Plan (SMP) for long term groundwater monitoring; and
- Recording of an Environmental Easement, including Institutional Controls, to prevent future exposure to any residual contamination remaining at the Site.

The proposed cleanup plan was developed by New York State DOT (“applicant”) after performing a detailed investigation of the site under New York’s Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP).

Next Steps

DEC will consider public comments, revise the remedy plan as necessary, and issue a final Decision Document. NYSDOH must concur with the proposed cleanup. After approval, the proposed cleanup becomes the selected cleanup. The applicant may then design and perform the cleanup action to address the site contamination, with oversight by DEC and NYSDOH.

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

Site Description

The site is 8.8 acres in size and approximately 5.7 acres surrounded by a chain-link fence with a locking gate, inside it is generally open and contains central gravel driveways. The site was historically used by the US Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) as a source of fill material for the construction of the Arkport dam. In 1960, when mining ceased, NYSDOT (then the NYS Department of Public Works) reportedly obtained the Miller Hill site from ACOE. The site is zoned for Agricultural-Rural (AG-R) use and is currently inactive. Surrounding parcels are zoned for a combination of undeveloped, Agricultural (AG-R) and Low-Density Residential (LDR) usage.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on DEC’s Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the site ID, C851045) at:

<https://appfactory.dec.ny.gov/DERExternalSearch/ERDSearch>

Summary of the Investigation

Initial investigations of the site were completed in 2009 through 2013, following a 2007 detection of trichloroethene or trichloroethylene (TCE) in a water sample from one of the City of Hornell Water Supply Wells. Site Characterization was completed by NYSDOT under the Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) in 2014 and the Remedial Investigation was completed between 2018 and 2021.

Three Interim Remedial Measures (IRMs) were completed at the site:

- IRM #1: NYSDOT funded the design and construction of a treatment system for the supplemental groundwater wells for the City of Hornell. The plant is now operated by the City Water Department.
- IRM #2: In 2015, investigations encountered drums with marking paint. NYSDOT implemented source area drum and waste removal. Approximately 493 paint drums or drum carcasses were removed, as was approximately 2,970 tons of impacted soil and other waste.
- IRM #3: As an extension of IRM #2, additional excavations in two areas were completed to remove additional contaminated material. Two more areas were also excavated to remove source area contamination.

The primary contaminants of concern at the site are chlorinated volatile organic compounds (CVOCs) in soil, and trichloroethene or trichloroethylene (TCE) in water.

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 DEC 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://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/brownfield-and-state-superfund-programs/brownfield>

Stay Informed with DEC Delivers

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.

Sign up to receive site updates by email:

<https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/regional-remediation-project-information/environmental-cleanup-email-newsletters>

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://dec.ny.gov/maps/interactive-maps/decinfo-locator>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Project-Related Questions

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WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION

Access project documents through the DECinfo Locator and at these location(s):
<https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/C851045/>

Document Repository

Hornell Public Library
64 Genesee Street
Hornell, NY, 14843
p: (607)324-1210

Site Location





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