NEW YORK STATE | Department of Environmental Conservation

FACT SHEET

RCRA Corrective Action Program

Receive Site Fact Sheets by *Email*. See "For More Information" to Learn How.

Site Name: **Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc. (TRI) (former Bethlehem Steel Corporation)** **February 2017**
Site No. **915009 – Operable Unit 04 – Coke Oven Area Groundwater**
Website: http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/55843.html

Proposed Cleanup Plan Available For Public Comment; Public Meeting Announced

Please Note: Operable Unit 04 is located approximately 1 mile to the northwest of the location of the recent Steel Works Industrial Park fire (see Figure 1 – Location Map). Operable Unit 04 was not part of or affected by the Nov. 9, 2016 fire.

The public is invited to comment on a remedy proposed by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for the Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc. (TRI) site, formerly Bethlehem Steel, located on the shores of Lake Erie in Lackawanna. Please see the map for the site location.

Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location identified below under "Where to Find Information."

PUBLIC MEETING

***March 8, 2017*, at 6:30 p.m.**
Lackawanna Senior Center
230 Martin Road, Lackawanna

DEC invites you to a public meeting to discuss the remedy proposed for the site. You are encouraged to provide comments at the meeting and during the 45-day comment period described in this fact sheet

How to Comment

DEC is accepting written comments about a proposed cleanup plan, called the draft Statement of Basis for 45 days, from February 15, 2017 through March 31, 2017. The proposed plan is available for review at the location identified below under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the DEC project manager listed under Project Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area below.

Summary of the Proposed Action

The proposed action will remediate groundwater contaminated by historic releases associated with coke-making and coke by-product processing that was conducted at the site by Bethlehem Steel. In this process, coal was roasted in ovens and by-products from the coal were collected. This petroleum-like material was then refined on site to produce fuels and light oils. Historic releases from this operation have contaminated groundwater in an approximately 27-acre area, located along the west side of the Ship Canal. Groundwater

in this area, referred to as Operable Unit 04 (OU04), will be collected using a series of pumping wells and treated to remove contaminants at a new treatment plant that will be constructed on the site.

The proposed groundwater extraction system will use approximately 50 pumping wells located throughout the Operable Unit 04 area. This includes 11 existing pumping wells that have been operating since 2005, and 39 new pumping wells that will be installed. The average flow rate for the extraction system is estimated to be about 70 gallons per minute. Groundwater will be treated by air stripping, followed by granular activated carbon filtering where needed. Treated groundwater will be re-injected to help control the movement of contaminated groundwater and enhance the collection and treatment of contaminated groundwater.

It will take approximately 18 months to construct the proposed system and place it in operation. The system is expected to quickly and effectively eliminate migration of contaminants away from the OU04 area. However, long-term operation of the system will be necessary to remove the contaminants from within the interior of the OU04 area.

Site Background

Location: The Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc. (TRI) site is an approximately 500-acre portion of the former Bethlehem Steel Corporation facility in Lackawanna and is listed as a Class 2 State Superfund site. The TRI property is located between the Ship Canal and Lake Erie to the west. The property also extends to the south of Smokes Creek along Lake Erie.

Contamination: Site investigations were conducted primarily by Bethlehem Steel Corporation before that company filed for bankruptcy in 2001. Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of ArcelorMittal USA, Inc., completed and submitted the final site investigation report.

The investigation identified approximately 40 areas on the TRI Site that exhibit soil / fill and / or groundwater contamination. United States Environmental Protection Agency and DEC determined that these locations required further investigation and / or clean-up. These areas include the former coke plant, former fuel storage area, and slag fill along the western part of the site, where solid and/or hazardous waste from former steel-making operations were spilled or disposed historically by BSC. Contaminated sediment was also found to be present in several watercourses, including Smokes Creek.

Several cleanup actions have been undertaken by Tecumseh since 2005 to restrict the migration of contamination from the site, including:

- Installing and operating a groundwater collection and treatment system as an interim measure, in the coke by-products yard near the southern end of the Ship Canal;
- Installing a slurry wall, interior and exterior groundwater collection system, leachate/groundwater treatment system, and cover system at the Acid Tar Pits located near Smokes Creek;
- Collecting, treating, and disposing or recycling residual wastewater and tar from various pipes, tanks, vessels, and containment areas; and
- Dredging contaminated sediment and restoring flood water flow capacity from the lower reach of Smokes Creek to reduce the potential for upstream flooding.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on DEC's website at:

http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/55843.html and
http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=915009.

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.

Whom to Contact
Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project Related Questions

Stan Radon
Division of Environmental Remediation
NYS DEC
270 Michigan Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14203
716-851-7220
stanley.radon@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions

Matthew Forcucci
NYS DOH
584 Delaware Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14202
716-847-4501
BEEI@health.ny.gov

Where to Find Information
Project documents are available at the following location to help the public stay informed.

Lackawanna Public Library
560 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, NY 14218

Project documents are also available on DEC website at:
http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/55843.html.

For More Information

Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. DEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page: www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html . It's *quick*, it's *free*, and it will help keep you *better informed*.

As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county or counties you select.

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

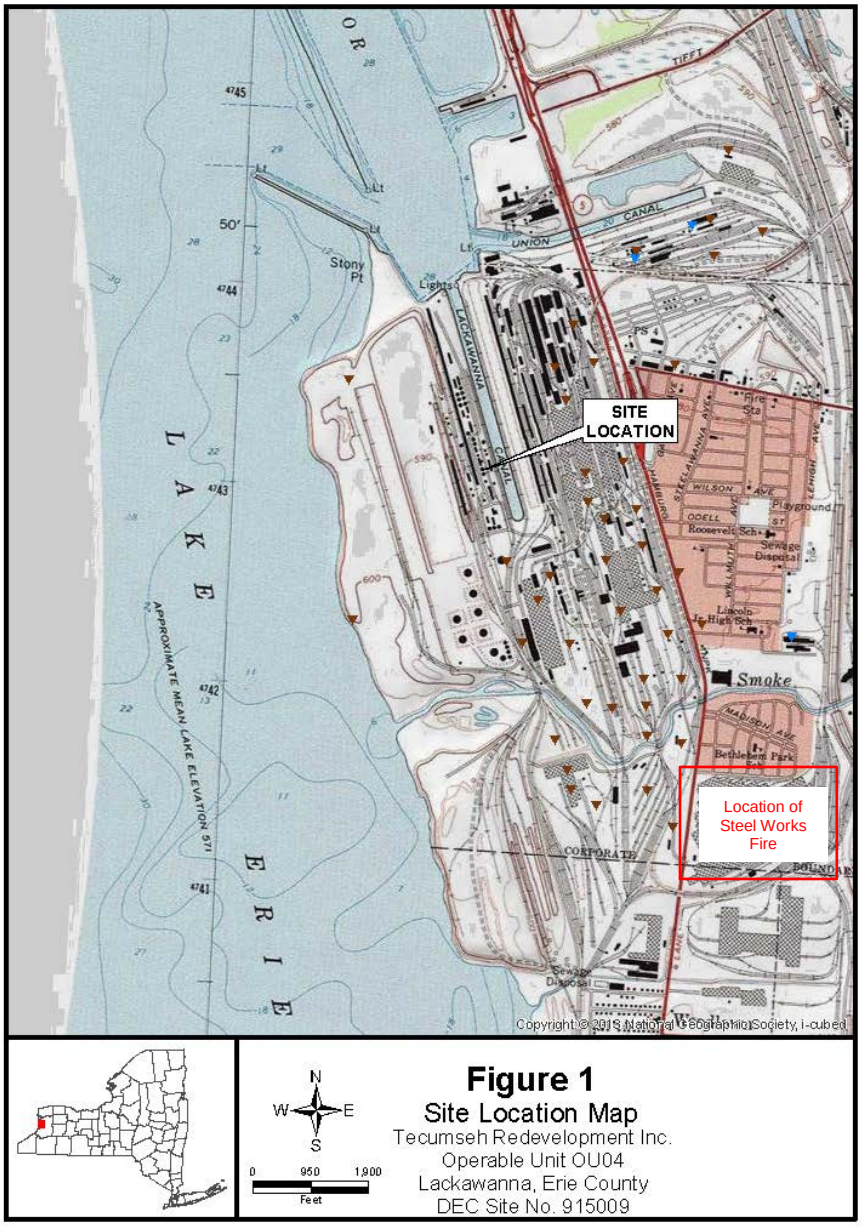

Figure 1
Site Location Map
Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc.
Operable Unit OU04
Lackawanna, Erie County
DEC Site No. 915009