



FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

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Spaulding Composites Site
Site Number: 915050
City of Tonawanda, New York

March 2011

Cleanup Action Completed at State Superfund Site; Final Construction Completion Report Approved

Cleanup action has been completed to address contamination related to the Spaulding Composites State Superfund site (“site”) located at 310 Wheeler Street in the City of Tonawanda under New York’s State Superfund Program. See map on page 5 of this fact sheet for site location. The cleanup activities were performed by Op-Tech Environmental of Syracuse, New York with oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

NYSDEC has developed a Final Construction Completion Report. The report states that cleanup requirements have been achieved to fully protect public health and the environment. The report is available at the locations identified below under “Where to Find Information”. The document also is available on the NYSDEC web site at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/54596.html>.

Highlights of the Final Construction Completion Report

The report has several goals:

- describe the cleanup activities completed;
- certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved for the site;
- describe any institutional/engineering controls to be used. An *institutional control* is a non-physical restriction on use of the site, such as a deed restriction, when the cleanup 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 cap or vapor barrier;
- certify that a site management plan for any engineering controls used at the site has been approved by NYSDEC.

State Superfund Program: New York’s State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

NYSDEC generally attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit: www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html

The Superfund cleanup work began in October 2009 and was completed on schedule in May 2010. The following major cleanup activities were completed at the site:

- Removing approximately 21,700 tons of semi-volatile organic compounds and asbestos contaminated soils and disposing them off-site at a state-permitted facility;
- Removing approximately 700 tons of soils contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and disposing them off-site at a state-permitted facility;
- Backfilling and re-grading excavated areas with off-site, clean soil to promote proper site drainage; and
- Placing a non-toxic chemical into the bottom of one of the excavated areas to treat in place any residual contamination.

The cleanup has made the Superfund portions of the property suitable for industrial, commercial, and restricted-residential reuse (restricted residential means that multi-unit housing could be developed at the site, but not private homes and vegetable gardens). Because the cleanup actions left traces of contamination that prevent future development of private residences on site, a site management plan (SMP) will be developed and implemented to ensure that public health and the environment remain protected.

Next Steps

The NYSDEC has currently requested public review and comment on a proposal to take no further action for the remaining portions of the Spaulding property that were investigated and cleaned-up by the City of Tonawanda (City) and Erie County under New York State's Environmental Restoration Grant Program (ERP). The comment period for this review extends until March 25, 2011. Upon completion of the public comment period, it is expected that a Record of Decision will be issued by the NYSDEC in late March 2011.

Once the City acquires title to the property, it is the NYSDEC's intent to issue a Certificate of Completion to the City for both the ERP and Superfund projects in the Summer of 2011. After receiving a Certificate of Completion, the City would be eligible to redevelop the site. In addition, the City would have no liability to NYS for contamination at or coming from the site, subject to certain conditions.

A fact sheet will be sent to the site contact list when NYSDEC issues the Certificate of Completion to the City.

Background

The 46 acre Spaulding property is bound by Dodge and Enterprise Avenues and residential property to the north, Wheeler Street and a mix of commercial and residential properties to the east, Hackett Drive and commercial properties to the south, and Hinds Street and a mix of commercial and residential properties to the west. The Niagara River is located approximately one mile to the north, while Two Mile Creek is located approximately one mile to the west.

To facilitate cleanup, the Spaulding property was previously divided into seven operable units. Operable Units (“OUs”) are portions of a site that for technical reasons can be cleaned up or addressed separately. OUs 1,3, and 4 were remediated under the Superfund Program. Operable Unit 2 was addressed separately by the NYSDEC in a previous cleanup action. OUs 5, 6, and 7 were addressed under the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP). More information on OUs 5, 6, and 7 is available online at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/54591.html>.

Spaulding began operations as a manufacturer of vulcanized fiber, an early "plastic" made by treating paper with a zinc chloride solution. The paper used to produce vulcanized fiber was also manufactured at the site. During the late 1940s to early 1950s, the plant began production of composite laminates (fused layers of materials that are manufactured to provide a wide range of engineering properties, such as stiffness). The resins used to make these laminates were also produced at the facility. In the fall of 1992, Spaulding ceased manufacturing operations at the site and began decommissioning the plant. Most decommissioning activities were completed from September 1992 to February 1993, with the remaining decommissioning activities completed by mid 1995.

Contamination of site soils and groundwater (in isolated areas) resulted largely from bulk chemical and waste handling practices and incidents at the facility. In addition, fill material consisting of slag, cinders, and ash were disposed throughout the property.

Remedial investigations at the site were completed in 1999. The engineering design for the remedy was completed by the NYSDEC in March 2009. Bids for the cleanup contract were opened in July 2009 and Op-Tech Environmental of Syracuse, New York was awarded the contract and given formal notice to proceed with the project on October 5, 2009.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following locations to help the public stay informed. These documents include the Final Engineering Report described above.

NYSDEC Region 9 Office
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 851-7220

City of Tonawanda Public Library
333 Main Street
Tonawanda, NY 14150
(716) 693-5043

Electronic copies of documents are available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/54596.html> .

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

David J. Chiusano, Project Manager
NYSDEC – Central Office
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233-7017
(518) 402-9814 or 888-459-8667
{ Call for an appointment }
E-Mail: djchiusa@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions

Matt Forcucci, Project Manager
New York State Department of Health
584 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 847-4501
{ Call for an appointment }
E-Mail: bee@health.state.ny.us

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.

Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

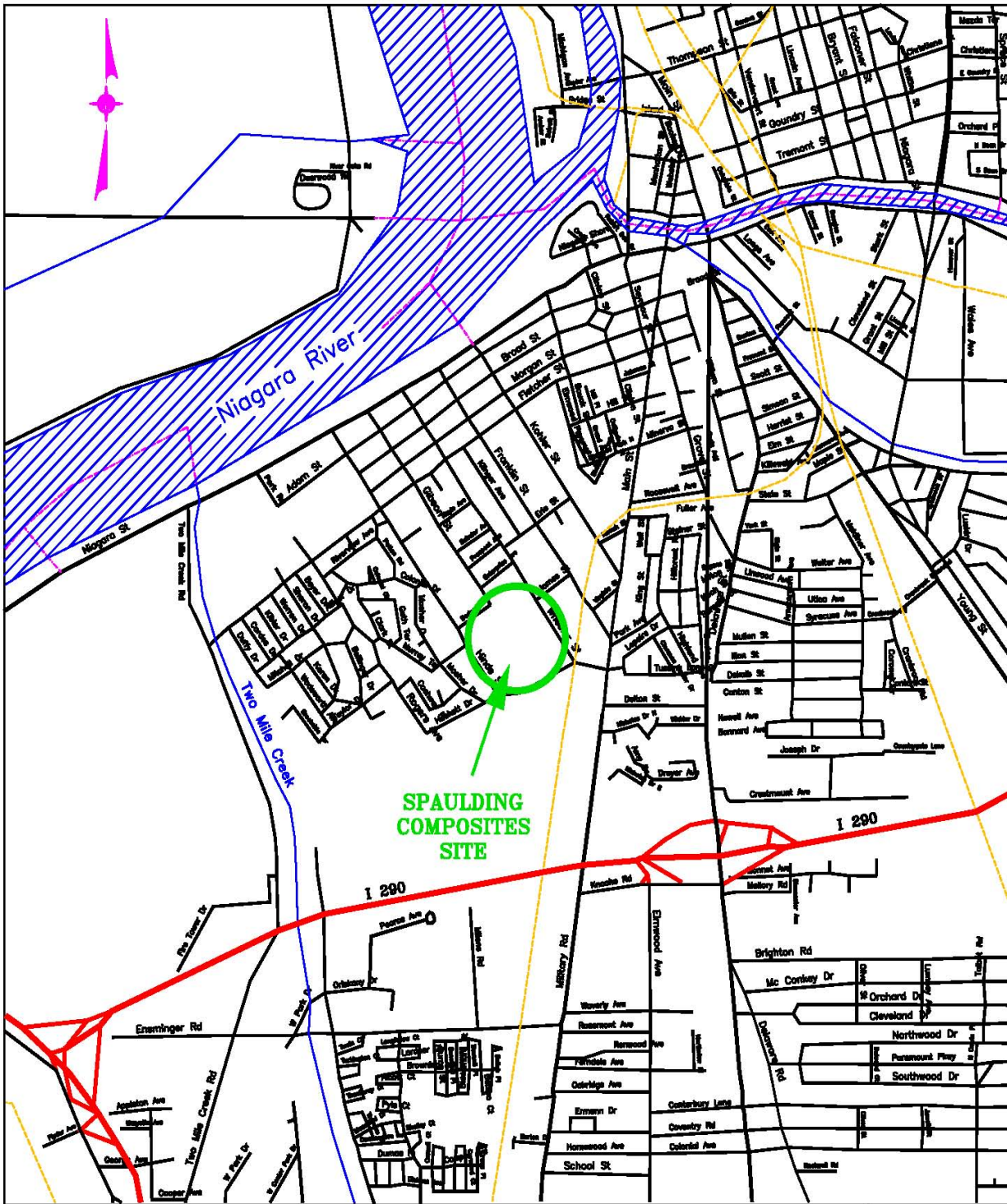
Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page: www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html . It's *quick*, it's *free*, and it will help keep you *better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



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

You may continue also to receive paper copies of site information for a time after you sign up with a county listserv, until the transition to electronic distribution is complete.

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



**Tonawanda East & West
Quadrangles; Buffalo East &
West Quadrangles**

Scale Depends on Final Plotted Size

SITE LOCATION MAP

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION

DATE: 01/25/01 DRAWING: Location.dwg

SITE: **SPAULDING COMPOSITES SITE**

