



FACT SHEET Brownfield Cleanup Program

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

Site Name: 800 Hiawatha Boulevard West (former Roth Steel)
DEC Site #: C734083
Address: 800 Hiawatha Blvd. West
Syracuse, NY 13204

Have questions? See "Who to Contact" Below

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 800 Hiawatha Boulevard West (former Roth Steel) site ("site") located at 800 Hiawatha Blvd. West, Syracuse, Onondaga County. Please see the map for the site location. Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the locations identified below under "Where to Find Information."

Draft Investigation Work Plan

The draft investigation work plan, called a "Remedial Investigation Work Plan," was submitted to NYSDEC under New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program. The investigation will be performed by Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (OCIDA) ("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 investigation work plan from August 1, 2016 through September 1, 2016. The proposed work plan is available for review at the locations identified below under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area below.

Highlights of the Proposed Site Investigation

The investigation will define the nature and extent of contamination in potentially impacted media including soil, surface water, soil vapor and groundwater.

The site is the location of the former Roth Steel facility and operated as a metal processing and recycling center up until 2014. Based upon data from previous investigations performed at the site, the primary contaminants of concern at this site are polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in Automobile Shredder Residue (ASR) and shallow soils. ASR is the portion of the shredded vehicle/scrap metal that remains after the steel, iron, and nonferrous materials such as aluminum, copper and brass, have been removed. ASR is typically comprised of rubber, plastic, fiber, glass, and dirt. PCBs were commonly used in capacitors in automobiles and household appliances; in old transformers; and in ballasts from lighting fixtures. Elevated concentrations of PCBs were detected within two ASR disposal cells in the northwest corner of the site and in shallow soil and

residual ASR located adjacent to a former unregulated stormwater pond in the center portion of the site. PCBs exceed the hazardous waste level of 50 ppm in these areas. In addition, a few localized areas of lead contamination are present in soil and groundwater near the stormwater pond and also on the eastern portion of the site in the former scrap storage area. Based on groundwater testing performed to date, offsite groundwater does not appear to be impacted. Potential issues associated with volatilization of contaminants in soil vapor have not yet been assessed at the site.

Proposed investigation activities include the following:

- Further testing of shallow soil and ASR, including hot spots within the disposal cells and former stormwater pond;
- Groundwater testing downgradient of the former stormwater pond and other areas not previously characterized to further evaluate onsite groundwater quality;
- Soil testing to evaluate potential contaminant migration pathways and receptors, including surface water runoff areas; and
- Soil vapor testing in areas in which elevated volatile organic contaminants (VOCs) are detected in soil or groundwater.

The investigation will assess the impact of contamination on public health and the environment and also provide information to support the development of a proposed remedy to address the contamination or the determination that a cleanup is not necessary. It is estimated that the investigation will take approximately 3 to 4 months to complete.

### **Next Steps**

NYSDEC will consider public comments, revise the plan as necessary, and approve the work plan. NYSDOH must concur with the plan. The approved work plan will be made available to the public (see “Where to Find Information” below). After the work plan is approved, the activities detailed in the work plan will be implemented by Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency.

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

After the investigation, a cleanup plan, called a “Remedial Work Plan” will be developed and a Decision Document will be proposed. 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.

### **Background**

Location:

The 800 Hiawatha Boulevard West (former Roth Steel) Site is a 24 acres site located along the southern shore of Onondaga Lake in an urban area north of the intersection of Hiawatha Boulevard with State Fair Boulevard. The site is bounded by: CSX Railroad tracks to the northwest; the Onondaga County Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant to the north/northeast; Hiawatha Boulevard to the east/southeast; and several commercial businesses to the southwest on State Fair Boulevard.

#### Site Features:

The site is relatively flat and accessible via several driveways off of Hiawatha Boulevard. There are eight unoccupied buildings on the property. A paved driveway surrounds Buildings 1, 2, and 3 on the northeast end of the site. Unpaved driveways and storage areas surround Buildings 4 through 8. A former unregulated stormwater pond is located in the center of the property. The pond is approximately 100 feet by 300 feet and is currently overgrown with vegetation. In addition, there are two Automobile Shredder Residue (ASR) disposal cells located in the northwest side of the site. The remaining portion of the site is undeveloped and covered with fill, waste materials, and debris.

#### Current Zoning and Land Use:

The site is currently vacant and is zoned as an industrial district. The surrounding parcels are currently used for a combination of commercial, light industrial, and utility right-of-ways. The nearest residential area is 0.3 miles to the east.

#### Past Use of the Site:

The site is the former Roth Steel facility and operated as a metal processing and recycling center from the 1950s up until 2014. Prior uses that appear to have led to site contamination include the storage and shredding of vehicles, white goods, and other scrap materials; onsite disposal of ASR in two underground cells; and unregulated discharges of stormwater. The site was previously investigated under a Consent Order between Roth Steel and DEC. Roth declared bankruptcy and closed the facility in 2014. Onondaga County Industrial Agency purchased the site from the bankruptcy trustee in 2015.

#### Site Geology and Hydrogeology:

Soils at the site primarily consist of fill overlying native deposits. The fill consists of a variety of materials including gravel and lesser amounts of sand and silt, ASR, concrete, cinders, ash, plastic, brick, glass, metal, and wood. The lower portion of the fill consists of Solvay waste, a white to light grey silt sized granular material. The underlying deposits beginning at 12 feet are native soils consisting of brown to gray sand intermixed with silt. Bedrock is encountered at approximately 200 feet below grade. Groundwater flows to the northwest towards Onondaga Lake at depths ranging from 2 to 9 feet below ground surface.

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

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=C734083>

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

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following locations to help the public stay informed.

Onondaga County Public Library - Kinchen Central Library  
The Galleries of Syracuse  
447 South Salina Street  
Syracuse, NY 13202  
Phone: 315-435-1900

NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation - Region 7  
615 Erie Blvd. West  
Syracuse, NY 13204  
Phone: 315-426-7551

### Who to Contact

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

#### Project Related Questions

Karen Cahill  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
615 Erie Blvd W  
Syracuse, NY 13204  
315-426-7551  
karen.cahill@dec.ny.gov

#### Site-Related Health Questions

Sarita Wagh  
New York State Department of Health  
NYSDOH Empire State Plaza, Corning Tower  
Room 1787  
Albany, NY 12237  
518-402-7860  
BEEI@health.ny.gov

**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.**

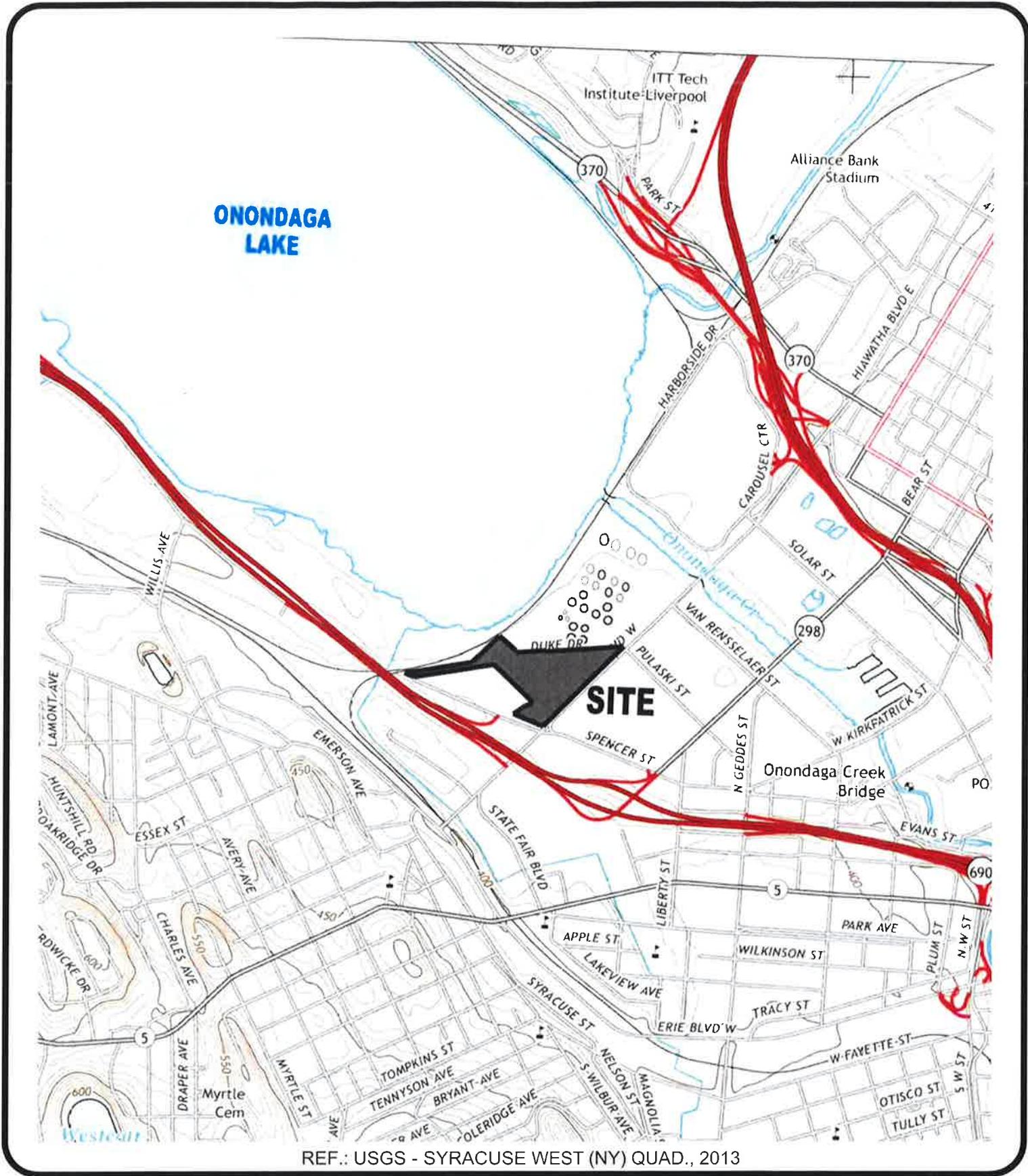
### Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

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: <http://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.

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





REF.: USGS - SYRACUSE WEST (NY) QUAD., 2013



**SPECTRA**  
 ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURE, & SURVEYING, P.C.  
 19 British American Blvd  
 Latham, N.Y. 12110

Site Location Map  
**800 Hiawatha Boulevard Site**  
 Syracuse, New York

CITY OF SYRACUSE

ONONDAGA CO., NY

PROJ. #:	16140	DATE:	4/29/16	SCALE:	NTS	DWG. NO.	16140B	FIGURE	1
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