Remedy 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 (NYSDEC) to address contamination related to the 2424 Hamburg Turnpike site, 2424 Hamburg Turnpike, Lackawanna, Erie County. Please see the map for the site location. Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information."

The cleanup activities will be performed and funded by Benchmark Environmental Engineering & Science, PLLC with oversight provided by NYSDEC. When NYSDEC is satisfied that cleanup requirements have been achieved, the applicant may be eligible for tax credits to offset the costs of performing cleanup activities and for redevelopment of the site.

Based on the findings of the investigation, NYSDEC, in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has determined that the site does not pose a significant threat.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at: http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=C915296

It should be noted, the original version of the site cleanup plan was available for public comment in the spring of 2017. Since that time the applicant has revised the cleanup plan to include Air Sparge/Soil Vapor Extraction as discussed below. The revised cleanup plan is available for public comment.

How to Comment
NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed cleanup plan for 45 days, from August 30, 2017 through October 13, 2017. The draft Remedial Investigation Alternatives Analysis Report containing the proposed site remedy is available for public review at the location(s) 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.
The proposed remedy consists of:
- Removal and off-site disposal/recycling of existing in-ground auto lifts, underground piping, and other associated structures;
- Excavation and offsite disposal of approximately 1,000 tons of grossly contaminated media (GCM) identified as soils/fill with visual and od odor impacts from petroleum contamination and/or exceedances of 100 parts per million as measured with a PID. A PID is a field screening device used to detect volatile compounds;
- Design and operation of an Air Sparge/Soil Vapor Extraction (AS/SVE) system on site to address remaining VOC-impacted soil;
- Manage and properly dispose of impacted water during remedial activities;
- Place a cover system which may include existing building slabs, hardscape, or a minimum 12 inches of clean soil or gravel over the entire site; and
- Implementing a Site Management Plan (SMP) including an Environmental Easement, Engineering and Institutional Control Plan, Site Monitoring Plan, Excavation Work Plan, Operation and Maintenance Plan, site use limitations, and groundwater use restrictions.

Summary of the Investigation
The Remedial Investigation (RI) included the collection of environmental samples from surface soil, subsurface soil, and groundwater. Samples were screened in the field for indicators of contamination in addition to being sent to a laboratory for analysis.

The RI identified widespread soil contamination at the site related to past use as an automobile filling and service station. Grossly contaminated material (GCM) was identified over approximately two thirds of the site and was the most common indicator of contamination. Arsenic and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) were also detected in analytical samples above levels that allow for commercial use. GCM at the site is typically identified by the presence of petroleum product, staining, or strong petroleum odors in soil. A petroleum like sheen was observed in site monitoring wells, which is attributed to GCM in the surrounding soil. The RI also discovered abandoned in-ground auto lifts and contents of, underground piping, and other associated structures inside the former auto service building.

Next Steps
NYSDEC will consider public comments received on the proposed remedy presented in the draft RWP and ultimately issue a final Decision Document. The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) must also concur with the remedy. The final Remedial Work Plan (with revisions if necessary) and the Decision Document will be made available to the public. The applicant(s) may then design and perform the cleanup action to address the site contamination, with oversight by NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

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

Background
Location: The 1.04-acre Site is in an urban area located approximately 300 feet south of the intersection of Hamburg Turnpike and Holbrook Street.

Site Features: The site is relatively flat, mostly covered with asphalt, and includes the former
auto repair building with an in-ground hydraulic lift and a small storage shed.

Current Zoning and Land Use: The Site is currently inactive and zoned commercial/industrial.

Past Use of the Site: From 1957-1994 the Site was utilized as an automobile filling and service station. Three (3) 10,000-gallon underground storage tanks (USTs) associated with filling station were closed/removed in 1994.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: Site soils consist of 0-8 feet of fill (soil intermixed with sand, gravel, brick, and slag) underlain by native soils (clay, peat and sand). Depth of groundwater is 6-8 feet below ground surface (fbgs) and flows to the west.

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
Lackawanna Branch
560 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, NY  14218
Phone:  716-823-0630
(johnstonj@buffalolib.org)

Selected project documents are also available on the NYSDEC website at:

Who to Contact
Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:
**Project Related Questions**
Anthony Lopes, P.E.
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
270 Michigan Ave
Buffalo, NY 14203-2915
716-851-7220
anthony.lopes@dec.ny.gov

**Site-Related Health Questions**
Ian Ushe
New York State Department of Health
Empire State Plaza, Corning Tower, Rm 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](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.