

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Project No. C915197

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and ArcelorMittal Tecumseh Redevelopment, Inc. (Tecumseh) are pleased to update you about environmental cleanup activities planned for a portion of the Tecumseh property called the Phase I Business Park Area, located in the City of Lackawanna.

An environmental investigation has determined that cleanup work is necessary to address environmental impacts at the Phase I Business Park Area. Former steel production and coke operations left petroleum-impacted slag and fill characterized by elevated concentrations of heavy metals and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) at a portion of the approximately 102-acre Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) project site. To address this concern, a cleanup effort known as an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) will begin in October 2008. An IRM is a cleanup action that can be conducted at a site relatively quickly in order to minimize environmental or health risks.

Cleanup work at the site will be performed under New York State's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) as the final part of the ongoing effort to transform a portion of the former Bethlehem Steel Corporation (BSC) site into productive use. The BCP provides financial incentives to promote the cleanup, redevelopment, and revival of brownfield sites. A brownfield is a property that may have been used for industrial purposes in the past, but is currently unused or under-used due to real or perceived environmental contamination.

SITE BACKGROUND

Tecumseh is the owner of a large, approximately 1,100-acre property located south of Buffalo, New York, west of Route 5, in the City of Lackawanna and the Town of Hamburg. The property once was home to the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Lackawanna Works, and was formerly used for the production of steel, coke and related products.

The subject Phase I Business Park Area is an approximately 102-acre portion of the former Bethlehem Steel site that is situated on the northeast end of the property along Route 5. The entire property has been the subject of previous and ongoing environmental investigations that have identified several environmental conditions of concern.

Tecumseh has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Erie County and the City of Lackawanna to promote and implement redevelopment of the former BSC property following cleanup. A portion of the Redevelopment Master Plan incorporates a Business Park area along NYS Route 5. Phase I of the Business Park will be completed first. Phases II and III, encompassing approximately 173 and 128 acres, respectively, will follow.



A view of the former Bethlehem Steel property.

Tecumseh hired the consulting firm of TurnKey Environmental Restoration, LLC to conduct an environmental investigation, called a Remedial Investigation (RI), at the site in January/February 2006. Analysis of the soil/fill samples that were collected at the site indicated that several areas of the site are impacted by petroleum (fuels, oils, etc.). Some areas also exhibit elevated levels of lead and other contaminants common to steel production. Based on the findings of the RI, groundwater has not been impacted but remediation of soil/fill is warranted.

WHAT WILL THE UPCOMING CLEANUP WORK INVOLVE?

The upcoming IRM cleanup work will address immediate environmental concerns involving petroleum contamination at the site. Under the oversight of DEC, upcoming IRM cleanup activities will include:

- Excavating petroleum-impacted soil/fill;
- Removing out-of-service underground storage tank(s) near the northeast end of the site;
- Bioremediating non-hazardous petroleum-impacted soil/fill on-site. Bioremediation involves stimulating microorganisms present in the soil to consume certain contaminants.
- Excavating and removing a small volume of soil/fill not suited for bioremediation.
- Backfilling excavations with biotreated soil/fill and/or recycled slag that DEC has determined suitable for reuse.

IRM cleanup activities are expected to begin at the site in October 2008 and are anticipated to be complete by Spring 2009. The upcoming IRM cleanup activities are described in greater detail in the IRM Work Plan, which is available for public review at the locations listed at the end of this fact sheet. The work plan contains details about the construction plans for IRM cleanup work. During upcoming cleanup activities, health and safety plans and air monitoring plans will be implemented to protect workers and the community.

NEXT STEPS

An IRM Report and an Alternatives Analysis Report will be prepared to determine what, if any, additional measures are required to complete the remediation of the parcel. The reports will be available for public review by Summer 2009. Fact sheets similar to this one will be sent to notify you about important project milestones and keep you updated throughout the project's progress.

In addition to improving environmental conditions at the site, upcoming IRM cleanup work will help to further the completion of the brownfield cleanup project and make future redevelopment of the site possible. Once all necessary environmental cleanup activities are completed, the property will be suitable for use.

WHO SHOULD I CALL IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SITE?

Site-Related Project Questions

Mr. Thomas Forbes P.E.
Project Manager
TurnKey Env. Restoration, LLC
726 Exchange Street, Suite 624
Buffalo, NY 14210
(716) 856-0635

Site-Related Environmental Questions

Mr. Maurice Moore
Project Manager
NYSDEC
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 851-7220

Site-Related Health Questions

Mr. Cameron O'Connor
Public Health Specialist
NYS Department of Health
584 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 847-4385

LOCATIONS TO VIEW PROJECT RELATED DOCUMENTS

To keep you informed, the City of Buffalo and DEC have set up two locations at which you may view site-related project documents. These locations include:

Lackawanna Public Library
560 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, NY 14218
Attn: Jennifer Hoffman, Librarian
(716) 823-0630

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 851-7220
(Please call for an appointment.)