



FACT SHEET

Environmental Restoration Program

1200 East Main Street Site
Site No. B00129
Rochester, NY

November 2009

Cleanup Action to Begin at Municipal Brownfield Site

A cleanup is about to begin that will address contamination related to the 1200 East Main Street Site (“site”) located in the City of Rochester, Monroe County under New York’s Environmental Restoration Program (ERP, see program description at end of this fact sheet). See map on Page 4 for site location.

The cleanup action for the site includes the removal and off-site disposal of petroleum from groundwater, excavation and off-site disposal of petroleum contaminated soils, and treatment of dissolved petroleum in groundwater. The cleanup activities will be performed by City of Rochester (“municipality”). The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in consultation with the New York State Department of Health and the Monroe County Health Department, has approved the Remedial Work Plan for this project and will provide oversight of the cleanup activities.

Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities

The goal of the cleanup action for the site is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment. The elements of the selected cleanup include:

- Removal and off-site disposal of petroleum found in existing groundwater monitoring wells at the site;
- Excavation and off-site disposal of petroleum contaminated soils from select areas at the site.
- Treatment of dissolved petroleum contaminants in groundwater via an atmospheric air or oxygen injection system. This decision will be made upon re-evaluation of groundwater quality at the site following removal of readily recoverable petroleum and contaminated soils. The system will involve the injection of atmospheric air or oxygen into the groundwater to flush out volatile petroleum contaminants and stimulate the growth and activity of naturally occurring bacteria that breakdown petroleum compounds;
- Installation of a soil vapor extraction system to recover contaminants that are volatilized into soil gas by the air or oxygen injection system;
- Implementation of a community air-monitoring program during all ground-intrusive activities. This program is designed to provide protection for the downwind community (i.e., off-site receptors including residences and businesses and on-site workers not directly involved with the work) from potential airborne contaminant releases as a direct result of the remedial work;
- Continued operation and maintenance of the existing sub-slab ventilation system in the basement of the adjacent 1214/1216 East Main Street building to prevent site-related contaminants from entering the structure; and
- Use of institutional controls (restrictions on the property’s future use) via an environmental easement to limit the site to commercial or industrial future use, address residual soil contamination, prohibit groundwater usage, prevent vapor intrusion into any future buildings at the site, and ensure compliance with an operation, maintenance, and monitoring program.

Next Steps

The municipality is expected to begin cleanup activities at the site on or about December 14, 2009. The initial extraction of petroleum from groundwater and the excavation of petroleum contaminated soils should be complete within two months. Groundwater quality will then be reevaluated and a system will be selected and installed to treat dissolved petroleum in groundwater, which may take an additional one to two years to complete.

After the municipality completes the cleanup activities, it will prepare a Final Engineering Report and submit it to NYSDEC. The Final Engineering Report will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved.

The municipality also must implement a site management plan because the cleanup action is based on restrictions on the use of the site. The plan would ensure protection of public health and the environment by describing the required engineering and/or institutional controls and how they would be effectively maintained. The municipality also will be required to file an environmental easement that identifies the restrictions on use of the site and the institutional/engineering controls. The easement would give NYSDEC the ability to assure compliance with these restrictions and controls.

When the municipality has completed the project to NYSDEC's satisfaction, NYSDEC will issue a document to the municipality called a "Certificate of Completion". This document releases the municipality from liability related to the site and allows the site to be re-used. NYSDEC and the municipality will keep the public informed during the cleanup of the site.

Background

NYSDEC previously accepted an application from the municipality to participate in the ERP. The application proposed that the site would be used for commercial use.

The 1200 East Main Street site is a half-acre parcel of land that was operated as a gasoline filling station and automobile repair facility from 1928 until 1993 (most recently as a "Pic n' Pay" station). The City of Rochester obtained ownership of the property through tax foreclosure in 1998 in order to address possible contamination issues and return the site to productive use through the New York State Environmental Restoration Program.

A 1,600-square foot one-story building on the site was demolished in January 2003 by the City of Rochester due to its state of disrepair. Historic use of this facility as an automobile service facility and filling station resulted in petroleum contamination at the site. There are no records or reports of spills during the site's operation. However, past leakage from underground petroleum storage tanks and piping systems/filling areas is evident (all tanks, pumps, and piping systems were removed during this project). Other potential sources of contamination identified at the site include a floor drainage system and subsurface vehicle lift unit in the former building. Waste oil dumping is also suspected to have occurred to the unpaved ground surface in the northern portion of the property.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information Project documents are available at the following locations to help the public to stay informed. These documents include the decision document describing the selected remedy for the site, called the "Record of Decision" and the Remedial Work Plan.

Rochester Public Library, Sully Branch
939 Bay Street
Rochester, NY 14609
(585) 428-8208
Hours: Mon & Thu: 12 PM - 6 PM
Tue, Wed, Fri: 11 AM - 6 PM
Sat: 10 AM - 1 PM

City of Rochester Department of Environmental Services
30 Church St., Room 300B
Rochester, New York 14614
(585) 428-6855
Hours: Mon-Fri: 8 AM - 5 PM
(Contact Jane Forbes for an appointment)

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation - Region 8 Office
6274 E. Avon-Lima Rd.
Avon, New York 14414-9519
Hours: Mon-Fri: 8:30 AM - 4:45 PM
(585) 226-5326
(Contact Lisa LoMaestro Silvestri for an appointment)

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
6274 East Avon-Lima Road
Avon, NY 14414-9519
Greg MacLean, P.E. - Project Manager
(585) 226-5356
gmaclea@gw.dec.state.ny.us ; or
Lisa LoMaestro Silvestri –
Citizen Participation Specialist
(585) 226-5326
lasilves@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions

New York State Department of Health
Flannigan Square, 547 River Street
Troy, New York 12180-2216
Krista Anders
(800) 458-1158 x 27860
BEEI@health.state.ny.us

Monroe County Health Department
111 Westfall Road, Room 938
Rochester NY 14620
Jeff Kosmala, P.E.
(585) 753-5470
jkosmala@monroecounty.gov

If you know someone who would like to be added to the site contact list, have them contact the NYSDEC project manager above. 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.

Environmental Restoration Program:

New York's Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) reimburses municipalities for their costs to investigate and clean up municipally owned contaminated properties. Once cleaned up, the properties may be redeveloped for commercial, industrial, residential or public use.

A **brownfield** is any real property that is difficult to reuse or redevelop because of the presence or potential presence of contamination.

For more information about the ERP, visit: www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8444.html

