



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

FACT SHEET

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Astoria Steel Site

3-15 26th Avenue
Astoria, NY 11102

SITE No. C241155

NYSDEC REGION 2

June 2019

Environmental Cleanup to Begin at Brownfield Site

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

Queens Library at Astoria
14-01 Astoria Boulevard
Long Island City, NY 11102
(718) 278-2220

Queens Community Board 1
45-02 Ditmars Boulevard
LL Suite 125
Astoria, NY 11105
(718) 626-1021

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

Project-Related Questions
Javier Perez-Maldonado, Project Manager
NYSDEC
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7016
(518) 402-8172
javier.perez-maldonado@dec.ny.gov

Project-Related Health Questions
Renata Ockerby
NYSDOH
Bureau of Environmental Exposure
Investigation
Center for Environmental Health
Corning Tower, Rm 1787
Albany, NY 12237
(518) 402-7860
bee@health.ny.gov

For more information about New York's
Brownfield Cleanup Program, visit:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html

Action is about to begin that will address contamination related to the Astoria Steel Site ("site") located at 3-15 26th Avenue, Astoria, NY. Please see the map for the site location. The cleanup activities will be performed by Astoria Owners LLC ("applicant(s)") with oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). NYSDEC has determined that the Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) protects public health and the environment and has approved the plan. The approved RAWP and other documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified to the left under "Where to Find Information." Remedial activities are expected to begin in June 2019 and last about 4 months.

Based on the findings of the investigation, NYSDEC in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has determined that the site poses a significant threat to public health or the environment. This decision is based on the nature of the existing contaminants identified at the site and the potential for human exposure to site-related contaminants via soil vapors.

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 key components of the remedy are:

- Excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil which exceeds the Soil Cleanup Objectives for Restricted Residential Use. The excavation includes removal of approximately 10,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil to a maximum depth of approximately 11 feet below ground surface within the perimeter of the site;
- During excavation, any underground storage tanks and other possible sources of contamination will be removed;
- Clean fill will be brought in to complete backfilling of the excavation and establish the design grades at the site;
- In-situ ("in-place") chemical treatment will be used to treat chlorinated volatile organic compounds in site groundwater;
- Collection of "endpoint" samples after excavation to evaluate the effectiveness of the remedy;
- Implementation of a Site Management Plan (SMP) would also be required for long-term maintenance of the remedial systems; and
- Recording of an Environmental Easement to ensure proper use of the site.

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A site-specific Health and Safety Plan (HASP) and a Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP) will be implemented during remediation activities. The HASP and CAMP establish procedures to protect on-site workers and residents and includes required air monitoring as well as dust and odor suppression measures.

Next Steps: After the applicant(s) completes the cleanup activities, they will prepare a Final Engineering Report (FER) and submit it to NYSDEC. The FER will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved. When NYSDEC is satisfied that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved for the site, it will approve the FER. NYSDEC will then issue a Certificate of Completion (CoC) to the applicant(s). The applicant(s) would be able to redevelop the site in conjunction with receiving a CoC. In addition, the applicant(s):

- Would have no liability to the State for contamination at or coming from the site, subject to certain conditions; and
- Would be eligible for tax credits to offset the costs of performing cleanup activities and for redevelopment of the site.

NYSDEC will issue a fact sheet that describes the content of the FER. The fact sheet will identify any institutional controls (for example, deed restrictions) or engineering controls (for example, a site cap) necessary at the site in relation to the issuance of the CoC.

Site Description: The site consists of one 3.7-acre parcel and is located on the East River north of 26th Avenue. To the west is a former complex with filming sets and production offices, and to the east are various commercial businesses. The site formerly consisted of three buildings and an associated paved parking lot. The buildings were demolished in 2018. Past uses of the site have included a steel company, a foundry, an iron aggregate supplier, a gas purifying operation, and a lumber operation. Based upon investigations, the subsurface soils and/or groundwater are contaminated with metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), semi volatile organic compounds and VOCs.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the Site ID, C241155) at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/externalapps/derexternal/index.cfm?pageid=3>

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 NYSDEC 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>

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.

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

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Figure 1 – Site Location

