



FACT SHEET

Brownfield Cleanup Program

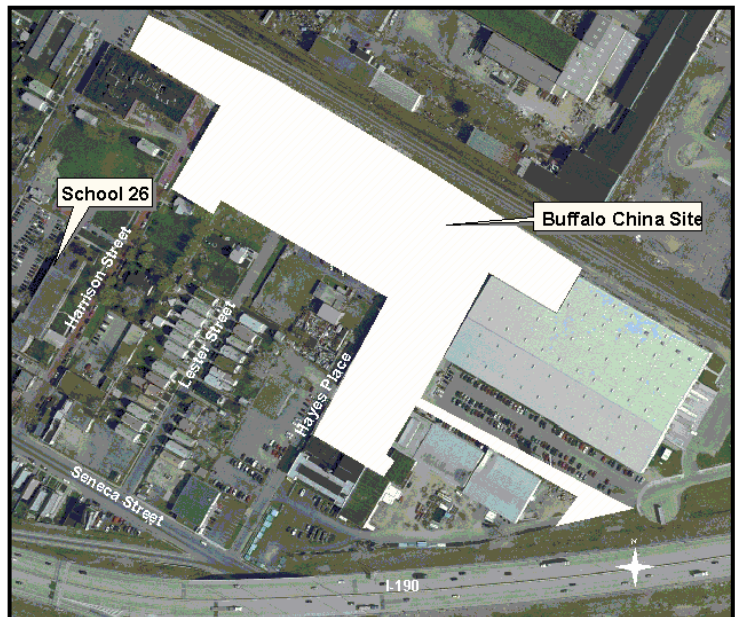
Former Buffalo China Site
Site # C915209
Buffalo, Erie County

August 2007

Environmental Investigation Work to Begin at the Former Buffalo China site; Public Information Session to be Held

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the New York State Department of Health (DOH) announce the start of environmental investigation activities at and nearby to the former Buffalo China site located at 51 Hayes Place, Buffalo, Erie County.

To learn more about upcoming investigation activities, you are invited to attend a public availability session on Tuesday, September 11th, 2007 at the Seneca Babcock Community Center at 1168 Seneca Street in Buffalo, between the hours of 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM. Please feel welcome to stop by anytime between 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM, and representatives from DEC and DOH will be available to discuss project details, answer questions, and talk with you personally about the project.



Upcoming environmental investigation activities are necessary in order to develop an appropriate cleanup plan for the site, and to move towards the ultimate goal of cleaning up and improving environmental conditions at the site. Investigation and cleanup work at this site will be performed under New York State's Brownfield Cleanup Program.

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 and business.

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 BCP, visit:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html

Site Background

The Buffalo China site has historically been the location of china and mirror manufacturing. The site occupies approximately 8 acres and is bounded on the north by Conrail railroad tracks on the east by the adjoining former Buffalo China Warehouse and other commercial/industrial facilities, and on the south and west by residential properties.

The City of Buffalo School #26 (currently used only for administrative purposes) and an adjacent city playground located a few hundred feet to the southeast are planned to undergo sampling as part of this investigation. The nearest body of water is the Buffalo River, located approximately ¼ mile south and east of the site.

The site has undergone two initial environmental investigations to date, both indicating that soil and groundwater on the Buffalo China property have been environmentally impacted by Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and lead, due to former site use. (VOCs are carbon-containing chemicals that readily evaporate such as cleaning solvents, gasoline, etc. Many common industrial chemicals are VOCs.)

Further investigation is necessary to determine the extent of environmental impacts at the site, and to test if impacts extend beyond site boundaries.

Upcoming Investigation Activities

The goals of upcoming site investigation work are to:

- define the type and location of contamination in the site's soil, groundwater and soil gas;
- identify the source(s) of contamination;
- assess the impact of contamination on the environment and public health; and
- use information from the investigation to develop a cleanup plan (Remedial Work Plan) to address the contamination.

Upcoming site investigation activities will include:

- soil borings from designated locations on the former Buffalo China site;
- collecting surface soil samples from designated off-site locations;
- installing additional monitoring wells at designated on-site and off-site locations;
- sampling soil and groundwater at designated on-site and off-site locations; and
- monitoring soil vapor if necessary.

Site investigation activities will be performed by a contractor hired by Buffalo China, and will be overseen by DEC. Upcoming off-site investigation activities will begin in early to mid-August and are expected to take several weeks to complete. On-site investigation activities were completed in July 2007.

Investigation Activities near the Buffalo China Site

Any investigation work extending beyond site boundaries onto private property will be conducted only with proper landowner notification and consent.

In an effort to conduct a thorough and comprehensive investigation, several surface soil samples and groundwater monitoring well samples will be collected in the neighborhood adjacent to the former Buffalo China site. Investigation activities will include collecting and analyzing the top 2 inches of soil, installing several groundwater monitoring wells, and collecting groundwater samples.

Next Steps

Following site investigation activities, a Remedial Investigation and Remedial Alternatives Report will be prepared to summarize investigation results and to propose an appropriate cleanup plan for the site. Fact sheets, similar to this one, will be sent throughout the project to keep you updated and informed on the project's progress.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Locations to View Project -Related Documents

Important project documents are available for public review at the locations identified below. Project documents at these locations include the final Site Investigation Work Plan, and the project's BCP application. You are welcome and encouraged to view project documents at:

East Clinton Branch Library
1929 East Clinton Street
Buffalo, New York 14206
Phone: (716) 823-5626

Library Hours:

Tuesday/Friday - 11 AM to 6 PM
Wednesday - 4 PM to 8 PM

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14203-2999
Attn: Ms. Linda Ross, CPG
Phone: (716) 851-7220
Hours: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
(Please call for an appointment.)

Who to Contact

Comments and questions regarding this project are always welcome and can be directed to the contacts below:

Site-Related Project Questions

Ms. Linda Ross, CPG
New York State Department of Environmental
Conservation
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14203-2999
716-851-7220

Site-Related Health Questions

Mr. Cameron O'Connor, Public Health Specialist
New York State Department of Health
584 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202
716-847-4385

If you know of someone who would like to be added to the project mailing list, please have them contact the DEC 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. Thank you.