



FACT SHEET

Report on Environmental Investigation and Cleanup Activities at Niagara Street and Pennsylvania Avenue Site Available for Review; Comment Period Announced

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Project No. C915223

October 2009

Introduction

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) requests public comment on a report about environmental investigation and cleanup activities at the Niagara Street and Pennsylvania Avenue site (the Site) in Buffalo. The report describes the specific investigation techniques, findings, and corrective actions taken to address petroleum contamination at the site.

The report, called the Remedial Investigation/Alternative Analysis / Interim Remedial Measure (RI/AAR/IRM) Report, is available for public review at the locations listed in this fact sheet and the DEC website (see opposite page for web address). **Written comments on the report will be accepted from October 30 until December 13, 2009** and can be sent to the project manager at the address listed on the opposite page, or e-mailed to region9@gw.dec.state.ny.us.



Site Location Map

Cleanup work at the site was performed by 1093 Group, LLC under New York State's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP). The goal of the BCP is to facilitate private-sector cleanup of brownfields. Brownfields typically are former industrial properties where redevelopment or reuse may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of contamination. More information on brownfields and the BCP is available on DEC's website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html>.

Description of Environmental Activities Detailed in the Report

The RI/AA/IRM Report documents the environmental investigation and cleanup work completed at the Site as of August 2009. Investigation activities detailed in the report included:

- Installing groundwater monitoring wells;
- Sampling, analyzing, and evaluating soil and groundwater; and
- Completing a site survey for environmental easement purposes. An environmental easement is a legal tool that places restrictions on how a property may be reused so that public health is protected.

The 2009 investigation confirmed that contaminants of concern at the Site consisted of petroleum-based volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds (VOCs and SVOCs), and to a lesser extent, heavy metals. These contaminants were present in soil and groundwater.

In order to expedite construction activities on the property, 1093 Group, LLC completed soil and underground tank removals in 2009 as an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM). An IRM is a cleanup action that may be conducted

without extensive investigation in order to address an obvious environmental problem and reduce risk to public health and the environment. The IRM measures, discussed in the RI/AA/IRM Report, included:

- Excavating petroleum-impacted soil;
- Removing and properly disposing five underground storage tanks (USTs);
- Sampling the sidewalls and bottom of the excavation to ensure that contaminant concentrations were at or below standards protective of public health and the environment;
- Transporting and disposing impacted soils at a registered waste disposal facility; and
- Placing clean gravel in the excavation areas.

For more information about the investigation and cleanup activities, please consult the full RI/AA/IRM Report.

What is the Next Step?

The RI/AA/IRM Report concludes that the IRM successfully addressed contamination at the site and that additional cleanup work is not necessary. NYSDEC will consider public comment before approving the final RI/AA/IRM Report. 1093 Group, LLC will then submit a Final Engineering Report that describes all completed cleanup activities. NYSDEC will notify the public about future site developments through fact sheets similar to this one.

Site Background

The Site encompasses a quarter of an acre and is located on the southeast corner of Niagara Street and Pennsylvania Avenue in a predominantly commercial and residential area of Buffalo, New York. The Site has been used for commercial purposes, including an auto repair/service and gasoline retail facility. Previous releases of petroleum have impacted the Site. 1093 Group, LLC intends to develop the property for commercial purposes.

Who Should I Contact If I Have Questions About the Site?

Project related questions:

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Environment related questions:

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Health related questions:

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Locations to View Public Documents

Public understanding and involvement are important to the success of New York Brownfields programs. To keep you informed, the NYSDEC has established the following locations where you can view project documents:

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
1 Lafayette Square
Buffalo, NY 14203
Phone: (716) 858-8900

OR

NYSDEC Buffalo Office
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, N.Y. 14203
(716) 851-7220
(please call for appointment)

You may also view project documents at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37554.html>. Look for the Niagara Street Pennsylvania Ave entry under the Erie County heading.

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