

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Citizen Participation Plan for 240 Kensington Avenue

240 Kensington Avenue City of Buffalo Erie, New York

June 2015

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Note: The information presented in this Citizen Participation Plan was current as of the date of its approval by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Portions of this Citizen Participation Plan may be revised during the site's investigation and cleanup process.

Applicant: Development Unlimited of WNY, LLC ("Applicant")

Site Name: 240 Kensington Avenue Site ("Site")

Site Address: 240 Kensington Avenue

Site County: **Erie**Site Number: **C915295**

1. What is New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program?

New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) works with private developers to encourage the voluntary cleanup of contaminated properties known as "brownfields" so that they can be reused and developed. 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. A brownfield typically is a former industrial or commercial property where operations may have resulted in environmental contamination. A brownfield can pose environmental, legal, and financial burdens on a community. If a brownfield is not addressed, it can reduce property values in the area and affect economic development of nearby properties.

The BCP is administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) which oversees Applicants that conduct brownfield site investigation and cleanup activities. An Applicant is a person who has requested to participate in the BCP and has been accepted by NYSDEC. The BCP contains investigation and cleanup requirements, ensuring that cleanups protect public health and the environment. When NYSDEC certifies that these requirements have been met, the property can be reused or redeveloped for the intended use.

For more information about the BCP, go online at: http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html .

2. Citizen Participation Activities

Why NYSDEC Involves the Public and Why It Is Important

NYSDEC involves the public to improve the process of investigating and cleaning up contaminated sites, and to enable citizens to participate more fully in decisions that affect their health, environment, and social well being. NYSDEC provides opportunities for citizen involvement and encourages early two-way communication with citizens before decision makers form or adopt final positions.

Involving citizens affected and interest in site investigation and cleanup programs is important for many reasons. These include:

• Promoting the development of timely, effective site investigation and cleanup programs that protect public health and the environment

- Improving public access to, and understanding of, issues and information related to a particular site and that site's investigation and cleanup process
- Providing citizens with early and continuing opportunities to participate in NYSDEC's site investigation and cleanup process
- Ensuring that NYSDEC makes site investigation and cleanup decisions that benefit from input that reflects the interests and perspectives found within the affected community
- Encouraging dialogue to promote the exchange of information among the affected/interested public, State agencies, and other interested parties that strengthens trust among the parties, increases understanding of site and community issues and concerns, and improves decision making.

This Citizen Participation (CP) Plan provides information about how NYSDEC will inform and involve the public during the investigation and cleanup of the site identified above. The public information and involvement program will be carried out with assistance, as appropriate, from the Applicant.

Project Contacts

Appendix A identifies NYSDEC project contact(s) to whom the public should address questions or request information about the site's investigation and cleanup program. The public's suggestions about this CP Plan and the CP program for the site are always welcome. Interested people are encouraged to share their ideas and suggestions with the project contacts at any time.

Locations of Reports and Information

The locations of the reports and information related to the site's investigation and cleanup program also are identified in Appendix A. These locations provide convenient access to important project documents for public review and comment. Some documents may be placed on the NYSDEC web site. If this occurs, NYSDEC will inform the public in fact sheets distributed about the site and by other means, as appropriate.

Site Contact List

Appendix B contains the site contact list. This list has been developed to keep the community informed about, and involved in, the site's investigation and cleanup process. The site contact list will be used periodically to distribute fact sheets that provide updates about the status of the project. These will include notifications of upcoming activities at the site (such as fieldwork), as well as availability of project documents and announcements about public comment periods. The site contact list includes, at a minimum:

- chief executive officer and planning board chairperson of each county, city, town and village in which the site is located;
- residents, owners, and occupants of the site and properties adjacent to the site;
- the public water supplier which services the area in which the site is located;
- any person who has requested to be placed on the site contact list;
- the administrator of any school or day care facility located on or near the site for purposes of posting and/or dissemination of information at the facility;
- location(s) of reports and information.

The site contact list will be reviewed periodically and updated as appropriate. Individuals and organizations will be added to the site contact list upon request. Such requests should be submitted to the NYSDEC project contact(s) identified in Appendix A. Other additions to the site contact list may be made at the discretion of the NYSDEC project manager, in consultation with other NYSDEC staff as appropriate.

CP Activities

The table at the end of this section identifies the CP activities, at a minimum, that have been and will be conducted during the site's investigation and cleanup program. The flowchart in Appendix D shows how these CP activities integrate with the site investigation and cleanup process. The public is informed about these CP activities through fact sheets and notices distributed at significant points during the program. Elements of the investigation and cleanup process that match up with the CP activities are explained briefly in Section 5.

- Notices and fact sheets help the interested and affected public to understand contamination issues related to a site, and the nature and progress of efforts to investigate and clean up a site.
- Public forums, comment periods and contact with project managers provide opportunities for the public to contribute information, opinions and perspectives that have potential to influence decisions about a site's investigation and cleanup.

The public is encouraged to contact project staff at any time during the site's investigation and cleanup process with questions, comments, or requests for information.

This CP Plan may be revised due to changes in major issues of public concern identified in Section 3 or in the nature and scope of investigation and cleanup activities. Modifications may include additions to the site contact list and changes in planned citizen participation activities.

Technical Assistance Grant

NYSDEC must determine if the site poses a significant threat to public health or the environment. This determination generally is made using information developed during the investigation of the site, as described in Section 5.

If the site is determined to be a significant threat, a qualifying community group may apply for a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG). The purpose of a TAG is to provide funds to the qualifying group to obtain independent technical assistance. This assistance helps the TAG recipient to interpret and understand existing environmental information about the nature and extent of contamination related to the site and the development/implementation of a remedy.

An eligible community group must certify that its membership represents the interests of the community affected by the site, and that its members' health, economic well-being or enjoyment of the environment may be affected by a release or threatened release of contamination at the site.

For more information about TAGs, go online at http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/2590.html

Note: The table identifying the citizen participation activities related to the site's investigation and cleanup program follows on the next page:

Citizen Participation Requirements (Activities)	Timing of CP Activity(ies)					
Application Process:						
Prepare site contact listEstablish document repositories	At time of preparation of application to participate in the BCP.					
 Publish notice in Environmental Notice Bulletin (ENB) announcing receipt of application and 30-day public comment period Publish above ENB content in local newspaper Mail above ENB content to site contact list Conduct 30-day public comment period 	When NYSDEC determines that BCP application is complete. The 30-day public comment period begins on date of publication of notice in ENB. End date of public comment period is as stated in ENB notice. Therefore, ENB notice, newspaper notice, and notice to the site contact list should be provided to the public at the same time.					
After Execution of Brownfield Site Cleanup Agreement:						
Prepare Citizen Participation (CP) Plan	Before start of Remedial Investigation					
Before NYSDEC Approves Remedial Investigation (RI) Work Plan:						
 Distribute fact sheet to site contact list about proposed RI activities and announcing 30-day public comment period about draft RI Work Plan Conduct 30-day public comment period 	Before NYSDEC approves RI Work Plan. If RI Work Plan is submitted with application, public comment periods will be combined and public notice will include fact sheet. Thirty-day public comment period begins/ends as per dates identified in fact sheet.					
After Applicant Completes Remedial Investigation:						
Distribute fact sheet to site contact list that describes RI results	Before NYSDEC approves RI Report					
Before NYSDEC Approves l	Before NYSDEC Approves Remedial Work Plan (RWP):					
 Distribute fact sheet to site contact list about proposed RWP and announcing 45-day public comment period Public meeting by NYSDEC about proposed RWP (if requested by affected community or at discretion of NYSDEC project manager) Conduct 45-day public comment period 	Before NYSDEC approves RWP. Forty-five day public comment period begins/ends as per dates identified in fact sheet. Public meeting would be held within the 45-day public comment period.					
Before Applicant Starts Cleanup Action:						
Distribute fact sheet to site contact list that describes upcoming cleanup action	Before the start of cleanup action.					
After Applicant Completes Cleanup Action:						
 Distribute fact sheet to site contact list that announces that cleanup action has been completed and that summarizes the Final Engineering Report Distribute fact sheet to site contact list announcing issuance of Certificate of Completion (COC) 	At the time NYSDEC approves Final Engineering Report. These two fact sheets are combined if possible if there is not a delay in issuing the COC.					

3. Major Issues of Public Concern

This section of the CP Plan identifies major issues of public concern that relate to the site. Additional major issues of public concern may be identified during the course of the site's investigation and cleanup process.

Development Unlimited of WNY, LLC intends to perform the required BCP Site investigation and remediation to create a property suitable for reuse as residential apartments. The project will result in the redevelopment and reuse of an environmentally impaired property into a productive, community-enhancing commercial facility. Construction activities will create temporary construction jobs and future redevelopment will create new permanent positions upon opening of the new facility. The RI Work Plan will be designed to assess the site soil/fill conditions, evaluate Site groundwater quality and evaluate other potential environmental conditions on the Site. Development Unlimited of WNY, LLC intends to remediate the Site to achieve restricted residential soil cleanup objectives.

4. Site Information

Appendix C contains a map identifying the location of the site.

Site Description

The Site consists the southern portion (approximately 2.5 acres) of parcel, SBL: 89.16-1-5.1 that totals approximately 6.17 acres in size. It is located in a mixed-use industrial, commercial and residential area of the City of Buffalo, Erie County, New York. The Site is bound by Kensington Avenue to the south, Pauline Street, to the east, the northern portion of 240 Kensington Avenue (3.67 acres which is not subject to this BCP application) to the north, and the railroad right-of-way to the west. The majority of the properties to the north and east are residential.

History of Site Use, Investigation, and Cleanup

The Site was historically used for industrial purposes. The Site was the former location of the Hewitt-Robins foam rubber manufacturing facility. It was developed sometime between 1890s and 1920, with some expansion occurring. The City of Buffalo took ownership of the property in 1983; the Site buildings were fully demolished by 1989. The C&D waste from the building demolition may have been used on-site as fill material. The Site is currently vacant and owned by the City of Buffalo.

In addition to the industrial nature of the Site, previous investigation have indicated that chemicals and petroleum products were used on the Site. Sanborn maps indicate the presence of a Benzol Tank shed which was located in at least two (2) locations on the property due to expansion, gasoline tanks, a boiler house, a testing lab and a machine shop. The previous investigations have identified the presence of petroleum related VOCs (pVOCs) and petroleum related SVOCs (pSVOCs) in the soil. One "closed" spill (Spill No 9001921) is associated with

the property.

5. Investigation and Cleanup Process

Application

The Applicant has applied for and been accepted into New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program as a Volunteer. This means that the Applicant was not responsible for the disposal or discharge of the contaminants or whose ownership or operation of the site took place after the discharge or disposal of contaminants. The Volunteer must fully characterize the nature and extent of contamination onsite, and must conduct a "qualitative exposure assessment," a process that characterizes the actual or potential exposures of people, fish and wildlife to contaminants on the site and to contamination that has migrated from the site.

The Applicant in its Application proposes that the site will be used for residential purposes.

To achieve this goal, the Applicant will conduct investigation and cleanup activities at the site with oversight provided by NYSDEC. The Brownfield Cleanup Agreement executed by NYSDEC and the Applicant sets forth the responsibilities of each party in conducting these activities at the site.

Investigation

The Applicant will conduct an investigation of the site officially called a "remedial investigation" (RI). This investigation will be performed with NYSDEC oversight. The Applicant must develop a remedial investigation workplan, which is subject to public comment.

The site investigation has several goals:

- 1) define the nature and extent of contamination in soil, surface water, groundwater and any other parts of the environment that may be affected;
- 2) identify the source(s) of the contamination;
- 3) assess the impact of the contamination on public health and the environment; and
- 4) provide information to support the development of a proposed remedy to address the contamination or the determination that cleanup is not necessary.

When the investigation is complete, the Applicant will prepare and submit a report that summarizes the results. This report also will recommend whether cleanup action is needed to address site-related contamination. The investigation report is subject to review and approval by NYSDEC.

NYSDEC will use the information in the investigation report to determine if the site poses a significant threat to public health or the environment. If the site is a "significant threat," it must be cleaned up using a remedy selected by NYSDEC from an analysis of alternatives prepared by the Applicant and approved by NYSDEC. If the site does not pose a significant threat, the

Applicant may select the remedy from the approved analysis of alternatives.

Remedy Selection

When the investigation of the site has been determined to be complete, the project likely would proceed in one of two directions:

1. The Applicant may recommend in its investigation report that no action is necessary at the site. In this case, NYSDEC would make the investigation report available for public comment for 45 days. NYSDEC then would complete its review, make any necessary revisions, and, if appropriate, approve the investigation report. NYSDEC would then issue a "Certificate of Completion" (described below) to the Applicant.

or

2. The Applicant may recommend in its investigation report that action needs to be taken to address site contamination. After NYSDEC approves the investigation report, the Applicant may then develop a cleanup plan, officially called a "Remedial Work Plan". The Remedial Work Plan describes the Applicant's proposed remedy for addressing contamination related to the site.

When the Applicant submits a proposed Remedial Work Plan for approval, NYSDEC would announce the availability of the proposed plan for public review during a 45-day public comment period.

Cleanup Action

NYSDEC will consider public comments, and revise the draft cleanup plan if necessary, before approving the proposed remedy. The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) must concur with the proposed remedy. After approval, the proposed remedy becomes the selected remedy.

The Applicant may then design and perform the cleanup action to address the site contamination. NYSDEC and NYSDOH oversee the activities. When the Applicant completes cleanup activities, it will prepare a final engineering report that certifies that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved within a specific time frame. NYSDEC will review the report to be certain that the cleanup is protective of public health and the environment for the intended use of the site.

Certificate of Completion

When NYSDEC is satisfied that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved for the site, it will approve the final engineering report. NYSDEC then will issue a Certificate of Completion (COC) to the Applicant. The COC states that cleanup goals have been achieved, and relieves the Applicant from future liability for site-related contamination, subject to certain conditions. The Applicant would be eligible to redevelop the site after it receives a COC.

Site Management

Site management is the last phase of the site cleanup program. This phase begins when the COC is issued. Site management may be conducted by the Applicant under NYSDEC oversight, if contamination will remain in place. Site management incorporates any institutional and engineering controls required to ensure that the remedy implemented for the site remains protective of public health and the environment. All significant activities are detailed in a Site Management Plan.

An institutional control is a non-physical restriction on use of the site, such as a deed restriction that would prevent or restrict certain uses of the property. An institutional control may be used when the cleanup action leaves some contamination that makes the site suitable for some, but not all uses.

An engineering control is a physical barrier or method to manage contamination. Examples include: caps, covers, barriers, fences, and treatment of water supplies.

Site management also may include the operation and maintenance of a component of the remedy, such as a system that is pumping and treating groundwater. Site management continues until NYSDEC determines that it is no longer needed.

Appendix -A **Project Contacts and Locations of Reports and Information**

Project Contacts

For information about the site's investigation and cleanup program, the public may contact any of the following project staff:

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC):

Mr. Antony Lopes Citizen Participation Specialist

Project Manager NYSDEC Region 9 **NYSDEC Region 9** 270 Michigan Avenue Division of Environmental Remediation Buffalo, NY 14203 270 Michigan Avenue (716) 851-7220

Buffalo, NY 14203 (716) 851-7220

New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH):

Mr. Mark Sergott Project Manager NYSDOH

Empire State Plaza – Corning Tower, Room 1787

Albany, New York 12237 Phone: (518) 402-7860

Hours: M-F 8:30 AM – 4:45 PM

Locations of Reports and Information

The facilities identified below are being used to provide the public with convenient access to important project documents:

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library

NYSDEC Region 9 1187 East Delevan Ave 270 Michigan Avenue Buffalo, NY 14215 Buffalo, NY 14203 Attn: Ms. Gwen Collier, Director

Attn: Mr. Anthony Lopes Hours: Sunday Closed Hours: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Mon – Tues: 12:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Monday through Friday Wednesday: Closed

Phone: (716) 851-7000 Thurs – Fri: 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM

(call for appointment) Saturday 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Phone: (716) 896-4433

Appendix B - Site Contact List

Contact List Information 240 Kensington Avenue Site

Erie County Contacts:

Honorable Mark Poloncarz Erie County Executive 95 Franklin Street Buffalo, NY 14202

Commissioner Maria R. Whyte Erie Co. Environment & Plan. 95 Franklin Street Buffalo, NY 14202

Mr. Robert Graber Erie County Legislature Clerk 25 Delaware Avenue Buffalo, NY 14202

Commissioner Gale Burstein Erie Co. Health Dept. 95 Franklin Street, Room 931 Buffalo, NY 14202

Mr. John J. LaFalce ECIDA 143 Genesee Street Buffalo, NY 14203 Ms. Betty Jean Grant District 2 Erie County Legislator 790 East Delavan Avenue Buffalo, NY 14215

Mr. Paul Kranz Erie Co. Environment & Plan. 95 Franklin Street Buffalo, NY 14202

Mr. Christopher Pawenski Erie Co. Environment & Planning 95 Franklin Street Buffalo, NY 14202

Commissioner Daniel Neaverth, Jr. Erie County Local Emergency 45 Elm Street Buffalo, NY 14203

City of Buffalo Contacts:

Byron Brown, Mayor City of Buffalo 65 Niagara Square Buffalo, NY 14219

James A. Morrell, Chairman City of Buffalo Planning Board 901 City Hall Buffalo, NY 14219 Councilman Joseph Golombek, Jr. North District Common Council 1502 City Hall Buffalo, NY 14202

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Contact List Information 240 Kensington Avenue Site

Supplier of Potable Water:

Buffalo Water Authority 281 Exchange Street Buffalo, NY 14204

Local News Media:

Buffalo News ATTN: Ms. Aaron Besecker 1 News Plaza Buffalo, NY 14240

WIVB - Ch. 4 ATTN: Ms. Lisa Fullone 2077 Elmwood Avenue Buffalo, NY 14207

Alternate Press ATTN: Mr. Joe Schmidbauer P.O. Box 729, Washington Station Buffalo, NY 14205

WBEN News Radio 930 Entercom Radio of Buffalo 500 Corporate Pkwy, Ste 200 Buffalo, NY 14226

Nearby Schools:

Brian Wiesinger, Principal Burgard Vocational High School 400 Kensington Avenue Buffalo, NY 14214

H. Geneive Jones-Johnson, Principal Dr. George Blackman Ecc 2358 Main Street Buffalo, NY 14214 WGRZ TV - Ch. 2 ATTN: Ms. Maria Sisti 259 Delaware Avenue Buffalo, NY 14202

WKBW News Channel 7 ATTN: Ms. Melanie Pritchard 7 Broadcast Plaza Buffalo, NY 14202

Business First ATTN: Anne Marie Franczyk 465 Main Street Buffalo, NY 14203-1793

WNED, Environmental News Desk ATTN: Mr. Michael Desmond P.O. Box 1263, Horizons Plaza Buffalo, NY 14240

Timothy Kelly, Superintendent St. Mary's School For The Deaf 2253 Main St. Buffalo, NY 14214

Mr. Vitale, Principal Ps 42 Occupational Training Center 2495 Main Street Buffalo, NY 14214-2154

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Contact List Information 240 Kensington Avenue Site

Other Interested Parties:

Ms. Judy Robinson Citizens Env. Coalition 543 Franklin Street Suite 2 Buffalo, NY 14202-1109

Document Repository:

Ms. Gwen Collier, Director Buffalo & Erie County Public Library East Delavan Branch Buffalo, NY 14215



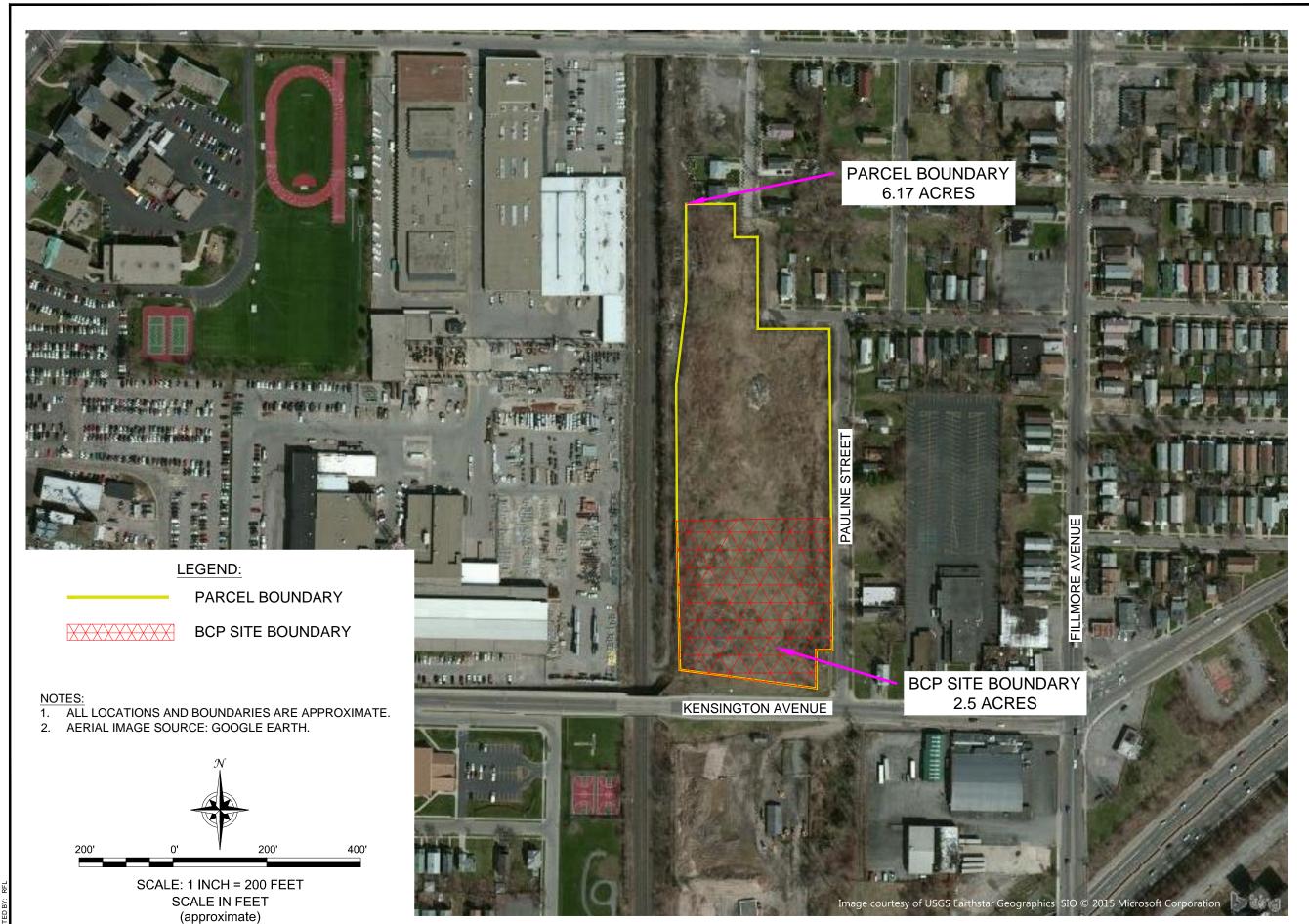
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Contact List Information; Adjacent Property Owners List 240 Kensington Avenue Site

	Adjacent Property Address			Property Owner	
No.	Street	Property Type	Property Use	Mailing Address	
270	Kensington Ave	Commercial	Vacant	65 Niagara Square Buffalo, NY 14202	
276	Kensington Ave	Residential	Vacant Land	Eternal Hope Church of God In Christ 505 Pleasantview Drive Lancaster, NY 14086	
11	Pauline St	Residential	Vacant Land	Eternal Hope Church of God In Christ 19 Pauline Street Buffalo, NY 14214	
13	Pauline St	Residential	Vacant Land	Perfecting Title 65 Niagara Square Buffalo, NY 14202	
17	Pauline St	Residential	2 Family	Michael A Hunter 17 Pauline Street Buffalo, NY 14214	
19	Pauline St	Commercial	Religious	Eternal Hope Church of God In Christ 19 Pauline Street Buffalo, NY 14214	
27	Pauline St	Residential	Vacant Land	Eternal Hope Church of God In Christ 19 Pauline Street Buffalo, NY 14214	
48	Pauline St	Commercial	Gas Measure Station	Nation Fuel Gas District 6363 Main Street Williamsville, NY 14221	
33	Pauline St	Residential	Vacant Land	City Buffalo Perfecting Title 65 Niagara Square Buffalo, NY 14202	
35	Pauline St	Residential	Vacant Land	City Buffalo Perfecting Title 65 Niagara Square Buffalo, NY 14202	
37	Pauline St	Residential	Vacant Industrial	City Buffalo Perfecting Title 65 Niagara Square Buffalo, NY 14202	
240	Kensington Ave	Commercial	Vacant Land	City of Buffalo Perfecting Title 323 City Hall Buffalo, NY 14202	
0	Kensington Ave	Railroad	Railroad		
239	Kensington Ave	Commercial	Manufacture	239-41 Kensington Avenue LLC 2939 Lockport Rd Niagara Falls, NY 14305	
243	Kensington Ave	Commercial	Vacant	City Buffalo Perfecting 65 Niagara Square Buffalo, NY 14202	
144	Kensington Ave	Light Industrial	Utility	National Grid 144 Kensington Ave Buffalo, NY 14214	

Appendix C - Site Location Map



BROWNFIELD CLEANUP PROGRAM APPLICATION

FIGURE 2

Appendix D– Brownfield Cleanup Program Process

