



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Where to Find Information

Access project documents through the DECinfo Locator
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/C734083/>
and at these locations:

Onondaga County Public Library
The Galleries of Syracuse
447 South Salina Street
Syracuse, NY 13204
(315) 435-1900

NYSDEC
Attn: Karen Cahill
615 Erie Blvd West
Syracuse, NY 13204
(315) 426-7551
(By appointment only)

Who to Contact

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

Project-Related Questions
Karen Cahill, Project Manager
NYSDEC
615 Erie Blvd West
Syracuse, NY 13204
(315) 426-7551
karen.cahill@dec.ny.gov

Project-Related Health Questions
Sarita Wagh
NYSDOH
Empire State Plaza
Corning Tower, Room 1787
Albany, NY 12237
(518) 402-7860
beci@health.ny.gov

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

FACT SHEET

Brownfield Cleanup Program

800 Hiawatha Blvd. West
(Former Roth Steel)

800 Hiawatha Blvd. West
Syracuse, NY 13204

SITE No. C734083

NYSDEC REGION 7

April 2022

Remedy Proposed for Brownfield Site Contamination; Public Comment Period Announced

The public is invited to comment on a proposed remedy being reviewed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), to address contamination related to the 800 Hiawatha Blvd West site ("site") located at 800 Hiawatha Blvd West, City of Syracuse, Onondaga County. Please see the map below for the site location.

Based on the findings of the investigation, NYSDEC, in consultation with the NYSDOH, has determined that the site does not pose a significant threat to public health or the environment.

How to Comment: NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed plan, called a Draft Alternatives Analysis/Remedial Work Plan (AA/RWP) for 45 days, from **April 20 through June 4, 2022.**

- Access the AA/RWP and other project documents online through the DECinfo Locator: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/C734083/>.
- Documents also are available at the locations identified at left under "Where to Find Information."
- Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed at left under Project-Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area.

Draft Remedial Work Plan: The proposed remedy consists of:

- Excavating approximately 800 cubic yards of contaminated soil for off-site disposal;
- Removing portions of or all concrete former building slabs for on-site reuse or for off-site disposal;
- Installing a clean crushed stone cover system, including a demarcation layer, over an approximately 6.7-acre area to prevent contact with soil that does not meet commercial use soil cleanup objectives (SCOs);
- Installing a clean soil cover, including a demarcation layer, over a 0.4-acre area to prevent contact with soil that does not meet industrial use SCOs;
- Importing clean material that meets the commercial use and industrial use criteria for backfill;
- Implementing a Health and Safety Plan and Community Air Monitoring Plan during all ground intrusive activities;
- Recording an Environmental Easement to restrict site uses, prohibit groundwater use, and require compliance with the Site Management Plan; and

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- Implementing a Site Management Plan required for inspection and maintenance of the remedy.

The proposed remedy was developed by the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (“applicant”) after performing a detailed investigation of the site under New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP).

Next Steps: NYSDEC will consider public comments, revise the cleanup plan as necessary, and issue a final Decision Document. 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, with oversight by NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the site.

Site Description: The site is located at 800 Hiawatha Boulevard West in Syracuse, NY, and comprises the eastern and northern portions of the Former Roth Steel site. The site is situated along the southern shore of Onondaga Lake in an urban area north of the intersection of Hiawatha Boulevard and State Fair Boulevard. Site boundaries include the Onondaga Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant (Metro) to the north, Hiawatha Boulevard to the southeast, and a portion of State Fair Boulevard to the south. The site is currently vacant and was formerly owned and operated by Roth Steel as a metal processing and recycling facility. The property immediately to the west of the site made up the remainder of the former Roth Steel facility and is being addressed under the State Superfund Program (Site No. 734083). Six former buildings on the site were demolished in 2018. The concrete slabs remain.

A 1.7-acre strip of land along the north boundary of the site, known as Operable Unit 3 (OU3), has been redeveloped as an extension to the Onondaga Lake Loop the Lake pedestrian trail. The at-grade portion of the trail is fenced, primarily paved, and bordered by vegetative areas. The northwest section of the trail is elevated and connects to a pedestrian bridge, which rises to span the railroad tracks located just north of the property boundary. A small, isolated portion of the site (0.4 acres) located between the pedestrian trail and Metro is known as Operable Unit 1 (OU1) and will be cleaned up to industrial use standards. It is planned to be fenced off and remain vacant. The remainder of the site, known as Operable Unit 02 (OU2), is planned to include new parking lots for the Onondaga Lake trail extension.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the site ID, C734083) at:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/xtapps/dereexternal/index.cfm?pageid=3>

Summary of the Investigation: The primary contaminants of concern at the site are polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and metals which were found site-wide in soil and automobile shredder residue (ASR) from past metal processing operations. ASR has been identified within a former disposal cell area that remains in the subsurface on OU1. PCBs in this area exceed the industrial use soil cleanup objective (SCO) of 25 ppm. PCBs exceeding the commercial use SCO of 10 ppm are also present in two isolated areas in OU2. Metals are present in soil above SCOs in the former vehicle storage area in OU2.

Interim Remedial Measures (IRMs): During the remedial investigation, from 2015 to 2017, IRMs (expedited cleanup activities) were performed to remove waste from the site as summarized below:

- Characterization, removal and off-site disposal of approximately fifty 55-gallon drums of residual oil/liquids and one drum of PCB capacitors;
- Excavation and off-site disposal of approximately 2,260 tons of PCB-impacted ASR and soil from OU3, prior to construction of the Onondaga Lake trail extension;
- Backfill of IRM excavations with clean crushed stone or structural fill and covered with asphalt or clean imported soil material.
- Placement of an EPA approved cap over remaining PCB-impacted soils in OU3 which could not be removed due to the presence of utilities;
- Implementation of a Community Air Monitoring Plan during all IRM activities.

Performance of the IRMs has eliminated potential continued sources of contamination and exposure pathways (a way in which a person may come in contact with contamination) within OU3 and portions of OU2. In OU3, the IRMs facilitated redevelopment with the construction of the trail extension. Full details of the IRMs are included in Construction Completion Reports submitted with the Remedial Investigation Report.

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 may include

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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 DEC that are applicable based on the reasonably anticipated use of the property, in accordance with applicable regulations.

For more information about the BCP, visit:
<https://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.

Stay Informed With DEC Delivers

Sign up to receive site updates by email:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html

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

DECinfo Locator

Interactive map to access DEC documents and public data about the environmental quality of specific sites: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/109457.html>

Site Location Map





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Contact: Karen Cahill, (315) 426-7551, karen.cahill@dec.ny.gov