

**Former Bethlehem Steel Site  
Erie County, Lackawanna NY  
COMMUNITY LIAISON PLAN**

**May 2021**



**Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation**



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# COMMUNITY LIAISON PLAN

Former Bethlehem Steel Site

Site #915009

Erie County, Lackawanna NY

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Prepared by:



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
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Albany, New York 12233

May 2021



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# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 PURPOSE OF THE FORMER BETHLEHEM STEEL SITE COMMUNITY LIAISON PLAN

Any environmental project that involves remediation and restoration of local properties should raise questions from the community on project activities, and offer opportunities for that community to participate. This Community Liaison Plan serves to identify the project, project team members, community, and stakeholders which will be affected by the remediation of the approximately 486-acre “CMS Area” portion of the former Bethlehem Steel property (which is over 1,000 acres and includes property now under the Brownfield Cleanup Program and on the east side of Route 5), the “Project” or “Site” (Site No. 915009). It functions as a guide to project personnel and the community on the best ways to communicate project-related information; ask and answer questions; and for the public to raise issues and concerns to the proper resources for resolution. In short, it is a roadmap to the sources for information regarding the Site remedial efforts, as well as those project activities that may engender public interest and inquiries.

## 1.2 PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Project Site is located in the City of Lackawanna, New York. It is generally bound by Lake Erie to the west; Gateway Metroport Ship Canal (Ship Canal, which is owned by Gateway Trade Center, Inc., referred to in this document as “Gateway”) and Gateway property to the east; the US Army Corps of Engineers Confined Sediment Disposal Facility and Buffalo Outer Harbor to the north; and extends 50 to 1,750 feet south of Smokes Creek. The site has been divided into ten operable units (OUs), based on location and land use (an operable unit represents a portion of a remedial program site that for technical or administrative reasons can be addressed separately to investigate, eliminate, or mitigate an exposure pathway resulting from the site contamination).

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), are developing a Proposed Statement of Basis (SB) to select remedial actions to address contamination at the site. These decision documents will lay the groundwork for predesign investigations (if applicable), the design phase, and remedial actions tailored to decrease contamination across the site.

So far, an SB was issued for site Operable Units OU-2, OU-3, and OU-4 in 2010 and 2017, respectively. Investigations completed to date on the Site demonstrate soils, sediment, groundwater, and surface water contain benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (BTEX) compounds, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), phenolic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), namely polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and heavy metals (arsenic, lead, cadmium, chromium mercury, silver) at concentrations above Standards, Criteria and Guidance values (SCGs) in various locations and media.

## 1.3 PROJECT HISTORY

Originally developed by Seneca Steel in 1902, the former 1,000-acre+ Bethlehem Steel Lackawanna Plant complex has had a long history of iron and steel production. The property changed ownership to Bethlehem Steel in 1922 and quickly became the third largest steel plant in the USA. At its peak, the property stretched over 2.5 miles of Lake Erie shoreline, from Woodlawn Beach to the Buffalo Inner Harbor and reached one mile inland

(encompassing the Site and an additional 500+ acres of land). Slag, a byproduct of the steel production process (in addition to iron, steel, and coke), was in such excess that it was used to extend the shoreline into Lake Erie up to one-half of a mile and, and in some areas is over 90 feet thick.

In 1988 the National Enforcement Investigations Center (NEIC) was requested by the EPA to conduct a thorough site inspection of the Bethlehem Steel Lackawanna Plant to determine the type(s) of waste generated; identify active and inactive waste management areas; and assist EPA in identifying, characterizing, and remediating releases. A Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI) was initiated by Bethlehem Steel Corporation (BSC) in 1990 and site investigations were conducted primarily by BSC. Based on the RFI results, areas of the former Bethlehem Steel property were identified as needing remediation or further assessment. Steel-making operations were discontinued by the end of 1983 and by the mid-1990s most of the steel-making facilities on the west side of NYS Route 5 had been demolished. In September 2001, BSC's coke oven operation was terminated leaving only a Galvanized Products Division operating on the east side of NYS Route 5. The BSC filed for bankruptcy in 2001 and certain BSC's assets, including the Site and approximately 500 acres of adjacent land in Lackawanna, were acquired by the International Steel Group (ISG) in 2003. ISG formed Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc. ("Tecumseh") to own and manage the Lackawanna, NY property that was acquired from Bethlehem Steel. Later ISG (and its subsidiary Tecumseh) was purchased by Mittal Steel who then merged with Arcelor in 2006 to become ArcelorMittal S.A., the world's largest steel company. In December 2020 Cleveland-Cliffs Steel LLC acquired ArcelorMittal USA, the US subsidiary of ArcelorMittal S.A. Tecumseh, as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cleveland-Cliffs Steel, has retained ownership of the CMS Area and other portions of the former Bethlehem Steel property to the present time.

A Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI) was initiated by Bethlehem Steel Corporation (BSC) in 1990. Site investigations were conducted primarily by BSC before that company filed for bankruptcy in 2001. The final site investigation report was subsequently completed by Tecumseh, a wholly owned subsidiary of ArcelorMittal USA Inc., and submitted in January 2005. Based on the RFI results, areas of the former Bethlehem Steel property were identified as requiring remediation or further assessment. Tecumseh conducted further investigation and assessment of remedial alternatives in a Corrective Measures Study (CMS) Report (2019). A supplemental Comprehensive Groundwater Quality Report (2019) was also prepared that summarized and assessed the groundwater data collected during both the RFI and CMS. The investigation identified approximately 40 areas on the Site that exhibited soil, fill, groundwater, sediment, and surface water contamination. Most of the Tecumseh property outside the CMS Area has been thoroughly investigated and remediated under the New York State Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) and sold to other private and public parties (e.g., Buffalo and Erie County Industrial Land Development Corporation, [ILDC]) for redevelopment.

## 1.4 PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS

The following list identifies the project stakeholders who may affect, be affected by or perceive themselves to be affected by decisions made as they relate to the Site.

- Property owners and residents of Lackawanna NY, and neighboring communities
- Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc., the current owner
- NYSDEC Great Lakes Program
- City of Lackawanna
- Erie County
- Business owners on and adjacent to the former Bethlehem Steel property (wind and solar farms, active industrial companies)

It is not unusual for projects of this type to have several teams working together to address the various aspects of an environmental cleanup, while interacting with the identified stakeholders to make sure their needs and

concerns are met. The teams involved at the former Bethlehem Steel site include NYSDEC, the lead State agency for State Superfund sites; NYSDOH, which oversees issues of site-related human health; New York State Division of Fish and Wildlife (NYSF&W), the agency that protects terrestrial and aquatic wildlife; and Parsons, the engineering firm which supports NYSDEC and NYSDOH with technical reviews, outreach, construction oversight, and quality control. In addition to these teams, Benchmark Civil/Environmental Engineering & Geology, PLLC/TurnKey Environmental Restoration, PLLC (Benchmark-TurnKey) produces the environmental designs and reporting for the cleanup, performs sampling and data management, and oversees construction management as the Engineer of Record for Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc. All these team members coordinate with each other to ensure that the work is done properly and efficiently, and that the community is kept informed of project activities. All project personnel will easily be identified by photo identifications and high-visibility safety vests or clothing with their company branding (logo).

## 1.5 NEW YORK STATE'S MISSION AND REMEDIAL TEAM

The mission of the NYSDEC Division of Environmental Remediation, in consultation with the NYSDOH, is to protect public health and the environment in the State of New York by preventing releases to the environment through the regulation of petroleum and chemical bulk storage facilities, and responding to, investigating, and remediating releases of contaminants that have occurred.

The goal of the Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Site Remedial Program, also known as the State Superfund Program, is to identify and characterize suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites (sites) and to ensure sites, which pose a significant threat to public health or the environment, are properly addressed.

New York State is committed to supervising a careful and thorough cleanup of the former Bethlehem Steel site. NYSDEC's foremost priority is ensuring the public does not come in contact with site-related contaminants of concern (COCs; see Section 1.2). This cleanup is being completed to address potential exposure to these primary COCs.

The following are the primary NYSDEC staff on this project:

**Stanley Radon, P.G.:** NYSDEC R9 Regional Remediation Geologist with over 30 years of remediation experience and Master of Science degree from Kent State University. Over 25 years of involvement with investigation and remediation of the former Bethlehem Steel site.

**Andrew Zwack:** Assistant Engineer (Environmental), NYSDEC Project Manager for OU-5, Slag Fill Zone 2. A Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Engineering from University at Buffalo with 2 years of experience managing NY State Superfund and Brownfield Cleanup programs.

**Matt Dunham:** NYSDEC Project Manager for OU-6 (Tank Farm Sub-Area), with 20 years of experience managing environmental investigations

**Kristopher Keenan:** NYSDEC Construction Manager, with 11 years of experience providing oversight of environmental construction projects.

**John Nead:** will provide additional construction oversight, bringing 30 years of experience in the environmental field.

**Benjamin Rung, P.E.:** NYSDEC Project Manager for OU-07: Coal/Coke/Ore Storage & Handling | Coke Plant & By-Products Processing

**Steve Moeller, P.G.:** NYSDEC R9 Professional Geologist 1 and Project Manager for OU-08 : Slag Fill Area Zones 4 & 5 SWMU/AOC Group. Master's Degree in Geological Sciences from University at Buffalo. Over 30 years of environmental investigation and remediation experience, the last 2 years with NYSDEC managing State Superfund and Brownfield Cleanup program sites.

**Brianna Scharf:** Assistant Engineer (Environmental) and NYSDEC Project Manager for OU-9: Water Courses. A Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Engineering from University at Buffalo with over 1 year of experience managing NY State Superfund Sites .

**Jenelle Gaylor, M.S.,** NYSDEC Assistant Geologist Project Manager for OU-10: Site-Wide Groundwater. A Master's Degree in Geological Science with 3 years of experience managing state superfund sites.

NYSDEC oversees the remedial work in consultation with NYSDOH, who provide oversight of the remedial work to ensure that remedial activities are conducted in a way that is protective of public health. The following are the primary NYSDOH staff on this project

**Sara Bogardus** is the NYSDOH Project Manager for the Bethlehem Steel Investigation and Remediation. Sara has a Masters of Science degree from the University of Michigan and has over 4 years of experience in the field of environmental health with the NYSDOH. She serves as the NYSDOH contact for the Bethlehem Steel Investigation and Remediation.

**Charlotte Bethoney** is the NYSDOH Regional Chief for projects within NYSDEC Region 9. Charlotte has a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Siena College and has over 20 years of experience in the evaluation of public health environmental exposures related to and remediation of contaminated sites.

## 1.6 OTHER REMEDIAL TEAM MEMBERS

### Parsons Corporation

Founded in 1944, Parsons Corporation is one of the nation's largest environmental services firms, with experience in environmental planning, compliance, quality, technology, remediation and restoration. A leader in many diversified markets, Parsons has a focus on environmental, infrastructure, security, and construction projects.

Parsons has been contracted by NYSDEC to provide standby engineering services for a variety of projects throughout New York State. In this role, Parsons has performed site characterizations and remedial investigations, implemented interim remedial measures (IRMs), developed remedial designs, assisted with construction oversight, and has provided third-party consulting and support.

For the former Bethlehem Steel site, Parsons has been retained by NYSDEC to provide third party oversight of remedial investigation, design, and remedial action efforts at the Site. The following are the primary Parsons lead staff on this project:

- Thomas Drachenberg: Program Manager for the Parsons NYSDEC portfolio, with 20 years of experience in the characterization and remediation of contaminated sites.
- Natalia Cagide-Elmer: Public Participation Specialist and project support for the former Bethlehem Steel site, with more than seven years of experience as an engineer supporting environmental restoration and natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) projects with strong outreach programs.

### Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc. and Associated Contractors

Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc. ("Tecumseh") owns a portion of the former Bethlehem Steel property located along the west side of NYS Route 5, Lackawanna, New York that was the subject of an Administrative Order on Consent entered into between Bethlehem Steel and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), dated August 1990. After Tecumseh acquired the Site in 2003, it thereafter assumed certain of Bethlehem Steel's obligations under the 1990 Administrative Order On Consent that were principally related to the CMS Area and several other portions of the former Bethlehem Steel property. This Community Liaison Plan addresses

the approximately 486 acre-area that is owned by Tecumseh and that is referred to as the Corrective Measure Study (CMS) Area.

Paul H. Werthman, P.E. ([PWerthman@bm-tk.com](mailto:PWerthman@bm-tk.com)) is the principal engineer and project officer assigned by Tecumseh through Benchmark-TurnKey. Benchmark-TurnKey serves Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc., providing engineering services and developing remedial investigations.

## 1.7 REMEDIATION TEAM ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Team Member	Role	Contact Information
NYSDEC	NYSDEC is the lead regulatory agency for the cleanup and is responsible for ensuring that the cleanup is conducted according to New York State Environmental Conservation Law. A NYSDEC Construction Manager will be on site for the duration of the cleanup activities	<p>Stanley Radon            Region 9 Project Manager            (716) 851-7220; <a href="mailto:stanley.radon@dec.ny.gov">stanley.radon@dec.ny.gov</a></p> <p>Andrew Zwack            OU-5 (Slag Fill Zone 2) Project Manager            (716) 851-7220; <a href="mailto:andrew.zwack@dec.ny.gov">andrew.zwack@dec.ny.gov</a></p> <p>Matthew Dunham            OU-6 (Tank Farm Sub-Area) Project Manager            (518) 402-9812; <a href="mailto:matthew.dunham@dec.ny.gov">matthew.dunham@dec.ny.gov</a></p> <p>Benjamin Rung            OU-7 (Coal, Coke and Ore Handling &amp; Storage Sub-Area, and Coke Plant &amp; By-Products Facility Sub-Area) Project Manager            (518) 402-9813; <a href="mailto:benjamin.rung@dec.ny.gov">benjamin.rung@dec.ny.gov</a></p> <p>Steven Moeller            OU-8 (Slag Fill Area - Zones 4 &amp; 5 SWMU/AOC Group) Project Manager            (716) 851-7220; <a href="mailto:steven.moeller@dec.ny.gov">steven.moeller@dec.ny.gov</a></p> <p>Brianna Scharf            OU-9 (Waterbodies) Project Manager            (518) 402-5987; <a href="mailto:Brianna.Scharf@dec.ny.gov">Brianna.Scharf@dec.ny.gov</a></p> <p>Jenelle Gaylord            OU-10 (Site Wide Groundwater) Project Manager            (518) 402-9813; <a href="mailto:Jenelle.Gaylord@dec.ny.gov">Jenelle.Gaylord@dec.ny.gov</a></p> <p>Kristopher Keenan            Construction Manager            (518) 225-9691; <a href="mailto:Kristopher.keenan@dec.ny.gov">Kristopher.keenan@dec.ny.gov</a></p> <p>John Nead            Construction Oversight            (518) 226-1497; <a href="mailto:john.nead@dec.ny.gov">john.nead@dec.ny.gov</a></p>
NYSDOH	NYSDOH is responsible for identifying potential impacts to public health from the cleanup	<p>Sara Bogardus            Project Manager for Bethlehem Steel            (518) 402-7860  <a href="mailto:bee@health.ny.gov">bee@health.ny.gov</a></p> <p>Charlotte Bethoney            Region Chief            (518) 402-7860</p>

<p>Parsons</p>	<p>Parsons is a consultant to NYSDEC retained to assist NYSDEC review Tecumseh document deliverables and provide third party oversight during remedial investigations.</p>	<p>Thomas Drachenberg Program Manager (315) 552-9688 <a href="mailto:Thomas.Drachenberg@parsons.com">Thomas.Drachenberg@parsons.com</a></p> <p>Natalia J. Cagide Elmer Public Participation Specialist (315) 391-8448 <a href="mailto:Natalia.Cagide-Elmer@parsons.com">Natalia.Cagide-Elmer@parsons.com</a></p>
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## 2. COMMUNITY PROFILE

Lackawanna is a city in Erie County, New York, and Lake Erie borders the city to the west. This city is approximately six square miles in size and is located amongst the City of Buffalo to the north; the Town of Hamburg to the south; the Town of West Seneca to the east; and Lake Erie to the west.

The first settlement in Lackawanna was established in 1851 (formerly known as West Seneca or Limestone Hill). In 1909, the western section of West Seneca separated from the town and formed its own city, Lackawanna. Lackawanna was named after the Lackawanna Steel Company (a predecessor of Bethlehem Steel), one of the largest steel companies in the world at that time.

### 2.1 COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHICS

According to the 2019 census published by the United States Census Bureau (<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/lackawannacitynewyork,US/INC110219>), there are 17,720 people in 7,577 households living in the City of Lackawanna. The median household income is \$38,289, being ~42% of the City considered as low income. Just over 70% of the total population are adults and 16.5% are seniors. Racial make-up is estimated as 75% White and 11% Black or African American, with the remainder falling within the categories of Hispanic or Latino, American Indian, Asian, Native Hawaiian, or other. Nearly 10% of the population is recorded as foreign born, and there is a prominent Yemeni population in the City.

### 2.2 LACKAWANNA COMMUNITY

The City of Lackawanna is a mix of residential properties, commercial properties, and an industrial property. There are four public schools and one parochial school within the City of Lackawanna. The CSX railroad runs north-south through the center of the city. Several manufacturing companies occupy the area west of NYS Route 5.

### 2.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The City of Lackawanna is governed by the City Council, which is made up of the Mayor and four elected councilmen. Typically, the City Council's meetings are scheduled for the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall (714 Ridge Road). These offer an opportunity for the public to address the City Council on matters of public interest during this portion of the City Council Meetings (each regular Council Meeting is preceded by a 30 minute work session and is open for the public to observe). The webpage where council meeting schedules are announced is: <https://lackawannany.gov/city-council>.

Given the current COVID-19 crisis, and in the interest of public safety the City of Lackawanna Council meetings are closed temporarily to the public, and will be delivered exclusively via Zoom/Facebook Live (see meeting schedule website for details).

### 2.4 COUNTY GOVERNMENT

The City of Lackawanna is located in Erie County where the County Government is headed by the County Executive, who oversees a variety of County Departments, including the Erie County Department of Public Health.

## 3. HISTORY OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN BETHLEHEM STEEL FROM 2006 TO PRESENT

NYSDEC, NYSDOH, and Tecumseh have been working together to keep the community informed, and respond to concerns and suggestions to mitigate disruption and inconvenience to the neighborhood.

The following timeline reflects the fact sheets, meetings, and communications released by NYSDEC to the community for the CMS Area:

### 2006:

- USEPA/NYSDEC Prepared Fact Sheet (May 2006).
- USEPA and NYSDEC and NYSDOH held a Public Information Meeting in June 2006 to approve the site investigation report and transfer the lead agency to NYSDEC.

### 2009:

- NYSDEC Prepared Fact Sheet (July 2009)
- NYSDEC, NYSDOH, and Tecumseh officials held a Public Information Meeting in July 2009 to present a proposed remedial action to address the Acid Tar Pits and Agitator Sludge Area, and to answer questions and receive public input.

### 2015:

- NYSDEC and NYSDOH held a Public Information Meeting in May 2015 to present a proposed remedial action for OU-02 and OU-03, and to answer questions and receive public input.
- NYSDEC Prepared Fact Sheet (May 2015).

### 2016:

- NYSDEC held a public meeting in February 2016 to provide the public with an update of remedial activities associated with the site, including the brownfields program.

### 2017:

- NYSDEC and NYSDOH held a Public Information Meeting in March 2017 to present a proposed remedial program for OU04 – Coke Oven Area Groundwater, and to answer questions and receive public input.

All project fact sheets, meeting presentations, and other informational materials are available to the public at the following website: [www.bethlehemsteelcleanup.com](http://www.bethlehemsteelcleanup.com)

## 3.1 PUBLIC QUESTIONS – WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY?

Public questions are encouraged during the implementation of environmental clean-up activities in a community. Commonly posed questions are: Who is responsible for what; where will activities take place; when will they happen and why; how do they affect me? While NYSDEC cannot answer every question that may arise in this publication, frequent inquiries and responses have been included throughout this section (see Section 4 for further sources of information).

For more information on frequently asked questions and answers, see FAQ sheet on the site website here: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/122928.html>.

## 3.2 REMEDY SELECTION SCHEDULE

Multiple sampling events have occurred across the former Bethlehem Steel property. Based on the sampling results, two groundwater treatment systems were installed in OU-03 and OU-04 by Tecumseh and will continue to operate. A summary of all the remedial work performed on the site to date is provided on the project website (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/122928.html>).

A Statement of Basis (SB) for each of the other operable units will address the remaining contamination in the CMS Area. The public will have the ability to review each and provide comments on the proposed remedial actions. Following remedy selection, pre-design investigations (PDI) will be conducted to gather additional information to aid in the development of the remedial design.

## 3.3 PROTECTING HEALTH

From the inception of this project, NYSDEC has been working closely with NYSDOH to ensure that public health considerations are a priority in every aspect of the remedial action. Groundwater at the site is not used for drinking or any other potable purposes. Drinking water is provided to the residents of Lackawanna, NY by the Erie County Water Authority from a source that is not affected by this contamination. The Erie County Water Authority complies with strictly enforced standards established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and NYSDOH and is regularly tested and monitored.

The investigation and remediation are being completed to address potential exposure to constituents above the NYS commercial or industrial soil cleanup objectives (primarily BTEX, phenols, PAHs, and metals). The site is partially fenced, gated, and has signage, which restricts public access. However, persons who enter the site could contact contaminants in the soil, sediments, and surface water by walking on the site, digging or otherwise disturbing these areas. The site and surrounding area have uneven topography, manufacturing building remnants and are currently used for industrial purposes (windmills, solar arrays, and beneficial reuse slag mining). Most of the site is covered by low lying vegetation and early successional trees. Based on the potential for exposure to site impacts, and the condition and use of the site and surrounding properties, unnecessary access should be avoided to prevent exposure to site contaminants and potential physical hazards.

Volatile organic compounds in the groundwater may move into the soil vapor (air spaces within the soil), which in turn may move into overlying buildings and affect the indoor air quality. This process, which is similar to the movement of radon gas from the subsurface into the indoor air of buildings, is referred to as soil vapor intrusion. Because the site is undeveloped (e.g. no occupied buildings) or used for outdoor industrial purposes the inhalation of site-related contaminants due to soil vapor intrusion does not represent a current concern.

The surrounding properties are currently part of the Brownfield Cleanup Program and are being, or have been, remediated under that program. Therefore, any off-site impacts have been addressed through individual remedial plans for those areas.

The public may contact NYSDOH for information, questions and/or concerns about human health in relation to the investigation and remediation of the former Bethlehem Steel site. In addition, NYSDEC and NYSDOH are also working with the Erie County Department of Health to ensure that all the agencies involved are informed and able to provide timely responses to community concerns about health issues.

For more information on human health issues contact, Sara Bogardus, Project Manager, NYSDOH at 518-402-7860 or email at [beei@health.ny.gov](mailto:beei@health.ny.gov).

## 3.4 MINIMIZING DUST DURING FIELD WORK/CLEANUP ACTIVITIES

A NYSDEC and NYSDOH-approved Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP) will be implemented to measure airborne particulate matter wherever soils may be disturbed, during ground intrusive activities such as the PDI and remedial construction. Data from the CAMP is posted at the following website: [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/122928.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/122928.html). A set of upwind and downwind air monitoring stations are required during all excavation, soil handling, and backfilling activities to ensure no VOCs or dust is released to adjacent properties or the environment during cleanup. These stations will monitor VOCs and dust particulates using real-time monitoring equipment. Results will be compared to the airborne VOC and particulate action levels. The equipment has an audible alarm that sounds if there is an exceedance of the action level. In addition, there is a requirement for no visible dust during all work activities (i.e., no visible dust emissions will be allowed outside the work zone). Monitors are set close to the work zone to ensure that should any dust be generated, it will be recorded – and sound alarmed - by the monitors right away, and corrective measures (such as wetting down the area) can be taken immediately, to prevent dust from reaching down-gradient receptors.

During investigation activities, other controls may include site access control, groundwater monitoring, and site inspections. During construction activities, additional controls may include covering soil piles and truck loads with tarps, wetting down roads, and separation of pedestrian corridors (if present).

For more information about specific concerns regarding on-site activities, contact the appropriate Project Manager listed in Table 1.7.

For more information about the CAMP program, contact: Sara Bogardus, NYSDOH Project Manager, at 518-402-7860 or email at [bee@health.ny.gov](mailto:bee@health.ny.gov).

## 3.5 LIMITING LOCAL STREET CLOSURES, TRAFFIC, PARKING ISSUES RELATED TO CONSTRUCTION

To ensure public safety during investigation and remedial construction activities, NYSDEC, Tecumseh and its contractors will continue to keep property owners, residents, and local businesses informed throughout the life of project and construction activities. Although not anticipated given the location of the site, any changes to traffic routes, street closures, impacts to parking, or school routes will be communicated as soon as details are available. Truck routes will be clearly marked and areas in which heavy equipment is being used will be posted with signage and the presence of flag personnel.

## 3.6 ELECTED OFFICIALS

Elected officials are also concerned about issues that may impact their constituents and the community they live in.

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| ▪ Charles Schumer    | US Senator   |
| ▪ Kirsten Gillibrand | US Senator   |
| ▪ Brian Higgins      | US Congressman   |
| ▪ Timothy M. Kennedy | State Senator  |
| ▪ Pat Burke          | State Assemblymen  |
| ▪ Jonathan Rivera    | State Assemblyman  |
| ▪ John Gilmour       | Erie County Legislator for City of Lackawanna (District 9) |
| ▪ Annette Lafallo    | City of Lackawanna Mayor                                   |

Inquiries by elected officials are handled by NYSDEC Legislative and intergovernmental staff and can be directed to Kristen Davidson, NYSDEC Region 9 Citizen Participation Specialist at (716) 851-7220, who will raise the question to Legislative Affairs for response.

### 3.7 DOCUMENTING PUBLIC INQUIRIES AND CONCERNS

Given the project involves a variety of stakeholders, it is important that a process be in place that provides plans for each property and information to the public, but also allows them to log-in their inquiries and comments. This process will allow NYSDEC to track inquiries, resolutions to those inquiries, as well as those issues that remain outstanding. Questions and comments may be sent to the Remediation Team Contacts (see Section 1.7), depending on the inquiry in question.

## 4. AVAILABLE RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

### Where can I find more information?

NYSDEC and NYSDOH staff are always available to provide updates, or answer any questions community members or faculty have. Information on how to contact them is provided in Section 1.7 of this document, and the NYSDEC maintains a web page with additional information:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/122928.html>.

A virtual public availability session will be held in 2021 to present preferred remedial options for the former Bethlehem Steel Site to the public and obtain feedback and answer questions on these remedial options. The meeting details and content will be announced and available at the Public Availability Website: [www.bethlehemsteelcleanup.com](http://www.bethlehemsteelcleanup.com).

Complete copies of the documents listed on the web page and other documents pertaining to the former Bethlehem Steel Site Characterization, are typically available in hard copy for public review at the following locations. Due to the COVID-19 crisis these repositories may have temporarily limited public accessibility, and calling in advance to confirm open hours is advised (or contact the NYSDEC project manager listed in Section 1.7 for assistance):

Lackawanna Public Library

560 Ridge Road, Lackawanna, NY 14218; (716) 823-0630

NYSDEC, Region 9 Office Headquarters

270 Michigan Ave., Buffalo NY 14203; For appointments: (716) 851-7220

### How do I stay informed?

NYSDEC and NYSDOH will continue to keep the public informed as this work progresses and as development of cleanup plans are finalized. Sign up for the contaminated sites county email listserv to receive site-related information and announcements for all contaminated sites in the county (including site fact sheets and newsletters) at the following web page: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>

Parsons has also developed a public availability webpage ([www.bethlehemsteelcleanup.com](http://www.bethlehemsteelcleanup.com)), which includes an online form for submitting inquiries regarding the Bethlehem Steel site. A hotline has also been established for the community to submit inquiries via phone, which is available by calling 833-578-2019. Inquiries may also be submitted to Parsons by emailing [bethlehemsteel@parsons.com](mailto:bethlehemsteel@parsons.com).

Additional websites with more information online include:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?ProgNo=915009> - Information on the state superfund program, Site no. 915009.

An interactive map to access DEC documents and public data about the environmental quality of specific sites in New York State is available via the DECinfo Locator (<https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil>),

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/122928.html> - Project Website, Project Documents, and Latest News

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/109457.html> - Interactive map that displays DEC documents and public data about the environmental quality of specific sites in New York State