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Site Name: Al-Tech Specialty Steel
Site No. 907022 - Operable Unit 01 *
Address: 100 – 190 West Lucas Avenue
Dunkirk, NY 14048

Cleanup Action to Begin at State Superfund Site

Action is about to begin that will address the contamination related to the Al-Tech Specialty Steel site (site) located at 100 – 190 West Lucas Avenue, City of Dunkirk, Chautauqua County under New York's State Superfund Program. Please see the map for the site location.

The site is listed as a Class "2" site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; action is required. Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." The cleanup activities will be performed by a NYS Department of Environmental Conservation contractor.

Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities

The goal of the cleanup action for the site is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment. The cleanup action for the site includes: 1) Demolition of structures and appurtenances; 2) Disposal and/or recycling of razed materials; 3) Excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil; 4) Collection, treatment and discharge of groundwater collected from excavations, sumps and vaults; 5) Backfilling and capping of excavated areas; and 6) Site restoration. Upon completion of construction activities, all contamination identified at the Lucas Ave facility will have been removed to the soil cleanup objectives outlined in the ROD. Institutional controls will be put in place after the work is complete.

Next Steps

After completion of the cleanup activities, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation will prepare a Final Engineering Report. The Final Engineering Report will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) will keep the public informed throughout the cleanup of the site.

Background

Location: The former Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corp. (Al-Tech) is an approximately 90 acre industrial site in the City of Dunkirk, Chautauqua County. Located north of Willowbrook Avenue, south of Lucas Avenue, east of Brigham Road; the site is surrounded by mixed residential/commercial parcels including, single family residential, a lumber supply center, a municipal garage and the Dunkirk High School athletic fields.

*Operable Unit: An administrative term used to identify a portion of a site that can be addressed by a distinct investigation and/or cleanup approach. An operable unit can receive specific investigation, and a particular remedy may be proposed.
Site Features: The site includes a mixture of active, inactive and abandoned buildings, as well as open land. Separated into two distinct areas bisected by a rail line, the active portion of the site is partially fenced and consists mainly of the active Brigham Road Plant and the Bar Finish and Storage Facility. A small portion of the Brigham Road Plant included an unused former pickling room. Open land at the site includes maintained lawns and unmaintained former fill and disposal areas that have vegetated with opportunistic grasses, brush and tree species.

North of the main facilities, separated from the active area by a rail line, is the former Lucas Avenue Plant (LAP.) The LAP is a one-story, approximately 178,000-square-foot former manufacturing facility located on the south side of the west end of Lucas Avenue. Situated on a rectangular parcel of land, 2,025' by 200', the LAP was constructed in 1909, with additions constructed in 1920, 1936, 1940 and 1968. The LAP is bordered by Lucas Avenue to the north, beyond which is a residential neighborhood and public school. Brigham Road borders the west and a City of Dunkirk Department of Public Works (DPW) building to the east.

Current Zoning and Land Use: Current zoning is industrial.

Past Use of the Site: Industrial use of the site has included the manufacture of iron and steel dating back to 1908. Foundry operations gave way to forging and finishing of stainless steel rod and wire from supplied billets.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: The site is located on broad glacio-lacustrine sedimentary deposits. Soils are tight silty, clayey soils consisting of urban fill over silt loams of the Niagara Silt loam complex. Groundwater is about ten feet below the ground surface and is limited due to the tight nature of the bedrock and soils, however localized ponding can occur. Any groundwater present flows generally to the north toward Lake Erie but is strongly influenced by topographic features and man-made pathways. Bedrock is the Upper Devonian Shales of the Canadaway Group.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC’s website at: http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=907022

State Superfund Program: New York's State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

NYSDEC attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit: http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information
Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed.

Dunkirk Free Library
Attn: Ms. Janice Dekoff
536 Central Avenue
Dunkirk, NY 14048
(716) 366-2511
dunkirklibrary@gmail.com

New York State Department of Conservation
Attn: Maurice Moore
270 Michigan Ave
Buffalo, NY 14203-2915
(716) 851-7220
maurice.moore@dec.ny.gov

Project documents are also available on the NYSDEC website at:
http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37554.html

Who to Contact
Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project Related Questions
Benjamin Rung
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7017
(518) 402-9813
benjamin.rung@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions
Matthew Forcucci
New York State Department of Health
584 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 847-4501
BEEI@health.ny.gov

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.

Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email
Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page: http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html. It’s quick, it’s free, and it will help keep you better informed.

As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

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