Interim Remedial Measure to Begin at Brownfield Site

Under New York State’s Brownfield Cleanup Program (see box below), an interim remedial measure (IRM) will begin within a month to clean up an area of soil contamination at the 690 Saint Paul Street site (site). The site is located in the City of Rochester, Monroe County. See map on page 4 for site location.

An IRM is a planned cleanup action that can be conducted without extensive investigation and evaluation. The upcoming IRM at the 690 Saint Paul Street site includes excavating (digging) contaminated soils from a specific area of the site. This IRM is not the final cleanup plan for the site. The IRM will be performed by Genesee Valley Real Estate Company (“applicant”). The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) will provide oversight.

Highlights of the Upcoming IRM Cleanup Activities

The IRM cleanup activities are intended to:

1) address contamination at the site to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment; and
2) account for the intended or reasonably anticipated future use of the site.

The subsurface investigation of the site identified an area of contaminated soil that could be readily cleaned up by an IRM. The primary contaminants in the IRM area are petroleum compounds and chlorinated compounds including trichloroethene (TCE) and compounds formed by the natural degradation of TCE. TCE is commonly used in industry to remove grease from parts.

Cleanup actions for the upcoming IRM include:

• Excavation and proper off-site disposal of contaminated soils. The excavation is expected to be about 30-feet long, 30-ft wide, and 5-feet deep.
• Testing the soil to verify the effectiveness of the IRM cleanup. The applicant’s proposed future use of the site is for commercial/residential use. As such, soil cleanup levels were selected that are protective of human health and the environment for these proposed future uses.
• Removal and proper off-site disposal of water and other liquids in the excavation.
• Filling the excavation with clean soil.
• Installation of additional groundwater monitoring wells near the excavation.
The public may notice the following during the course of the cleanup:

- A fence around the work zone;
- Temporary closure of the on-site playground along Martin St as the work zone will be close to the playground;
- Increased traffic on Martin Street from heavy equipment such as dump trucks; and
- Noise typical of construction sites.

Community air monitoring will be performed during cleanup activities to verify that site related contaminants are not migrating off-site. Dust and odors will be controlled at the site as needed.

Next Steps

The applicant is expected to begin the IRM within the next 4 weeks. IRM activities are estimated to take about two months to complete. After the applicant completes the IRM cleanup activities, they will prepare an Interim Remedial Measure Construction Completion Report that summarizes the results. NYSDEC will review the report, make any necessary revisions, and, if appropriate, approve the report.

The applicant is also conducting an environmental investigation of the site. Additional investigation activities will be completed after the IRM is performed.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed during the cleanup of the site. The IRM Work Plan is available to the public (see “Where to Find Information” below).

Background

NYSDEC previously accepted an application from the applicant to participate in the Brownfield Cleanup Program. The application proposes that the site will be used for commercial/residential purposes.

The site consists of approximately 4.73 acres of land improved with three (3) inter-connected buildings and a fourth separate building. In total, these buildings occupy approximately 89,280 square feet of the site (footprint area). One building is currently used by the Rochester City School District for administrative purposes. The remaining buildings are largely vacant, except for some commercial/light industrial tenants. Surrounding properties include a mix of commercial, light industrial and residential uses. The site is bordered by St. Paul Street to the west with an office building beyond, Lowell St. to the south with a City of Rochester park beyond, Martin Street to the east with a restaurant and residential properties beyond, and Hartel Alley to the north with a restaurant and a light industrial building beyond.

The site was developed prior to 1875 and has historically been used for industrial purposes. From sometime around 1920 until the late 1960’s, the property was used by Bausch & Lomb to manufacture lenses and other products. From the early 1970’s until 2000, the site was primarily used for commercial purposes and storage.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following locations to help the public stay informed. These documents include the Interim Remedial Measures Work Plan.
**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: [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html](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.

You may continue also to receive paper copies of site information for a time after you sign up with a county listserv, until the transition to electronic distribution is complete.

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