Amended Remedy Proposed for State Superfund Site; Public Comment Period and Public Meeting Announced

The public is invited to comment on a revised remedy being proposed 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 Former Rome Cable site (“site”) located at Henry and South Jay Streets, Rome, Oneida County. Please see the map for the site location. Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified under “Where to Find Information.” The estimated cost to implement the remedy is $13,000,000.

How to Comment: NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed plan for 30 days, from May 1, 2019 through May 30, 2019. Additional information is available for public review at the location(s) identified at left under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project-Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area at left.

The site is listed as a Class "2" site in the State’s Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; and action is required.

Proposed Remedial Action Plan Amendment – NYSDEC proposes to revise the site remedy to incorporate the demolition of the site structures. The proposed amended remedy for the site includes:

- Controlled demolition of site structures;
- Excavation of soil exceeding commercial use Soil Cleanup Objectives (SCOs);
- Debris management – building and surface debris within the site boundary;
- Disposal of contaminated soil and debris off-site;
- Importation of clean material that meets the established SCOs for use as backfill;
- Implementation of a Health and Safety Plan and Community Air Monitoring Plan during all ground intrusive activities;
STATE SUPERFUND PROGRAM

- Implementation of a Site Management Plan (SMP) to ensure the remedy continues to protect public health and the environment, and ensures the safe reuse of the property; and
- Recording of an Environmental Easement to restrict the use of the property, prohibit groundwater use and enforce the SMP with long-term monitoring.

NYSDEC developed the proposed remedy after reviewing the detailed investigation of the site and evaluating the remedial options in the “Supplemental Feasibility Study.”

**Next Steps:** NYSDEC will consider public comments as it finalizes the remedy for the site. The selected remedy will be described in a document called a "Record of Decision Amendment" that will explain why the remedy was selected and respond to public comments. A detailed design of the selected remedy will then be prepared, and the cleanup will be performed.

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

**Site Description:** The Former Rome Cable site is a 19-acre property located at Henry and South Jay Streets in the City of Rome. The site buildings, formerly used for the manufacturing, coating, storing, and shipping of wire, are unoccupied and condemned. The interior of the main manufacturing building is inaccessible and contains asbestos-impacted debris, abandoned fuel storage tanks, impacted wood block flooring and other miscellaneous wastes. Building basement sections undergo frequent flooding and draining through interior drain lines and sumps. Municipal sanitary and stormwater utilities transect underneath existing building foundations. Groundwater is observed at depth of 3 to 10 feet beneath the site. Groundwater flows northeast to southwest. The area outside of the building footprint is covered with surface debris, broken asphalt pavement, abandoned rail lines, and impacted soils.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the Site ID, 633073 at: http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/index.cfm?pageid=3

**Summary of the Investigation:** The primary contaminants of concern at the site are asbestos related building debris, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), semi-volatile (SVOC), and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) which are present in building materials and soil. The source area is located primarily within the footprint of the former buildings.

**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

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 at: 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.