

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Environmental Remediation, Office of the Director
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March 8, 2023

Mr. Pat Evangelista
Division Director
Superfund and Emergency Management Division
USEPA Region II
290 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866

Re: NYSDEC Spill # 2209399
Former Westover / Goudy Station
720 Riverside Drive, Johnson City NY

Dear Mr. Evangelista:

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) hereby requests the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to perform an appropriate assessment and/or CERCLA removal action at the above referenced site.

Officials from the Town of Union alerted the DEC and EPA to unauthorized demolition activities at the Former Westover / Goudy Station facility in late January 2023. A meeting of the parties was held onsite on January 25th to discuss roles and responsibilities and options for collaborative effort. EPA advised of an ongoing investigation into companies and individuals involved in unauthorized and often slipshod scrapping and demolition.

DEC received notification from the National Response Center (NRC) on February 22, 2023, that unauthorized scrapping had resumed, and metal cutting had ignited the oil in electrical generating equipment being salvaged. Nearby residents were exposed to noxious smoke. Town officials issued a stop work order, and DEC investigators contacted EPA. DEC is concerned that unauthorized demolition activities at this location have exacerbated environmental and safety concerns at this dilapidated facility and hereby requests EPA assistance.

This request is being made under CERCLA, 42 U.S.C.A. §§ 9601, et seq. and the National Contingency Plan, 40 C.F.R. Part 300, which allows the U.S. EPA to respond to and recover costs incurred in response to releases or threats of releases of pollutants and contaminants as deemed necessary in EPA's sole discretion to abate an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health or welfare or the environment at the location stated above.

To ensure that DEC is prepared to respond to inquiries concerning this action, please provide me with a copy of any fact sheet or public notice related to this action prior to release.

The Department appreciates EPA's consideration of this referral. Any questions or requests for additional information regarding this site should be directed to Kevin Hale of DEC at (518) 469-9050. Please copy Bill Ottaway, Bureau of Technical Support, at william.ottaway@dec.ny.gov, on project-related Pollution/Situation Reports.

Sincerely,

Andrew Guglielmi

Andrew Guglielmi, Director
Division of Environmental Remediation

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