

Tonawanda Coke: A Superfund Site

An overview on the difference between brownfield and superfund classifications and why Tonawanda Coke should be classified as a superfund.



The New York Sate Brownfield Program is a **voluntary** program where a developer is given tax credits to encourage remediation of a contaminated site.

The Federal Superfund Program is an **enforcement** program where a polluter or responsible party is held accountable to pay for remediation. This program has significant oversight, accountability and may include a robust public process.

Brownfield Sites...

- are contaminated properties like gas stations, laundry mats, parking lots
- common contaminants are from fuels such as oil, gasoline, diesel
- developer must volunteer to initiate
- are funded by tax credits developers receive for efforts made to clean land

Superfund Sites...

- are a significant threat to the public health and environment
- require federal oversight
- may include a Community Advisory Group to guide process
- are remidiated with a specific and thourough process
- have robust legal programs and bigger hammer to take on responsible parties
- are good longer term job providers, due to the more robust nature of the program

Tonawanda Coke Site

Classifying Tonawanda Coke as a Superfund is essential for the well being of the public health, the local environment, and the enforced clean-up of a site contaminated to this magnitude.

Why should it be classified as a Superfund?



SEVERELY CONTAMINATED

The Tonawanda Coke site has over 100 uears of hazardous contamination.



RESPONSIBLE PARTIES WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PAY FOR CLEAN-UP

The Superfund Program is a polluter pay program, where the party responsible for legacy waste pays for remediation



PUBLIC & ENVIRONMENTAL THREAT

Over a dozen criminal violations for air and hazardous waste have happened on the site

The contamination at this site is severe and extensive, and the federal Superfund program surely possesses the necessary legal authority and expertise to handle a site of this magnitude.