

# Tonawanda Coke

State Superfund Program

Site No. 915055 – OU02

Tonawanda, Erie County



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

July 2026

## Cleanup Action to Begin at State Superfund Site

Action is about to begin that will address contamination related to the Operable Unit 02 (OU02) of the Tonawanda Coke site ("site") located at 3875 River Road, Tonawanda, Erie County under New York's State Superfund Program. Please see the map for the site location. The cleanup activities will be performed by Honeywell International ("remedial party") with oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

Cleanup activities are expected to begin in July 2026, and last about 8 months. The estimated cost to implement the cleanup is \$4,936,000. 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.

- Access project documents online through the DECinfo Locator: <https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/915055/>.
- Documents also are available at the location(s) identified under "Where to find information."

## 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 key components of the cleanup are:

- Excavation and off-site disposal of approximately 30 cubic yards of soil where the total concentration of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) exceeds 500 parts per million;
- Excavating contaminated soil which exceeds protection of ecological resources soil cleanup objectives in areas of future stormwater management. Excavated soil will be managed on-site below the planned soil cover;
- Collecting and analyzing post-cleanup soil and groundwater samples to evaluate the effectiveness of the remedy;
- Importing clean material that meets the established soil cleanup objectives as needed for backfill;
- Construction of a cover system over the entire site;
- Implementing a Site Management Plan (SMP) for long term maintenance of the remedial systems; and
- Recording of an Environmental Easement to ensure proper use of the site may be necessary.

A site-specific health and safety plan (HASP) and a Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP) will be implemented during cleanup activities. The HASP establishes procedures to protect on-site workers and the CAMP includes required air monitoring as well as dust and odor suppression measures to mitigate risk to potential off-site receptors.

## Next Steps

After cleanup activities are completed, Honeywell International will prepare a Final Engineering Report (FER). The FER will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved.

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

## Site Description

OU02 of the Tonawanda Coke site is approximately 7.5-acres and corresponds with the Site 109 disposal area. It is located adjacent to River Road on the western side of the 3875 River Road parcel. The operable unit contains the paved access driveway for the entire property, a guard house, and the concrete settling ponds used to manage stormwater from the other portions of the former Tonawanda Coke property. The remainder of the operable unit is covered by grass, trees, or other vegetation.

When completed the cleanup will allow for commercial and industrial uses. Future development in the operable units is not known but will be part of the larger Riverview Innovation & Technology Campus redevelopment, which is expected to be related to data storage, offices, or other high-tech manufacturing.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the site ID, 915055) at:

<https://appfactory.dec.ny.gov/DERExternalSearch/ERDSearch>

## Summary of the Investigation

Investigations were conducted on-site to refine the nature and extent of contamination since the 2008 Record of Decision (ROD). The contaminants of concern in this operable unit are PAHs, though other contaminants are also present at low concentrations. Soil across the operable unit contain PAHs exceeding commercial soil cleanup objectives, particularly in the area of the southern drainage ditch. Groundwater has only limited impacts from the fill placed on the operable unit in few discrete locations.

## 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 before committing State funds for investigation and cleanup.

For more information about the SSF, visit:

<https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/brownfield-and-state-superfund-programs/state-superfund-sites>

## Stay Informed with DEC Delivers

**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.**

Sign up to receive site updates by email:

<https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/regional-remediation-project-information/environmental-cleanup-email-newsletters>

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

## DECinfo Locator

Interactive map to access DEC documents and public data about the environmental quality of specific sites: <https://dec.ny.gov/maps/interactive-maps/decinfo-locator>

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### **Project-Related Questions**

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### **Project-Related Health Questions**

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## WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION

Access project documents through the DECinfo Locator and at these location(s):

<https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/915055/>

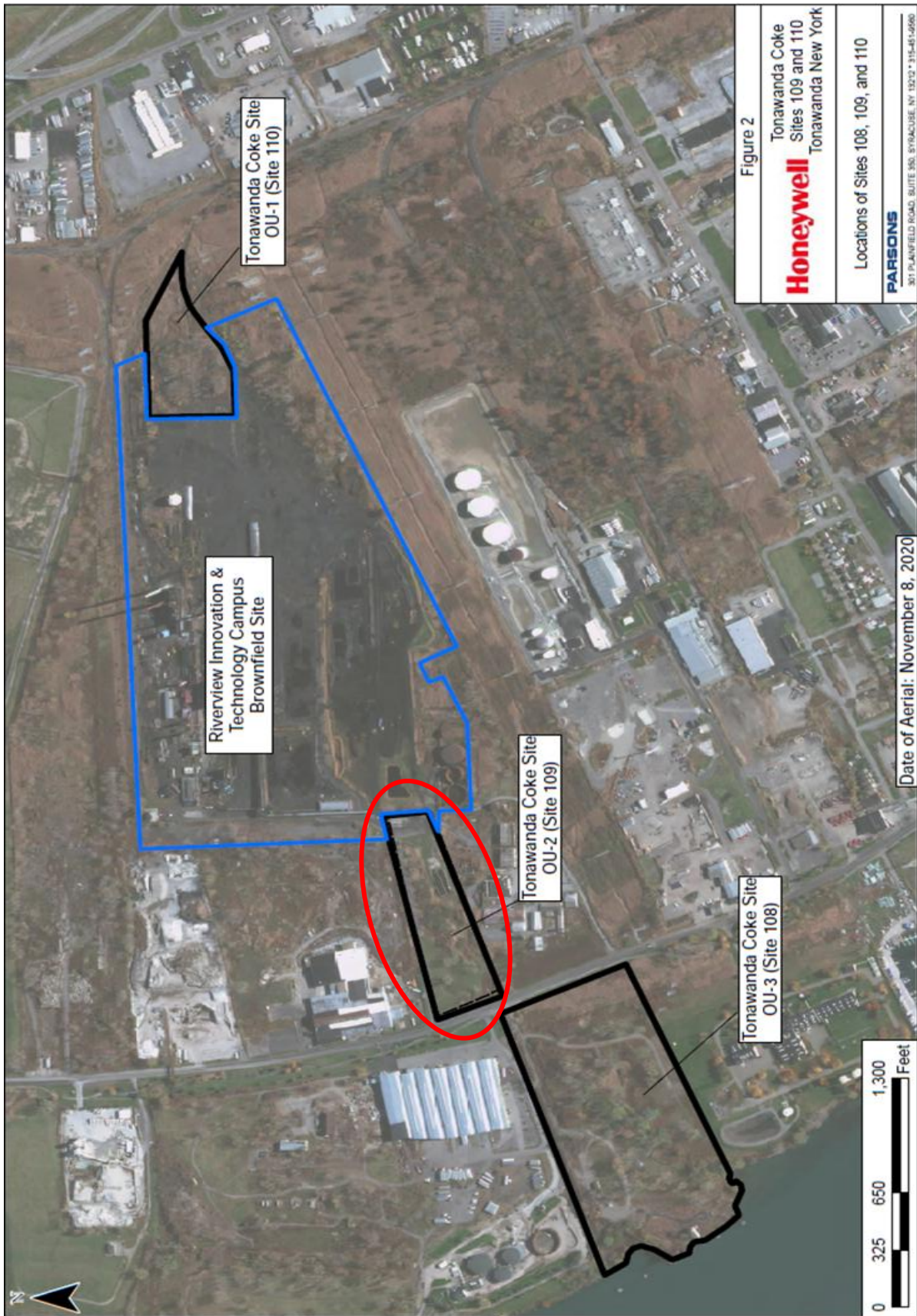
### **Buffalo and Erie County Public Library – Central Library**

One Lafayette Square  
Buffalo, NY 14203

### **Buffalo and Erie County Public Library – Kenmore Branch**

160 Delaware Road  
Kenmore, NY 14217

# Site Location





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