



## BROWNFIELD PROJECT SUMMARY

Pennsylvania Steel  
Hamburg, Pennsylvania

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In 2002, manufacturing operations at this steel foundry ceased, leaving a once-thriving industrial corner of Hamburg Borough desolate. Despite the age of buildings on the property, many were fit to return to use for industrial and commercial operations, and several parties expressed interest in purchasing portions of the site. The only hindrance to redevelopment was environmental concerns resulting from over 100 years of industrial activities at the site.

Liberty personnel performed environmental assessment activities at this site in pursuit of a Release of Liability under Pennsylvania's Land Recycling ("Act 2") Program. Historic industrial activities at the site included steel and stainless steel foundry operations, as well as truck body manufacturing. Liberty personnel investigated numerous areas of concern, including nine (9) underground storage tanks, an oil-water separator, and two (2) areas where foundry sand and slag were buried. Groundwater investigation activities, including installation of five (5) groundwater monitoring wells, aquifer testing, and contaminant fate-and-transport modeling were also performed. To demonstrate that no health risk occurred as a result of organic compounds in shallow soils, vapor intrusion modeling was performed. Following analysis of the laboratory data and modeling results, it was decided to pursue a Release of Liability under Statewide Health Standards for organic and inorganic compounds in soil. Also, a Site-Specific Standard was established for naphthalene in groundwater, utilizing the results of the Bioscreen fate-and-transport modeling that was performed. Other environmental investigation activities performed at the site included a comprehensive asbestos inspection and a radiological survey at a former non-destructive metal testing area.



Through the Act 2 Program, a release of liability was granted by the Department of Environmental Protection, which protects the current and future property owners from certain liabilities under state and federal environmental statutes. As a result, the site was able to be subdivided and returned to productive re-use by three different entities, including a Cabinet Manufacturer, a Lawn Furniture Manufacturer, and a Railroad History Museum.