



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

State Superfund Program

Community Participation Plan

for

Route 203 Site

April 2026

Site No.: 442064
5225-5239 Route 203
Town of Nassau
Rensselaer County, New York

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Note: The information presented in this Community Participation Plan was current as of the date of its approval by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Portions of this Community Participation Plan may be revised during the site’s investigation and cleanup process.

Responsible Party: **General Electric Company**
Site Name: **Route 203 Site (“site”)**
Site Address: **5225-5239 Route 203**
Site County: **Rensselaer**
Site Number: **442064**

1. What is New York’s 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 or the environment, such as the site identified above, undergo a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup, and monitoring.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) administers the SSF Program with assistance and input from the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). When the parties responsible for the contamination of a site are known (“responsible parties”), they often pay for or perform the investigation and evaluation of cleanup options under an enforceable consent order. At sites where responsible parties cannot be found or are unable or unwilling to fund an investigation, the State pays for the investigation and may try to recover costs from a responsible party after the investigation and cleanup are complete.

The SSF program contains investigation and cleanup requirements, ensuring that cleanups protect public health and the environment. For more information about the SSF program, go online at: <https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/brownfield-and-state-superfund-programs/state-superfund-sites>.

2. Community Participation Activities

Why NYSDEC Involves the Public and Why It Is Important

NYSDEC involves the public to improve the process of investigating and cleaning up contaminated sites, and to enable communities to participate more fully in decisions that affect their health, environment, and social well-being. NYSDEC provides opportunities for community involvement and encourages early two-way communication with communities before decision makers form or adopt final positions.

Involving communities affected and interested in site investigation and cleanup programs is important for many reasons. These include:

- Promoting the development of timely, effective site investigation and cleanup programs that protect public health and the environment

- Improving public access to, and understanding of, issues and information related to a particular site and that site's remedial process
- Providing communities with early and continuing opportunities to participate in NYSDEC's site investigation and cleanup process
- Ensuring that NYSDEC makes site investigation and cleanup decisions that benefit from input that reflects the interests and perspectives found within the affected community
- Encouraging dialogue to promote the exchange of information among the affected/interested public, State agencies, and other interested parties that strengthens trust among the parties, increases understanding of site and community issues and concerns, and improves decision making.

This Community Participation (CP) Plan provides information about how NYSDEC will inform and involve the public during the investigation and cleanup of the site identified above. The public information and involvement program will be carried out with assistance, as appropriate, from the responsible party. Several Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) associated with the site have been identified by NYSDEC; however, General Electric Company is the only entity to agree to enter into a Consent Order.

Project Contacts

Appendix A identifies NYSDEC project contact(s) to whom the public should address questions or request information about the site's investigation and cleanup program. The public's suggestions about this CP Plan and the CP program for the site are always welcome. Interested people are encouraged to share their ideas and suggestions with the project contacts at any time.

Locations of Reports and Information

The locations of the reports and information that relate to the site's investigation and cleanup program also are identified in **Appendix A**. These locations provide convenient access to important project documents for public review and comment. Some documents may be placed on the NYSDEC website. If this occurs, NYSDEC will inform the public in fact sheets distributed about the site and by other means, as appropriate.

Site Contact List

Appendix B contains the site contact list. This list has been developed to keep the community informed about, and involved in, the site's investigation and cleanup process. The site contact list will be used periodically to distribute fact sheets that provide updates about the status of the project. These will include notifications of upcoming activities at the site (such as fieldwork), as well as availability of project documents and announcements about public comment periods.

The site contact list includes, at a minimum:

- chief executive officer and planning board chairperson of each county, city, town and village in which the site is located;
- residents, owners, and occupants of the site and properties adjacent to the site;
- the public water supplier which services the area in which the site is located;
- any person who has requested to be placed on the Site contact list;
- the administrator of any school or day care facility located on or near the site for purposes of posting and/or dissemination of information at the facility;
- location(s) of reports and information.

The site contact list will be reviewed periodically and updated as appropriate. Individuals and organizations will be added to the site contact list upon request. Such requests should be submitted to the NYSDEC project contact(s) identified in **Appendix A**. Other additions to the site contact list may be made at the discretion of the NYSDEC project manager, in consultation with other NYSDEC staff as appropriate.

Note: The first site fact sheet (usually related to the Remedial Investigation) is distributed both by paper mailing through the postal service and through DEC Delivers, its email listserv service. The fact sheet includes instructions for signing up with the appropriate county listserv to receive future notifications about the site. See <https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/regional-remediation-project-information/environmental-cleanup-email-newsletters>.

Subsequent fact sheets about the site will be distributed exclusively through the listserv except for households without internet access that have indicated the need to continue to receive site information in paper form. Please advise the NYSDEC site project manager identified in **Appendix A** if this is the case. Paper mailings may continue during the investigation and cleanup process for some sites, based on public interest and need.

CP Activities

The table at the end of this section identifies the CP activities, at a minimum, that have been and will be conducted during the site's investigation and cleanup program. The flowchart in **Appendix D** shows how these CP activities integrate with the site investigation and cleanup process. The public is informed about these CP activities through fact sheets and notices distributed at significant points during the program. Elements of the investigation and cleanup process that match up with the CP activities are explained briefly in Section 5.

- **Notices and fact sheets** help the interested and affected public to understand contamination issues related to a site, and the nature and progress of efforts to investigate and clean up a site.
- **Public forums, comment periods and contact with project managers** provide opportunities for the public to contribute information, opinions and perspectives that have potential to influence decisions about a site's investigation and cleanup.

The public is encouraged to contact project staff at any time during the site's investigation and cleanup process with questions, comments, or requests for information.

This CP Plan may be revised due to changes in major issues of public concern identified in Section 3 or in the nature and scope of investigation and cleanup activities. Modifications may include additions to the site contact list and changes in planned community participation activities.

Technical Assistance Grant

The site identified above poses a significant threat to public health or the environment, so that a qualifying community group may apply for a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG). The purpose of a TAG is to provide funds to the qualifying community group to obtain independent technical assistance. This assistance helps the TAG recipient to interpret and understand existing environmental information about the nature and extent of contamination related to the site and the development/implementation of a remedy.

An eligible community group must certify that its membership represents the interests of the community affected by the site, and that its members' health, economic well-being, or enjoyment of the environment may be affected by a release or threatened release of contamination at the site.

For more information about TAGs, go online at:

<https://dec.ny.gov/regulatory/regulations/technical-assistance-grant-tag-guidance-handbook-der-14>.

Note: The table identifying the community participation activities related to the site's investigation and cleanup program follows on the next page:

Community Participation Activities	Timing of CP Activity(ies)
Before Start of Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare site contact list • Establish document repository • Prepare Community Participation (CP) Plan • Place approved RI Work Plan in document repository • Distribute fact sheet to site contact list that announces availability of RI Work Plan and describes upcoming RI field work 	<p>Before start of RI. Note: Draft CP Plan must be submitted to NYSDEC within 30 days of effective date of Consent Order. CP Plan must be approved by NYSDEC before distribution.</p>
When NYSDEC Approves Remedial Investigation Report:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute fact sheet to site contact list that describes RI results • Place approved RI Report in document repository 	<p>When NYSDEC approves RI Report</p>
When NYSDEC Releases Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place PRAP in document repository • Distribute fact sheet to site contact list that describes PRAP and announces 30-day comment period and public meeting • Conduct 30-day public comment period • Hold public meeting about PRAP 	<p>When NYSDEC releases PRAP. Comment period begins/ends as per dates identified in fact sheet. Public meeting is held during the comment period.</p>
When NYSDEC Issues Record of Decision (ROD):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place ROD in document repository • Distribute notice to site contact list that announces availability of ROD. ROD includes responsiveness summary of significant comments about PRAP 	<p>When NYSDEC issues ROD</p>
Before Start of Remedial Action (RA):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute fact sheet to site contact list that describes upcoming remedial action 	<p>Before start of remedial action at the site</p>
When NYSDEC Certifies Cleanup Requirements Achieved:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute fact sheet to site contact list that announces cleanup requirements achieved • If Certificate of Completion (COC) is issued, announce in fact sheet • If COC is issued, place copy in document repository 	<p>When NYSDEC certifies cleanup requirements achieved, or within 10 days after NYSDEC issues COC or other similar site closure document</p>
If NYSDEC Reclassifies the Site	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If reclassifying site, may announce in fact sheet announcing achievement of cleanup requirements 	<p>At time NYSDEC proposes to reclassify the site</p>
If NYSDEC Proposes to Delist the Site from the Registry of Contaminated Sites	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish notice in Environmental Notice Bulletin about proposal and 30-day public comment period • Distribute notice to site contact list. May announce proposal in fact sheet announcing achievement of cleanup requirements • Conduct 30-day public comment period about proposed delist • Distribute notice to site contact list when site is delisted 	<p>At time NYSDEC proposes to delist the site</p>

3. Major Issues of Public Concern

This section of the CP Plan identifies major issues of public concern that relate to the site. Additional major issues of public concern may be identified during the course of the site's investigation and cleanup process.

The issues most likely to be of public concern are: the potential for the site to impact groundwater that is used as a source of drinking water at and near the site; and the potential for migration of site contaminants to adjacent properties.

4. Site Information

Appendix C contains a map identifying the location of the site.

Site Description

The site consists of an approximately 8.4-acre property located at 5225-5239 Route 203 in the Town of Nassau, Rensselaer County, New York, and is located approximately one mile south of the Village of Nassau. The site is designated as residential (northern portion, with a residence) and commercial (southern portion, with three garages). Both portions of the site have supply wells, which have been tested several times and meet New York State Ambient Water Quality Standards and Guidance Values (AWQSGVs). There is also a pond on the southern portion of the site which does not appear to have an outlet.

The site is located within a rural area surrounded by residential and agricultural properties. The site is bounded by: to the north, agricultural farmland; to the east, Route 203 and then two residences and farmland; to the south, Sweets Crossing Road and then residences; and to the west, the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail, then residences, and then the Valatie Kill.

History of Site Use, Investigation, and Cleanup

The site has been owned by different generations of the Loeffel family from 1955 through August 19, 2021, when ownership was transferred to CEL Properties, LLC. The site is currently used for a residence (northern portion) and for the manufacture of wire harness components (southern portion). The site was used by Messrs. Richard and/or Dewey Loeffel beginning in the 1950s to store trucks used for the collection and storage of waste oil and industrial wastes and as a waste oil transfer facility.

Starting in 2018, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) initiated a "removal action" that included investigation activities at the site and on two adjacent properties. USEPA sampled numerous residential supply wells near and at the site, and

collected soil, sediment, and surface water samples. Deteriorated 55-gallon drums and a 30,000-gallon underground storage tank (UST) were also discovered at the site.

The Responsible Party entered into a Removal Order with USEPA and performed a removal investigation pursuant to a USEPA-approved work plan. Additional sampling was performed which expanded upon USEPA's work and the results are summarized in the Final Investigation Report approved by USEPA in August 2021.

In soil, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including trichloroethene (TCE), ethylbenzene, toluene, and xylene were identified in the south-central portion of the site, adjacent to the pond. Poly-chlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), and metals were also identified in soils throughout the southern portion of the site.

In on-site groundwater, TCE, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene were detected at concentrations above AWQSGVs in the south-central portion of the site, adjacent to the pond.

Off-site residential supply well sampling detected TCE above the AWQSGV (5 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$)) at one residence¹, and below the AWQSGV at 14 other residences south of the site. 13 point-of-entry-treatment systems (POETs) were installed where permission was granted. Maintenance and monitoring of the POETs is being performed by the Responsible Party in accordance with the POET Operation, Maintenance, and Monitoring Plan under NYSDEC oversight.

In addition to investigation work, the following removal activities were performed by the Responsible Party pursuant to USEPA-approved work plans:

- Removal of a small area of PCB-impacted surface soil on the property adjacent to the south side of the site. A total of 12 tons of soil was excavated and sent off-site for treatment and disposal.
- Removal of liquid contents from the 30,000-gallon UST identified at the site. A total of 25,400 gallons of liquid waste was removed and sent off-site for treatment and disposal. Additionally, 26 tons of soil located above the tank was removed from the site for off-site treatment and disposal.
- Removal of the visually identified drums and the small steel tank from the site for off-site treatment and disposal. During the removal of these drums, a number of buried drums were located at the site. A large drum excavation and removal effort was conducted to locate and remove these drums along with other solid

¹ TCE was subsequently detected above the AWQSGV at one additional supply well where a POET was previously installed.

wastes and visibly impacted soils associated with them. A total of 143 drums/drum carcasses were located and removed from the site for off-site treatment and disposal. In addition, during removal of these drums, 69.5 tons of impacted soil and solid waste were also removed from the site for offsite treatment and disposal.

Details about the removal actions performed at the site by the Responsible Party under oversight by USEPA are contained in the Final Removal Action Report approved by USEPA in July 2024.

The site was added to the Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites by NYSDEC in October 2021 as a Class 2 site, which requires development and implementation of a remedial program. That program begins with the RI/FS discussed in this CP Plan and will be conducted by the Responsible Party with oversight from NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

Several PRPs associated with the site have been identified by NYSDEC; however, General Electric is the only Responsible Party that agreed to enter into a Consent Order.

5. Investigation and Cleanup Process

Investigation

A detailed study of the site will be performed by the Responsible Party under a Consent Order, with oversight by NYSDEC and NYSDOH. This detailed study is called a “Remedial Investigation”. The investigation work plan is contained within the “Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Work Plan” and is available for public review at the “Locations of Reports and Information” identified in **Appendix A**.

The site investigation has several goals:

- 1) define the nature and extent of contamination in soil, surface water, groundwater and any other parts of the environment that may be affected;
- 2) identify the source(s) of the contamination;
- 3) assess the impact of the contamination on public health and the environment; and
- 4) provide information to support the development of a proposed remedy to address the contamination.

NYSDOH reviews and recommends activities that will be performed during the investigation to ensure that a complete picture of potential health impacts is understood.

Such activities include identifying the ways contamination can reach people, such as through direct contact, eating, drinking, or breathing.

The information collected during the site investigation will be summarized in a Remedial Investigation Report.

Feasibility Study

After the site investigation has been completed, the Responsible Party, with oversight by NYSDEC, will conduct a “Feasibility Study.” This study uses information developed during the site investigation to develop and evaluate potential ways to clean up contamination related to the site. Another possibility is that the information collected during the site investigation may support the conclusion that no action, or no further action, is needed to address site-related contamination.

Proposed Remedy

The evaluation of possible remedies ends with a recommended proposal to eliminate the threat posed by contaminants at the site. NYSDEC approves or prepares this proposal, called a “Proposed Remedial Action Plan” (PRAP). The PRAP describes the remedy preferred by NYSDEC, or a no action or no further action alternative. The PRAP summarizes the decision that led to the recommendation of the preferred remedy by discussing each alternative and the reasons for choosing or rejecting it. The goal of any cleanup plan is to protect public health and the environment. NYSDEC will present the PRAP to the public for its review and comment during a 30-day comment period and at a public meeting.

Selected Remedy

NYSDEC considers public comments as it selects the remedy to address contamination related to the site. The selected remedy will be described in a document called a “Record of Decision” (ROD). The ROD will explain why the remedy was selected and respond to public comments. This document will be placed in the location of reports and information. If the selected remedy is no action or no further action, NYSDEC may then take steps to reclassify the site or remove the site from its list of contaminated sites.

Cleanup Action

If the Record of Decision for the site calls for cleanup action, the project then moves to designing and performing the actions to address the site contamination. When cleanup actions have been completed, NYSDEC will approve or prepare a Final Engineering Report that describes the cleanup actions undertaken and certifies that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved.

Certificate of Completion

Upon approval of the Final Engineering Report, NYSDEC may issue a Certificate of Completion (COC). The COC would recognize the findings of the Final Engineering Report and note that the cleanup program achieved a cleanup level consistent with specific categories of use for the site. The recipient of the COC would be entitled to limited liability as long as it complied with the terms of the COC, and other conditions.

A COC may be modified or revoked if, for example, the recipient does not comply with the terms of the COC, or if the recipient commits fraud regarding its certification that it has met cleanup levels.

Site Management

Site management is the last phase of the site cleanup program. This phase begins when the COC is issued. Site management may be conducted by NYSDEC, or by the responsible party(ies) under NYSDEC oversight, if contamination will remain in place. Site management incorporates any institutional and engineering controls required to ensure that the remedy implemented for the site remains protective of public health and the environment. All significant activities are detailed in a Site Management Plan.

An *institutional control* is a non-physical restriction on use of the site, such as a deed restriction that would prevent or restrict certain uses of the property. An institutional control may be used when the cleanup action leaves some contamination that makes the site suitable for some, but not all uses.

An *engineering control* is a physical barrier or method to manage contamination. Examples include: caps, covers, barriers, fences, and treatment of water supplies.

Site management also may include the operation and maintenance of a component of the remedy, such as a system that pumps and treats groundwater. Site management continues until NYSDEC determines that it is no longer needed. During the site management phase, NYSDEC may also take steps to reclassify the site or delist the site from the Registry.

**Appendix A --
Project Contacts and Locations of Reports and Information**

Project Contacts

For information about the site's investigation and cleanup program, the public may contact any of the following project staff:

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC):

Kyle Forster, PE
Project Manager
NYSDEC
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233
(518) 402-8644

Regina Willis
Public Participation Specialist
NYSDEC, Region 4
1130 N Westcott Rd
Schenectady, NY 12306
(518) 357-2075

New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH):

Shaun Surani
Project Manager
NYSDOH
Empire State Plaza
Corning Tower Room #1787
Albany, NY 12237
(518) 402-7860

Locations of Reports and Information

The facilities identified below are being used to provide the public with convenient access to important project documents:

Nassau Free Library
18 Church St.
Nassau, NY 12123
Phone: 518-766-2715

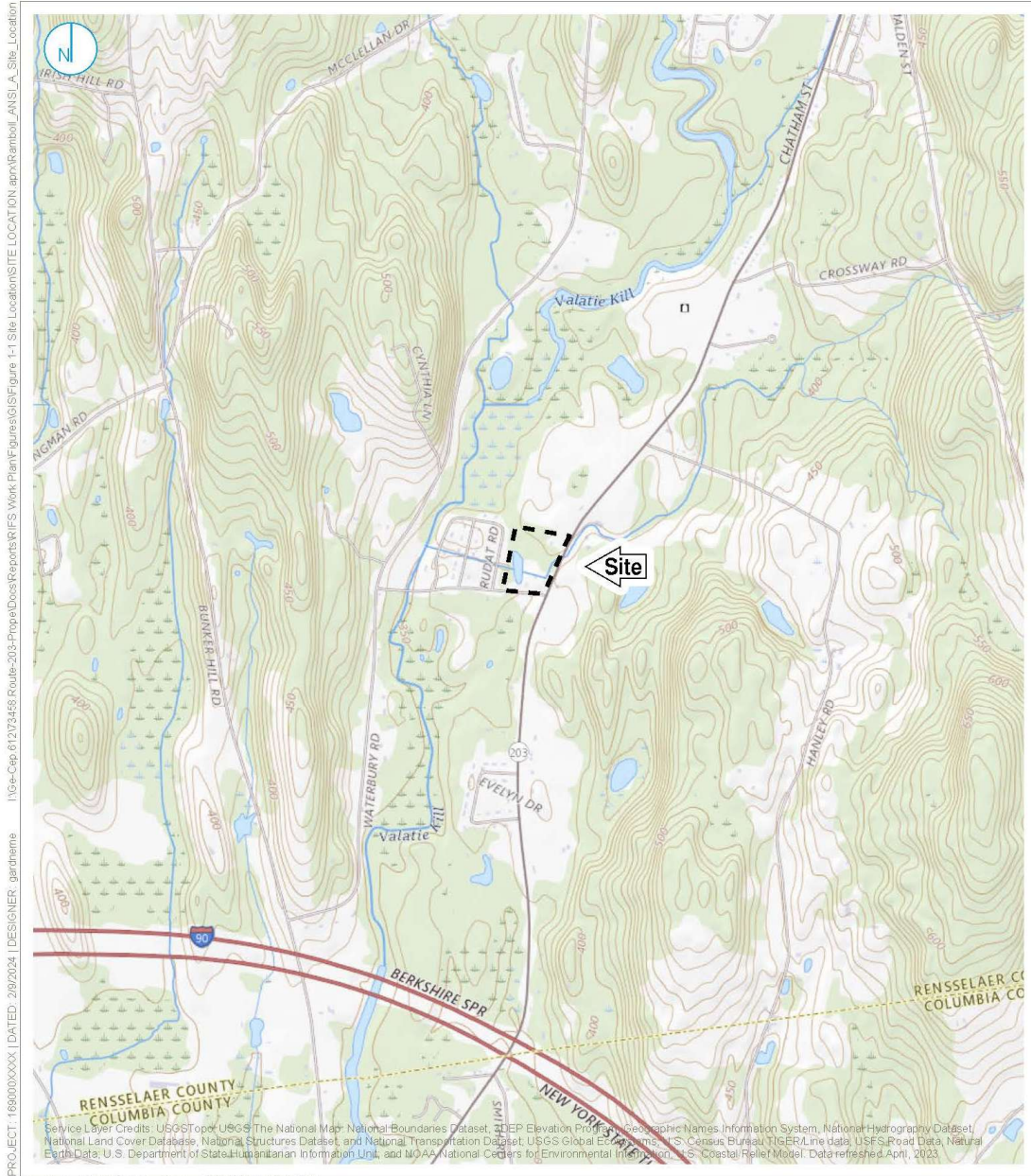
Online through the NYSDEC DECinfo Locator:
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/442064/>

Hours:
Monday: 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM,
Tuesday & Thursday: 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM,
Wednesday & Friday: 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM,
Saturday: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Appendix B -- Site Contact List

APPENDIX B -- SITE CONTACT LIST			
Contact Description	Name	Address	Email
Rensselaer County Executive	Steven F. McLaughlin	99 Troy Road 4th Floor East Greenbush, NY 12061	smclaughlin@rensco.com
Rensselaer County Economic Development and Planning Director	Robert L. Pasinella Jr.	333 Broadway Suite 320 Troy, NY 12180	rpasinella@rensco.com
Town of Nassau Supervisor	David Fleming	Nassau Town Hall 29 Church Street PO Box 587 Nassau, NY 12123	supervisor@townofnassau.org ; david.fleming@townofnassau.org
Town of Nassau Planning Board Committee Chair	Jamie Margelot	Nassau Town Hall 29 Church Street PO Box 587 Nassau, NY 12123	planning@townofnassau.org
Nassau Village Mayor	Robert Valenty	40 Malden Street PO Box 452 Nassau, NY 12123	mayor@villageofnassau.gov
Rensselaer County Environmental Health Director	Rich Elder	1600 7th Avenue 2nd Floor Troy, NY 12180	relder@renscony.gov
State Senator	Jacob Ashby	594 Columbia Turnpike East Greenbush, NY 12061	ashby@nySenate.gov
State Assemblyman	Scott Bendett	1580 Columbia Turnpike Building 4, Suite 1A Castleton on Hudson, NY 12033	bendetts@nyassembly.gov
Location of reports and information	N/A	Nassau Free Library 18 Church St. Nassau, NY 12123	N/A
		Online through the NYSDEC DECinfo Locator: https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/442064/	N/A

Appendix C -- Site Location Map



Map Scale: 1:24,000 | Map Center: 73°37'28"W 42°29'40"N



Note:
The eastern drainageway drains to a topographic low-lying area to the south of Sweets Crossing Road.



ROUTE 203 SITE
NASSAU, NEW YORK

SITE LOCATION MAP

RAMBOLL AMERICAS
ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS, INC.
A RAMBOLL COMPANY



