

DEC Invites You to Sign Up With the Contaminated Sites Email Listserv!

You may have interest in receiving information about the following contaminated site:

Site Name: Former Watermark Designs Facility
DEC Site #: C224139
Address: 491 Wortman Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11208
County: Kings



DEC's Division of Environmental Remediation (DER) distributes information about the investigation and cleanup of contaminated sites *electronically by email*.

To receive site information, you must sign up for the DER email listserv:

www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html

Simply follow the web link above to the DER listserv sign-in page and follow the instructions. It's quick, it's easy, and it will help to keep you informed.

If “paperless” is not an option for you, call or write to the DER project manager below. Indicate that you need to receive paper copies of fact sheets about the site through the Postal Service. The option to receive paper is available to households only. Groups, organizations, businesses, and government entities are assumed to have email access.

Alicia Barraza
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway, 12th Floor
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518-402-9690
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FACT SHEET

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Receive Site Fact Sheets by *Email*. See "For More Information" to Learn How.

Site Name: Former Watermark Designs Facility
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Brooklyn, NY 11208

Have questions?
See
"Who to Contact"
Below

Draft Investigation Work Plan for Brownfield Site Available for Public Comment

The public is invited to comment on a draft work plan being reviewed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to investigate the Former Watermark Designs Facility site ("site") located at 491 Wortman Avenue, Brooklyn, Kings County. Please see the map for the site location. Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information."

Draft Investigation Work Plan

The draft investigation work plan, called a "Remedial Investigation Work Plan," was submitted to NYSDEC under New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program. The investigation will be performed by J&H Holding Company, LLC ("applicant(s)") with oversight by NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

How to Comment

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the draft investigation work plan for 30 days, from **July 1, 2013** through **July 30, 2013**. The proposed plan is available for review at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area below.

Highlights of the Proposed Site Investigation

The investigation will define the nature and extent of contamination in soil, surface water, groundwater and any other parts of the environment that may be affected.

Investigations were completed on-site and off-site from 2008 to 2013. Chlorinated Volatile Organic Compounds (CVOCs) are the primary contaminants of concern on-site and off-site. The CVOC, trichloroethene (TCE), was found in groundwater and soil vapor at high concentrations and in soil at lower concentrations. The CVOC, tetrachlorethene (also known as perchloroethene or PCE), was also found in soil, groundwater and soil vapor at lower concentrations.

- The 2008 and 2009 investigation results showed that soils and groundwater at the western portion of the site were impacted mostly with TCE and PCE. In 2009, TCE in soil was 140 ppm (parts per million) and in groundwater it was 5,700 ppb (parts per billion). These impacts were associated with a former degreasing tank.

- The 2011 investigation included soil, groundwater and soil vapor sampling. The highest concentration of TCE in indoor air onsite was 250 µg/m³ (micrograms per cubic meter of air). In sub-slab samples onsite, the highest concentration of TCE was 2,300,000 µg/m³. In off-site soil vapor samples, the highest concentration of TCE was 63,000 µg/m³. In on-site groundwater, the maximum concentration of TCE was 2,300 ppb.
- In 2013, additional indoor air samples were collected in the office and congregation areas of the site where occupants are present. TCE was 64.5 µg/m³ in the congregation area and 83 µg/m³ in the office area.

Additional Details

Work will be performed during normal business hours to limit the amount of noise affecting the community. These activities will require access to the sidewalks with heavy equipment and may have a minimal impact on local traffic patterns and flow. Air quality monitoring and mitigation measures will be implemented during investigation and remediation activities. These activities will be performed under work plans approved by NYSDEC.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments, revise the plan as necessary, and approve the work plan. NYSDOH must concur with the plan. The approved work plan will be made available to the public (see “Where to Find Information” below). After the work plan is approved, the activities detailed in the work plan will be implemented.

When the investigation is completed, a report will be prepared and submitted to the NYSDEC that summarizes the results. NYSDEC will review the report, make any necessary revisions and, if appropriate, approve the report.

After the investigation, a cleanup plan, called a “Remedial Work Plan” will be developed and a Decision Document will be proposed. The cleanup plan will include an evaluation of the proposed site remedy, or recommend a no action or no further action alternative. The goal of the cleanup plan is to ensure the protection of public health and the environment. NYSDEC will present the proposed cleanup plan to the public for its review and comment during a 45-day comment period. NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the site.

Background

Site Location:

The Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) site is located at 491 Wortman Avenue in Brooklyn, Kings County and is approximately .44 acres. It is bounded to the south by Wortman Avenue, to the east by Essex Street, to the west by Linwood Street, and to the north by a commercial and industrial property.

Site Features:

There is a one story industrial brick and steel building, which occupies the entire area of the property. No exposed soil or vegetation is present on the subject property.

Current Zoning/Use:

The area surrounding the site is for industrial and commercial uses. Since 2007, a portion of the site building has been used by a group for religious activities.

Historical Use(s):

US Tube & Foundry Company, Inc. operated at the site between 1945 and 1973. The National

Hanger Company, Inc. operated at the site in 1976. J & H Holding Company, LLC has owned the property since 1983 and manufacturing activities continued until 2007. The site was previously used to manufacture, store, package, and ship decorative fixtures and hardware for bathrooms and kitchens. Processes involved cleaning, painting, plating, etching, polishing, and specific machining of metals and metal products. A cleaning and degreasing area was located along the west side of the building. The source of contamination is within the on-site building.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology:

The site is located over the Long Island aquifer system, which underlies all of Nassau, Suffolk, Kings(Brooklyn), and Queens Counties. The unconsolidated aquifer formations form a southward-dipping wedge that attains a maximum thickness in Kings County about 800 feet in the southeast area of Brooklyn. Overlying bedrock is the Lloyd, Magothy, Jameco, and Upper Glacial aquifer systems. The lithologic description of sediments from soil borings identifies the material as fill to approximately five feet below grade, underlain by layers of fine to medium silty sands and silt. Groundwater at the site is encountered at approximately 11 feet below grade. Groundwater beneath the property is class GA denoting potential use as potable water. The property lies within New York City, which utilizes reservoirs from upstate New York as sources of potable water.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=C224139>

Brownfield Cleanup Program: New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) encourages the voluntary cleanup of contaminated properties known as "brownfields" so that they can be reused and redeveloped. These uses may include recreation, housing, business or other uses.

A **brownfield** is any real property that is difficult to reuse or redevelop because of the presence or potential presence of contamination.

For more information about the BCP, visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed.

Brooklyn Public Library-New Lots Branch
665 New Lots Ave. at Barbery St.
Brooklyn, NY 11207
phone: 718-649-0311

Who to Contact

Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project Related Questions

Alicia Barraza
NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7016
518-402-9690
aabarraz@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions

Dawn Hettrick
New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation
Empire State Plaza, Tower Room 178
Albany, NY 12237
518-402-7860
BEEI@health.state.ny.us

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.

Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>. It's quick, it's free, and it will help keep you *better informed*.



As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

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

SITE LOCATION MAP

