



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

FACT SHEET

Brownfield Cleanup Program

450 Union Street Site
450 Union St.
Brooklyn, NY 11231

December 2016

SITE No. C224219
NYSDEC REGION 2

Where to Find Information:

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

Carroll Gardens Branch Library

396 Clinton Street

Brooklyn, NY 11231

Phone: 718-596-6972

Hours: Mon, Thu-Fri 10am-6pm; Tue-Wed
10am-8pm; Sat 10:00am-5pm

Brooklyn Community Board 6

250 Baltic Street

Brooklyn, NY 11201-6401

Call in advance: (718) 643-3027

NYSDEC, Region 2 Office

One Hunters Point Plaza

47-40 21st Street

Long Island City, NY 11101

Call in advance: (718) 482-4900

Who to Contact:

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

Project-Related Questions

Nigel Crawford P.E., Project Manager

NYSDEC, Region 2 Office

47-40 21st Street

Long Island City, NY 11101

(718) 482-7778

nigel.crawford@dec.ny.gov

Health-Related Questions:

Angela Martin

NYSDOH

Empire State Plaza

Corning Tower Room 1787

Albany, NY 12237

(518) 402-7860

beei@health.ny.gov

**For additional information on the New York's
Brownfield Cleanup Program, visit:**

www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html

Interim Remedial Measure Proposed; Public Comment Period Announced

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is proposing an expedited cleanup for the 450 Union Street site ("Site") located at 450 Union Street in Brooklyn, NY. Please see the map for the site location. Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified on the left-hand side of this page under "Where to Find Information." NYSDEC is conducting a public comment period because this Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) is likely to represent the final cleanup for the western portion of the Site.

How to Comment: NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed plan for 30 days, from **December 16, 2016** through **January 16, 2017**. The proposed plan is available for public review at the location(s) identified on the left-hand side of this page under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project-Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area on the left-hand side of this page.

Draft Interim Remedial Measure Work Plan: An IRM is a cleanup activity that may be performed when a source of contamination or exposure pathway (the way in which a person may contact contamination) can be effectively addressed without extensive investigation and evaluation.

The draft IRM Work Plan describes the proposed cleanup activities that include:

- Removal of a suspected Underground Storage Tank (UST) at the southeast portion of the Site in accordance with local, state and federal regulations. Petroleum-impacted soil associated with the UST will be excavated to about 12 feet below ground surface (bgs).
- Excavation of a soil hotspot contaminated with lead near the central part of the Site to about 4 feet bgs.
- Limited trench excavations within the site building and in the asphalt-paved exterior for installation of subsurface utilities, construction of footings for a lean-to structure, and landscaping;
- Collection and analysis of end-point soil samples to evaluate the effectiveness of the remedy;
- Import of clean soil that meets the established Soil Cleanup Objectives for use as backfill;
- Implementation of a Health and Safety Plan and Community Air Monitoring Plan during all ground intrusive activities; and
- Restoration of the Site cap (i.e. building slab, asphalt or concrete) where it is compromised or placement of a 2-foot clean soil cover.

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Site Description: The Site is about 28,500 square feet (0.65 acres) and is bounded by Union Street to the north; the Gowanus Canal to the east; car and bus parking to the south; and Bond Street to the west. The Site is currently improved with a one-story building (the "Green Building") encompassing an area of about 9,880 square feet, and two storage sheds. The exterior portion of the property contains an enclosed area for social events and storage areas. A bulkhead separates the property from the Gowanus Canal.

The Site is used as a private event space, art gallery, and temporary outdoor restaurant. Based on previous investigations, historic uses of the Site have included: coal and wood storage, a granite works, an electroplating facility, a garage, a fuel company, and a foundry.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the Site ID, C224219) at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/externalapps/derexternal/index.cfm?pageid=3>

Summary of Previous Investigations: Contaminants of concern identified at the Site include the following:

- Semi-volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs), pesticides, and metals in historic fill material. In addition, hazardous concentrations of lead were detected in soil samples in the central portion of the Site.
- Petroleum-related Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and/or SVOCs in soil, groundwater, and soil vapor, in the area of the suspected UST.
- Coal tar-related VOCs and SVOCs in soil and dense non-aqueous phase liquid along eastern perimeter of the Site and west of the bulkhead wall¹.

Next Steps: NYSDEC will consider public comments, revise the plan as necessary, and approve the IRM Work Plan in consultation with the New York State Department of Health. The approved Work Plan will be made available to the public

(see "Where to Find Information" on front page). After the Work Plan is approved, the activities in the Work Plan will be implemented. Upon completion of the work, a Construction Completion Report will be prepared that documents the activities that were performed.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the Site.

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 site is any real property where a contaminant is present at levels exceeding the soil cleanup objectives or other health-based or environmental standards, criteria or guidance adopted by NYSDEC that are applicable based on the reasonably anticipated use of the property, in accordance with applicable regulations.

For more information about the BCP, visit:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html>

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:

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.

¹ The draft RM Work Plan does not address remediation of coal tar. This will be addressed as part of the final remedial action for the Site.

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