



FACT SHEET Brownfield Cleanup Program

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

Site Name: Former Hygrade Polishing and Plating Co.
DEC Site #: C241148
Address: 22-07 41st Avenue
Long Island City, NY 11101

Have questions? See "Who to Contact" Below

Interim Remedial Measure Proposed Public Comment Period Announced

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is proposing an expedited cleanup for the Former Hygrade Polishing and Plating Co. site ("site") located at 22-07 41st Avenue, Long Island City, 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 below under "Where to Find Information."

NYSDEC is conducting a public comment period because this Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) is likely to represent a significant part of the cleanup for this site.

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=C241148

How to Comment

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed IRM work plan for 30 days, from May 24, 2017 through June 23, 2017. 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.

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:

- 1. The injection of chemicals into the groundwater below the building basement to treat Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs); and
2. The installation of a sub-slab depressurization system to prevent migration of contaminated soil vapors from entering the building.

Summary of the Investigation

Soil, groundwater, and soil vapor samples were collected as part of the initial phase of the Remedial Investigation in the fall of 2016. Contaminants of concern at the site include VOCs (primarily tetrachloroethene (PCE) and trichloroethene (TCE)) and several metals (cadmium and chromium).

Soil samples collected beneath the basement floor did not exhibit concentrations of VOCs or metals in excess of the unrestricted use criteria.

Concentrations of both PCE and TCE were found to exceed their respective standards (5 parts per billion (ppb)) in groundwater collected from beneath the building. Concentrations of cadmium and chromium were also found to exceed their groundwater standards of 5 ppb and 50 ppb respectively.

Soil vapor samples collected from beneath the basement contained elevated concentrations of TCE.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments, revise the plan as necessary, and approve the IRM work plan in consultation with New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). 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. 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.

Background

Location:

The site is located in the Long Island City section of Queens County. The site is located along the north side of 41st Avenue between 22nd and 23rd Streets.

Site Features:

The site is approximately 2,500 square feet in size, and is completely covered by a 4-story masonry building with a basement. The lot located immediately west of the site is undergoing construction as a multi-story hotel. A parking area and a multi-story commercial building are located immediately east of the site. Metropolitan Transportation Authority property (the F train) runs directly underneath 41st Avenue along the southern side of the property. New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) property (Queensbridge Houses) is located approximately 1.5 blocks west of the property.

Current Zoning and Land Use:

The site is zoned for manufacturing. The site is currently vacant, and is undergoing extensive renovations. The surrounding area is generally used for commercial purposes.

Past use of the Site:

The property was formerly occupied by an electroplating facility from 1962 to 2012. Upon

inspection by Department personnel in August 2012, the building was found to contain well over 100-55 gallon drums in various states of decay containing numerous chemicals, over a dozen plating baths and rinsate tanks, as well as heavily stained walls and floors. The new property owner has undertaken a limited cleanup pursuant to a NYC Department of Environmental Protection Commissioners order. This work began in April 2013, and included: (a) emptying and removal of all the plating baths and tanks; (b) removal of all the 55-gallon drums; and (c) removal of all grossly-contaminated concrete flooring and walls. This work was completed in June 2013.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology:

Soils consist of medium to fine-grained sand to about 10 feet below grade, followed by a layer of silty clay of an undetermined thickness. Groundwater was found approximately 13 feet below grade. Groundwater flow direction was not determined locally, but would likely be in a westerly direction towards the East River.

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 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 DEC 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>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

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

Queens Community Board 1
Attn: Florence Koulouris
45-02 Ditmars Boulevard, LL Suite 125
Astoria, NY 11105
Phone: (718) 626-1021
E-mail: qn01@cb.nyc.gov

Queens Library, Long Island City Branch
Attn: Tienya Smith
37-44 21st Street
Long Island City, NY 11101
Phone: (718) 752-3700
E-mail: tsmith@queenslibrary.org

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

David Harrington

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Environmental Remediation

625 Broadway, 12th Floor

Albany, NY 12233-7016

Phone: (518) 402-9768

E-mail: david.harrington@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions

Dawn Hettrick

New York State Department of Health

Empire State Plaza Corning Tower Room 1787

Albany, NY 12237

Phone: (518) 402-7860

E-mail: BEEI@health.ny.gov

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.

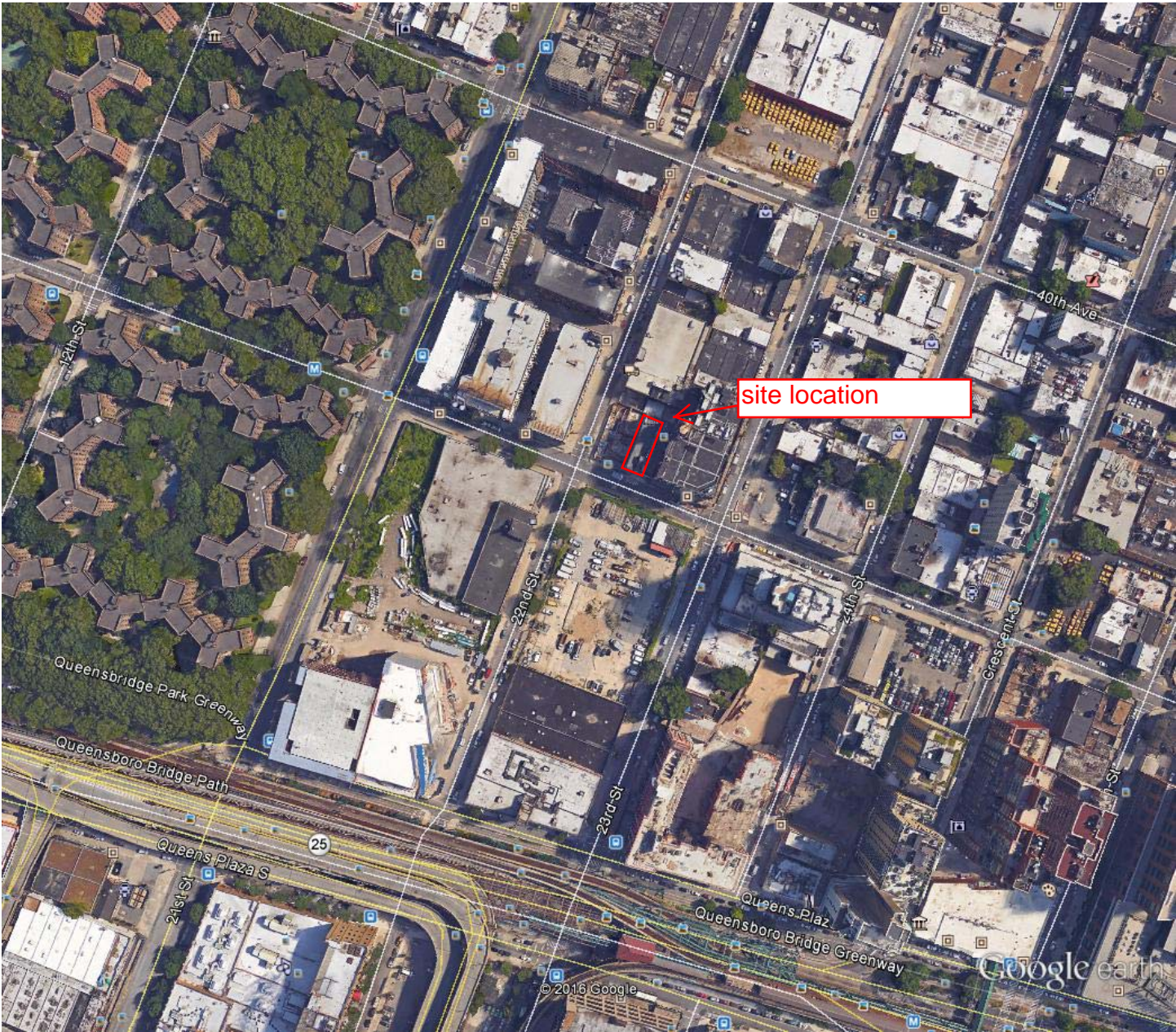
NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page:

<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

Google earth

feet
meters

