



FACT SHEET

Voluntary Cleanup Program

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Nassau Boulevard (LIRR)
Site Number: V00399
Garden City, NY

April 2011

NYSDEC Determines Cleanup Work Complete at Voluntary Cleanup Program Site

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has determined that Long Island Rail Road (volunteer) has achieved cleanup requirements to address contamination identified at the Nassau Boulevard (LIRR) site located at Edgemere Road in Garden City, Hempstead, Nassau County, under New York’s Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). See map for site location (Page 4).

NYSDEC has issued a Release and Covenant Not to Sue Letter to the volunteer regarding the site. The letter identifies the criteria under which the release and covenant will remain in place and identifies conditions that would cause the release and covenant to be withdrawn. A copy of the Release Letter is available at the document repositories identified below under “Where to Find Information.”

Completion of Project

The cleanup action primarily consisted of on-site soil removal. The contamination was shown to be limited to the on-site soils. Approximately 365 tons of mercury contaminated soil were removed from the site and properly disposed. Following the excavation, end point samples were collected to ensure the soil cleanup objectives had been met. Clean fill was backfilled in the excavated areas. The excavation took place in the summer of 2008. This action removed the source of contamination from the site. The cleanup action took place on-site and addressed the contamination associated with the site.

Voluntary Cleanup Program: New York established its Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) to address the environmental, legal, and financial barriers that often hinder the redevelopment and reuse of contaminated properties.

For more information about the VCP, visit:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8442.html

Following the soil removal, the substation was demolished and replaced with a new structure to serve as the substation. The October 2010 Final Engineering Report, which describes the cleanup actions and lists the Institutional Controls/Engineering Controls (IC/EC), is available at the repositories. NYSDEC has approved the volunteer’s Site Management Plan to manage the maintenance of the IC/ECs and to have the volunteer submit periodic reports to the NYSDEC certifying the continuing compliance with the remedial actions and controls.

Institutional Controls/Engineering Controls

Institutional controls and engineering controls generally are designed to reduce or eliminate exposure of contaminants of concern. An *institutional control* is a non-physical restriction on use of the site, such as a deed restriction, when contamination left over after the cleanup action makes the site suitable for some, but not all uses. An *engineering control* is a physical barrier such as a fence or soil cover.

The following institutional and/or engineering controls have been put in place on the site:

- Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions to keep the site limited to industrial uses and implement a soil management plan
- High Security Fencing to limit public access to the site
- Angular Stone Layer covering exposed surface soil to limit dust generation

Release Letter

NYSDEC issued the Release and Covenant Not to Sue Letter based upon the review and approval of a Final Engineering Report submitted by the volunteer. The Final Engineering Report includes: 1) a description of the cleanup activities completed; 2) certification that cleanup requirements have been achieved for the site; 3) a description of any institutional/engineering controls to be used; and 4) a site management plan that has also been approved by NYSDEC.

A Release and Covenant Not to Sue Letter may be revoked if, for example, the volunteer does not comply with the terms of its Voluntary Cleanup Agreement with NYSDEC, or if the volunteer commits fraud regarding its certification that it has met cleanup requirements.

Background

The LIRR built, owned, and operated the substations from the early 1930s. Until the 1980s, the substations housed mercury rectifiers, devices used to supply power to LIRR locomotives and electric passenger car fleets. During the 1980s, the mercury rectifiers were removed from the substations and replaced with non-mercury containing solid state equipment. However, past work practices employed during the operation and maintenance of the mercury rectifiers have affected the site.

The work conducted at the LIRR substation site is being implemented under the provisions of the VCP. A Voluntary Cleanup Agreement signed by the NYSDEC and the LIRR went into effect in November 2004. An Investigation Work Plan was finalized in June 2005. The investigation was conducted from September 2005 until March 2007. An Investigation Report was approved by the NYSDEC in September 2007. The investigation identified and delineated site related contamination. Contamination was limited to the on-site soils. Groundwater and off-site soils were not contaminated by site activities. Further information on the investigation can be found in the Investigation Report at the repositories.

The site is composed of the substation building and the surrounding property. The on-site building prior to demolition was an approximately 625 square foot, one story brick structure, with an adjacent 2,100 square foot transformer yard. The structure and transformer yard were to the south of the railroad tracks. The current structure is metal sided and is on the same footprint as the demolished structure.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

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

Garden City Public Library
60 Seventh Street
Garden City, NY 11530
Phone: 516-742-8405

NYSDEC Region 1 Headquarters
50 Circle Road
Stony Brook, NY 11790-3409
Phone: 631-444-0350
Hours M-F; 8:30am - 4:45pm

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

Mr. Nathan Putnam
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7015
Phone: 518-402-9621

Site-Related Health Questions

Ms. Renata Ockerby
New York State Department of Health
Flanigan Square
547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180
Phone: 518-402-7880

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

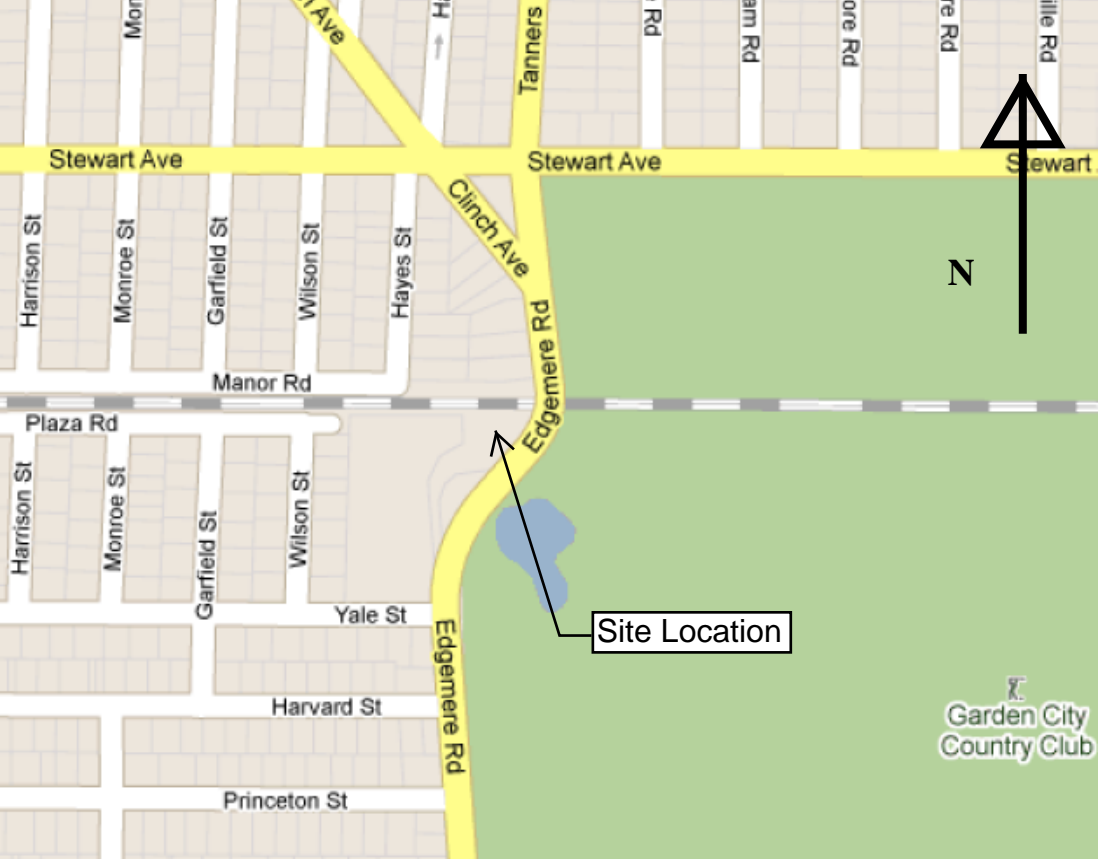
Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html . It's *quick*, it's *free*, and it will help keep you *better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



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

You may continue also to receive paper copies of site information for a time after you sign up with a county listserv, until the transition to electronic distribution is complete.

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



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Site Location

Garden City
Country Club