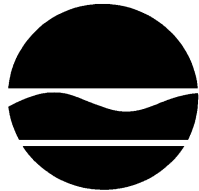


NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION

Dear Interested Citizen:

This fact sheet is to inform you about the planned soil cleanup and period of public comment for the LIRR Rockville Centre Substation site.

The LIRR has developed a remedial action work plan based on previous environmental investigations which revealed contamination in surface and shallow subsurface soils at the site.

The LIRR will be performing this remedial action, consisting of building demolition, excavation and off-site disposal, under the supervision of the NYSDEC.

The Final Investigation Report and the Remedial Action Work Plan are available for review in the document repositories listed on the next page.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact the staff identified on the next page.

FACT SHEET

April 2008

Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) Substation Site:

Rockville Centre Substation, Site #V00394 Rockville Centre, NY

Soil Cleanup to Begin at the Rockville Centre Substation Site

* * *

Public Comment Period Announced

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), working cooperatively with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority/Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) have completed the site Investigation and have developed a Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) for the Rockville Centre Substation site. The RAWP identifies and discusses the remedy for the site based on the results of the previous environmental investigations and the contemplated use of the property. The work will be conducted by the LIRR, identified as the potentially responsible party for the site, under the provisions of the NYSDEC Voluntary Cleanup Program.

The Proposed Action: The proposed remedial action for the Rockville Centre Substation includes the excavation and off-site disposal of six proposed locations, which total approximately 991 square feet in total area of mercury, arsenic and PCB contaminated soils. The depth of excavation varies from the current grade (ground surface) to approximately five feet below grade. Removal and off-site disposal of surface and subsurface contaminated soils from the site will mitigate the potential for the direct exposure to contaminated soil. Institutional controls in the form of a deed restriction and/or environmental easement will be implemented to maintain the industrial nature of the property. The Rockville Centre Substation will be decommissioned and a new substation building will be constructed.

As part of this remediation, the transformer located within the southern excavation area will be removed and stored on-site for off-site removal by the abatement and demolition contractor, and its associated concrete foundation will be demolished and removed. In addition, soil to a depth of 8 feet below the concrete substation slab will be removed from the southwest floor drain and if the suspected dry well and associated rectifier drain pipe is encountered upon removal of the substation building, this structure will be investigated for UIC applicability and contaminant concentration and subsequently closed in accordance with all USEPA and NCDH regulations.

The demolition of the existing building and soil excavation/remedial action is expected to begin during the spring of 2008 and may take approximately 90 days to complete.

BACKGROUND

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority/Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) currently operates the Rockville Centre Substation. The LIRR operated substations from the early 1930s through 1951 that used mercury rectifiers. These rectifiers allowed the LIRR to receive 60-cycle, alternating current (AC) from local utilities and convert it to direct current (DC) for use as a source of electric power for its locomotives and electric passenger car fleet. It is believed that during the early 1980s, the mercury rectifiers were taken out of service and physically removed from the Rockville Centre Substation and replaced with non-mercury containing solid state equipment. Uncertainties surrounding the work practices that may have been employed when managing the operation and maintenance of these mercury rectifiers are suspected to be the cause of contamination.

PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION CONCLUSIONS

Environmental Investigations of the site, completed in October 2007, confirmed the impacts of mercury and arsenic contamination to the surface and subsurface soils at the site. The investigations also confirmed the presence of Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in soils adjacent to electrical transformers. The majority of the contamination (mercury, arsenic and PCBs) is present in shallow soils from the surface to 3 feet below grade and is limited to the LIRR property.

The Investigation Reports describing the site investigations are available at the Public Document Repositories listed.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

The Remedial Action Work Plan, dated April 2008, is available for review at the document repositories listed. Written comments received by the May 23, 2008 deadline, should identify specific grounds which would lead the Department to impose significant changes to the work plan. No formal response will be made to comments, but as a result of comments, the Department may reevaluate and make revisions to the RAWP.

You are encouraged to take advantage of the site's document repositories and staff contacts listed below. As documents are generated during the remedial process, they will be added to the repositories. Documents currently available include the June 2005 Site Specific Health & Safety Plan, June 2005 Investigation Work Plan, October 2007 Delineation Phase II Site Assessment Investigation Report and the April 2008 Delineation Phase 2 Site Assessment Remedial Action Work Plan.

For More Information: Call or write the following staff for more information about:

Environmental Concerns:

Ms. Tara Diaz, PE
Project Manager, NYSDEC
625 Broadway, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7015
Phone: (518) 402-9621
email: tldiaz@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Health-Related Concerns:

Ms. Scarlett Messier
NYSDOH
Flanigan Square, 547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180-2216
Phone: (518) 402-7880 or
1-800-458-1158 ext. 27880
email: sem10@health.state.ny.us

Document Repository :

NYSDEC, Region 1

by Appointment Attn: Mr. William Fonda
SUNY - Bldg. 40
Stony Brook, New York 11790-2356
M-F 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Phone: (631) 444-0350

Rockville Centre Public Library

221 North Village Avenue
Rockville Centre, NY 11570
M, W, Th 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Tu 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM
F 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Sa 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Su 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (September-June)
Phone: (516) 766-6257

SITE LOCATION MAP

