



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

# FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

Arch Street Yards (LIRR)

Arch Street and Jackson Avenue  
Long Island City, NY 11101

SITE No. 241222

NYSDEC REGION 2

May 2024

## Remedy Proposed for State Superfund Site Contamination; Public Comment Period Announced

### Where to Find Information:

Access project documents through the  
DECinfo Locator  
[https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/  
DecDocs/241222/](https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/241222/) and at these location(s):

#### Queens Library - Long Island City Branch

37-44 21st Street  
Long Island City, NY 11101  
(718) 752-3700

### Who to Contact:

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

#### Project-Related Questions

Hasan Ahmed, Project Manager NYSDEC  
47-40 21st Street,  
Long Island City, NY 11101  
(718) 482-6405  
[hasan.ahmed@dec.ny.gov](mailto:hasan.ahmed@dec.ny.gov)

#### Project-Related Health Questions

Arunesh Ghosh  
NYSDOH  
Bureau of Env. Exposure Investigation  
Empire State Plaza  
Corning Tower, Room 1787  
Albany, NY 12237  
518-402-7864 [beci@health.ny.gov](mailto:beci@health.ny.gov)

For more information about New York's  
State Superfund Program, visit:

[https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/  
site-cleanup/brownfield-and-state-superfund-  
programs/state-superfund-sites](https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/brownfield-and-state-superfund-programs/state-superfund-sites)

The public is invited to comment on a proposed remedy being reviewed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), to address contamination related to the Arch Street Yards (LIRR) site ("site") located at Arch Street and Jackson Avenue, Long Island City, NY. Please see the map for the site location.

Based on the findings of the investigation, NYSDEC and NYSDOH have determined that the site does not pose a significant threat to public health or the environment. This decision is based on the nature and extent of existing contamination identified at the site.

**How to Comment:** NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed plan, called a "Draft Remedial Action Work Plan" (RAWP) for 45 days, from **May 30 through July 14, 2024**

- Access the RAWP and other project documents online through the DECinfo Locator: <https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/241222/>.
- Documents also are available at the location(s) identified at left under "Where to Find Information."
- Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project-Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area at left.

**Draft Remedial Work Plan:** The proposed Industrial Use remedy consists of:

- Pre-design investigation to refine the horizontal and vertical extents of the area requiring treatment, and conduct a laboratory-scale treatability study;
- Treatment of contaminated groundwater through injection of zero-valent iron or other chemical oxidants (to be optimized during design using pilot studies) to destroy contaminants in groundwater;
- Implementation of a Site Management Plan (SMP) for long-term groundwater monitoring;
- Recording of an Environmental Easement to ensure proper use of the Site; and
- Implementing a Health and Safety Plan (HASP) and Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP) during all ground intrusive activities.

The proposed remedy was developed by MTA/Long Island Railroad ("remedial party") after a detailed investigation of the site was performed. A "Remedial Investigation Report", which describes the results of the site investigation was submitted and is also available for review at the locations identified on Page 1.

# STATE SUPERFUND PROGRAM

**Next Steps:** NYSDEC will consider public comments, revise the cleanup plan as necessary, and issue a final Decision Document. NYSDOH must concur with the proposed remedy. After approval, the proposed remedy becomes the selected remedy. The remedial party will then design and perform the cleanup action to address the site contamination, with oversight by NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

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

**Site Description:** The site is located south of Jackson Avenue, under the 21<sup>st</sup> Street Bridge at 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in Long Island City, NY. The overall Arch Street Yard property is approximately eight acres in total area; however, the site being addressed under the State Superfund Program, is an approximately 0.3-acre portion of the Yard. The site is zoned for industrial use and the surrounding properties use is a combination of commercial, light industrial, professional office space, residential, and utility right of ways.

The site has historically been utilized as a railroad yard where maintenance was performed on passenger rail cars. These activities ceased in December 2009. Several sets of train tracks traverse the site. Between September 2016 and December 2018, a maintenance building on the Yard was leased to Metro North Railroad and Bombardier for train maintenance. MTA/LIRR currently leases this building to Kawasaki Rail Car for train maintenance. In addition, MTA/LIRR uses the Yard for storage and operation of an electric substation located east of the site.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the site ID, 241222) at:

<https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/cfm/extapps/derexternal/index.cfm?pageid=3>

**Summary of the Investigation:** Several remedial investigations have been completed at the site. The Remedial Investigation (RI) was completed between

October 2015 and February 2017 under NYSDEC's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) as site no. V00733 and included installation and sampling of membrane interface probes, soil borings, groundwater monitoring wells and soil vapor points. The primary contaminants of concern at the site are chlorinated volatile organic compounds (CVOCs) in soil, groundwater and soil vapor. The investigation identified a "hot-spot" of CVOc contamination in a discrete area south of the tracks within the site, with the majority of the soil contamination observed at depths greater than 8 feet below grade. In 2018, after the VCP was discontinued, MTA/LIRR entered into an Administrative Order on Consent with NYSDEC to complete the remediation of the site under the State Superfund Program (SSF).

**State Superfund Program:** New York's State SSF identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup, and monitoring.

NYSDEC attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit:

<https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/brownfield-and-state-superfund-programs/state-superfund-sites>

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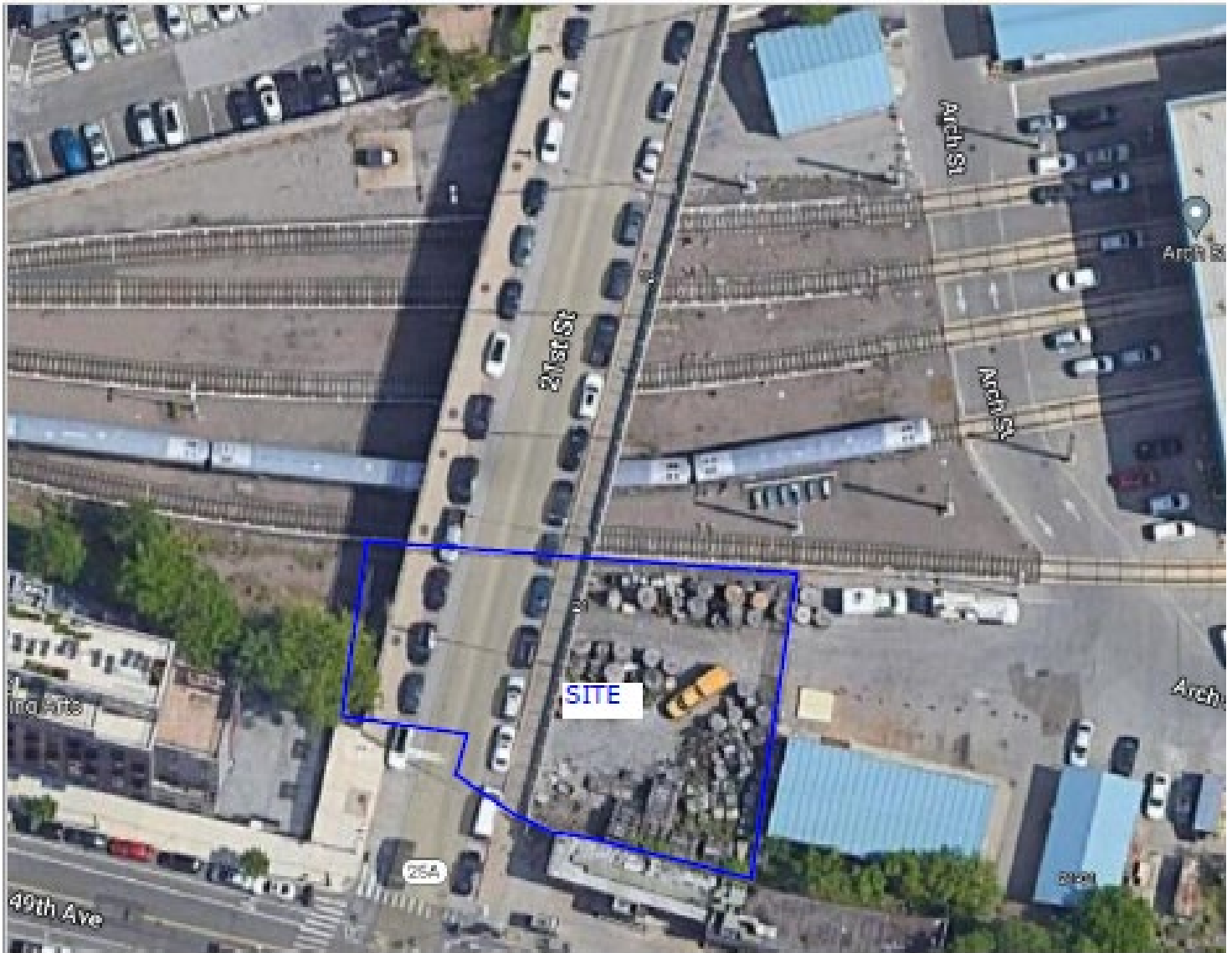
<https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/regional-remediation-project-information/environmental-cleanup-email-newsletters>

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

## DECinfo Locator

Interactive map to access DEC documents and public data about the environmental quality of specific sites:  
<https://dec.ny.gov/maps/interactive-maps/decinfo-locator>

## Site Location





## Translation Available. Don't see your language? Ask!

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<b>简体字 Simplified Chinese</b>	如需將此文件翻譯成您能理解的語言版本，請聯絡下方人員。本次翻譯不收取費用。
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Contact: Hasan Ahmed, (718) 482-6405, and [hasan.ahmed@dec.ny.gov](mailto:hasan.ahmed@dec.ny.gov)