



FACT SHEET Voluntary Cleanup Program

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

Site Name: Hempstead H03 (LIRR)
DEC Site #: V00390
Address: Hewlett Street
Hempstead, NY 11550

Have questions? See "Who to Contact" Below

Remedy Proposed for Voluntary Cleanup Site Contamination; Public Comment Period Extended

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has released a proposed cleanup plan for the Hempstead H03 (LIRR) site ("site") located at Hewlett Street, Hempstead, Nassau County. 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."

How to Comment

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed plan from January 23, 2015 through April 10, 2015. The proposed plan is available for public 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 Remedial Action Work Plan

The cleanup plan is described in a detailed "Remedial Action Work Plan". The proposed remedy consists of:

- 1) Excavating and disposing of about 300 cubic yards of mercury and lead contaminated soil from around a 4,200 square foot area, both on-site and off-site, to achieve Soil Cleanup Objectives (SCOs). The SCOs are 5.7 parts per million (ppm) for mercury and 3,900 ppm for lead within the fenced LIRR property, and 0.81 ppm for mercury and 400 ppm for lead for the unfenced areas both on- and off-site.
2) Filing a deed restriction to limit the property's use as industrial property. This document is recorded with the county clerk and attached to the property deed.

This remedy will protect public health and the environment presented by the contaminants by removing it from the site and surrounding impacted areas.

The proposed remedy was developed by Long Island Rail Road ("volunteer(s)") after performing a detailed investigation of the site under New York's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP).

Summary of the Investigation

The contaminants of concern for this site are mercury and lead. Investigations have shown contamination in the surface and subsurface soils. The mercury impacted soil is primarily within rectifier pits and other subsurface features. Mercury surface contamination is most commonly found near the rectifier buildings. The lead contaminated soils are primarily in the transformer yard and extend slightly off-site to the adjacent residential lawn. These contaminants did not adversely affect groundwater.

On-site soils, inside the fenced area, have mercury contamination that exceeds the industrial SCO of 5.7 ppm. This contamination ranges from about 7 ppm to about 1,500 ppm.

On-site soils, outside the fenced area, have mercury that exceeds the restricted residential SCO of 0.81 ppm. This contamination ranges from about 1 ppm to about 18 ppm.

On-site soils, inside the fenced area, have lead that exceeds the industrial SCO of 3,900 ppm. This contamination ranges from about 4,200 ppm to about 7,100 ppm.

On-site and off-site soils, outside the fenced area, have lead that exceeds the residential SCO of 400 ppm. This contamination ranges from about 400 ppm to about 3,300 ppm.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments, revise the plan as necessary, and issue a final Decision Document. New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) must concur with the proposed remedy. After approval, the proposed remedy becomes the selected remedy. The draft Remedial Action Work Plan and Proposed Decision Document are revised as needed to describe the selected remedy, and will be made available to the public. The volunteer(s) may 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.

Background

Location: The Long Island Railroad's Hempstead Substation site is located on Hewlett Street in a residential portion of Hempstead, Nassau County, NY. The adjoining, elevated railroad tracks are on the east side of the property.

Site Features: The main site features are the two-story rectifier building, transformer yard, and greenspace area on the south and west sides of the building.

Current Zoning/Use(s): The approximately 6 acre site is currently zoned industrial and was formerly used by the LIRR as a rectifying station to supply power to the railroad.

Past Use of the Site: Prior to 1979, mercury rectifiers were used at this substation to power the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) locomotive and electric passenger car fleet. Mercury contamination remains although the rectifiers were removed and replaced with solid state equipment. It is believed that work practices surrounding the operation and maintenance of the rectifiers caused spills and other contaminating events. In 2000, the LIRR conducted initial site assessments and submitted reports on findings, as well as conducted initial remedial measures, including but not limited to, excavation work consisting of the removal of six inches to a foot of

soil and replacement with poly sheeting and crushed stone around the entrance. In 2004, the LIRR entered into the VCP program.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: The shallow geology of the site consists of sands, with some silt and gravel. Depth to groundwater is roughly 25-30 feet below ground surface and groundwater flows approximately south-southwest.

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=V00390>

Voluntary Cleanup Program: New York's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) was developed to encourage private sector volunteers to investigate and clean up contaminated properties and return these sites to productive use. Once cleaned up, the properties may be redeveloped for commercial, industrial, residential or public use.

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

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

Hempstead Public Library
Attn: Ms. Erica Lang
115 Nichols Court
Hempstead, NY 11550
phone: 516-481-6990

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

Project Related Questions

Tara Rutland
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7015
518-402-9621
tara.rutland@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions

Anthony Perretta
New York State Department of Health
Empire State Plaza Corning Tower Room 1787
Albany, NY 12237
(518) 402-7860
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.

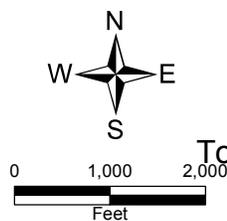
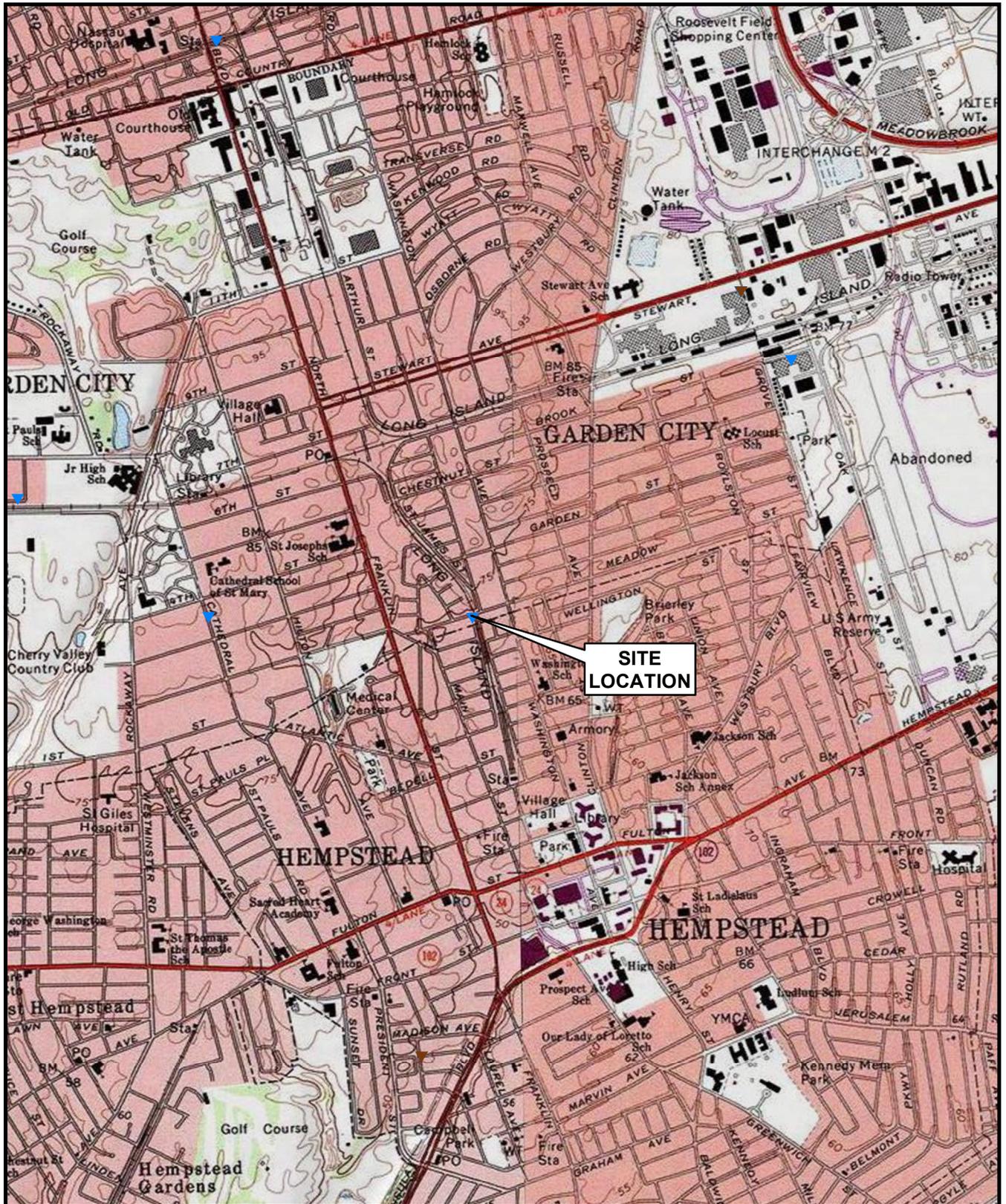


Figure 1
 Site Location Map
 HEMPSTEAD H03 (LIRR)
 Town of Hempstead, Nassau County
 Site No. V00390

