



EPA Constructs Groundwater Treatment Facility on Caroline Avenue Lawrence Aviation Industries Superfund site

Port Jefferson, Suffolk County, New York

Community Update

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EPA encourages public participation. If you have any questions or would like additional information about the LAI site and activities being conducted, please contact:

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Information Repository

Port Jefferson Free Public Library
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Background

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is conducting cleanup activities at the Lawrence Aviation Industries (LAI) site located in Port Jefferson Station, New York. In September 2006, the EPA issued a Record of Decision detailing remedial actions for the site, along with ground water impacts to the Village of Port Jefferson. These remedial activities include the construction of two ground water pump and treatment systems. One system has been constructed and started operating in September 2010. The other system is currently being built approximately one-mile downgradient of the LAI property, at the intersection of Caroline Avenue and Brook Road in the Village of Port Jefferson.

In 2010, EPA initiated and completed a number of projects throughout Port Jefferson in support of groundwater remediation. Portions of the Old Mill Pond and Old Mill Creek were cleaned and dredged. House-hold trash, dead vegetation, and other debris was removed from the surface water and creek embankment. Discharge piping was placed along Caroline Avenue and Barnum Avenue to carry discharge water to the Creek. In October 2010, EPA broke ground on construction of the groundwater pump and treatment system at the intersection of Caroline Avenue and Brook Road.

Current and Continuing Activities

Construction activities have successfully progressed during the first quarter of 2011. All framing activities have been completed utilizing materials from as many local sources as possible. A soy-based insulation was used to weatherize the interior climate and provide significant noise reduction from process equipment. Exterior siding chosen was generated from sustainable and durable materials requiring little maintenance. A metal roof has been designed and purchased that will provide solar reflectance and thermal emittance to prevent a heat island effect. Many other environmental friendly concepts are being pursued in the development of this facility, including geothermal technology, pervious pavement systems, equipment reuse, on-demand water units, and motion sensor interior lighting. EPA continues to work with various committees and departments within Port Jefferson to create a functioning and visually stimulating facility.

Much work has yet to be accomplished prior to the facility becoming fully operational. However, EPA anticipates the system to be operating during the summer of 2011, conditions permitting.

EPA plans on operating the facility for approximately 20 years in an effort to bring levels of volatile organic compounds to an acceptable level for protecting human health and the environment.

Questions	Answers
How will the removal of contaminated groundwater benefit me and my neighbors?	The removal of contaminated groundwater will eliminate any harmful vapor that may be coming from the groundwater, through the soil, and into indoor spaces. This activity will improve the quality of life to residents of the village.
What will this system do to the contaminated groundwater?	The pump and treatment system will extract groundwater by using several wells that have been installed at pre-determined depths. The contaminated water will be passed through a series of air strippers and carbon filters that are designed to remove the contaminants of concern from the water. Non-contaminated water will then be placed into the Old Mill Creek.
How much noise will be generated when the facility is operating at capacity?	It is anticipated that all noise generated from the operations of the facility will be in accordance with noise ordinance codes as established by the Village of Port Jefferson and the Town of Brookhaven. Noise reduction techniques have been used in the construction of the facility and others will be utilized when the system is operational.
Who is funding this project?	Funding for this project is through the U.S. EPA Superfund program and not through local tax revenues. Local taxes will not be utilized for the construction, operation, or maintenance activities associated with this project.
What is being done to expedite the removal of contamination from groundwater?	EPA decided to place two pump and treatment systems in an effort to expedite the cleanup process. One plant will be constructed at the Caroline Avenue Field, the other will be located directly on the LAI property in Port Jefferson Station.
What is the time frame for this project?	Construction activities for the groundwater pump and treatment facility started in October 2010 and are projected to continue into Spring of 2011. It is anticipated that the system will be fully operating in Summer 2011. After such time, the actions of extracting contaminated water and removing the contaminants is projected to take approximately 20 years.
Where do I get additional information on the LAI Site located in Port Jefferson Station and EPA activities in the Village?	The webpage provided below and the Port Jefferson Public Library, Reference Desk.
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