

**FACT SHEET****State Superfund
Program****Receive Site Fact Sheets by *Email*.** See "For More Information" to Learn How.

Site Name: Empire Electric Company
DEC Site #: 224015
Address: 5200 1st Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11232

Have questions?
See
"Who to Contact"
Below

Cleanup Action to Begin at State Superfund Site

Action is about to begin that will address the contamination related to the Empire Electric Company site ("site") located at 5200 1st Avenue, Brooklyn, New York under New York's State Superfund Program. Please see the map for the site location.

The site is listed as a Class "2" site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; action is required.

Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." The cleanup activities will be performed by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities

The goal of the cleanup action for the site is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment. The cleanup action for the site includes:

The full decommissioning, demolition, and off-site disposal of the former Empire Electric Building contaminated primarily with Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs). Demolition will be followed by excavation, offsite disposal of PCB impacted soil/debris below the cellar slab floor, transportation and recycling of recoverable steel, and backfilling the excavation with clean fill up to adjacent grades.

Additional Details

Engineering design of the cleanup remedy was completed by the NYSDEC in October 2013. Bids for the cleanup contract were opened in January 2014. PAL Environmental was awarded the contract and given formal notice to proceed with the project on July 2, 2014.

It is anticipated that construction of the remedy will be completed by Fall 2015 at a cost of approximately \$11.4 million. All construction work will be performed under full-time oversight by EA Engineering P.C., the engineering consultant hired by the NYSDEC. In addition, the contractor's Health and Safety Plan for the work was reviewed to ensure that onsite workers and the nearby community is protected during these activities.

During cleanup activities, all truck traffic to and from the site associated with excavation and off-site disposal activities are being limited to non-residential areas as much as possible. Furthermore, the contractor is responsible for keeping the transportation route clean of soil and fill materials generated during site cleanup activities.

Next Steps

After completion of the cleanup activities, the NYSDEC will prepare a Final Engineering Report (FER). The FER will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved.

The NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the cleanup of the site.

Background

Location: The Empire Electric Company site is located at 5200 1st Avenue in Brooklyn, NY on the southwest corner of 52nd Street and 1st Avenue.

Site Features: The site contains a deteriorated, vacant, red brick building that covers the entire site. The site consists of a 100 feet × 240 feet parcel. Directly adjacent to northwest of the site is a 100 feet × 140 feet parcel that contains a contiguous structure scheduled to remain. This building shares a common wall and adjoining steel truss roofing structure with the Empire Electric building.

Current Zoning/Use(s): The Empire Electric building is vacant and inactive. The area is primarily industrial in nature, with a potato chip manufacturing plant (Utz), a New York City Department of Sanitation vehicle maintenance and storage building, an overnight courier (DHL), the former Brooklyn Union Gas - Kings County Works manufactured gas plant site, and the waterfront (Bush Terminal docks) in the general vicinity.

Historical Use(s): The building was constructed in 1892 by the Brooklyn City Railroad Company for use as a power plant for the municipally owned trolley system. The building was used for electrical generation until the 1930s when the trolley system was abandoned. The facility was conveyed to the city of New York in 1940. In 1951, the property was sold and subdivided the parcel into two lots (Lot 9 and Lot 6). On 5 September 1951, Lot 9 was sold. Empire Electric operated on Lot 9, the eastern two-thirds of the building, from 1951 to December 1986 when the property was once again sold. During at least some of this time period, activities within the building included rehabilitation of electrical transformers.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: The site, situated approximately 1,200 feet from the Upper New York Bay at the western end of the borough of Brooklyn, in New York City, is topographically relatively flat. The elevation of the site is approximately 16 feet above mean sea level (msl), sloping gradually up from the Hudson River. Site soil directly beneath the building consists primarily of fill and debris materials, underlain by sand and gravel, and beneath these layers, bedrock. The water table beneath the site occurs at a depth of approximately 17 to 21 feet below ground surface (bgs). Regional groundwater flow direction is to the west, toward the Upper New York Bay. The depth to bedrock is unknown, but is likely greater than 100 feet bgs.

Surface drainage generally follows the topography, and flow is northwest along 52nd Street toward the Upper New York Bay. Storm water drains are present along 52nd Street and First Avenue. Surface run-off collects in these drains and then flows directly into the Upper New York Bay.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/EXTAPPS/DEREXTERNAL/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=224015>

State Superfund Program: New York's State Superfund Program (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: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

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

Brooklyn Public Library - Sunset Park Branch
Attn: Ms. Roxana Benavides
5108 4th Ave. at 51st Street
Brooklyn, NY 11220
Tel: (718) 567-2806

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

David Chiusano
NYSDEC
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7017
Tel: (518) 402-9814
Email: david.chiusano@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions

Stephanie Selmer
New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation
Empire State Plaza, Corning Tower Room 1787
Albany, NY 12237
Tel: (518) 402-7860
Email: 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.

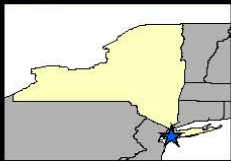
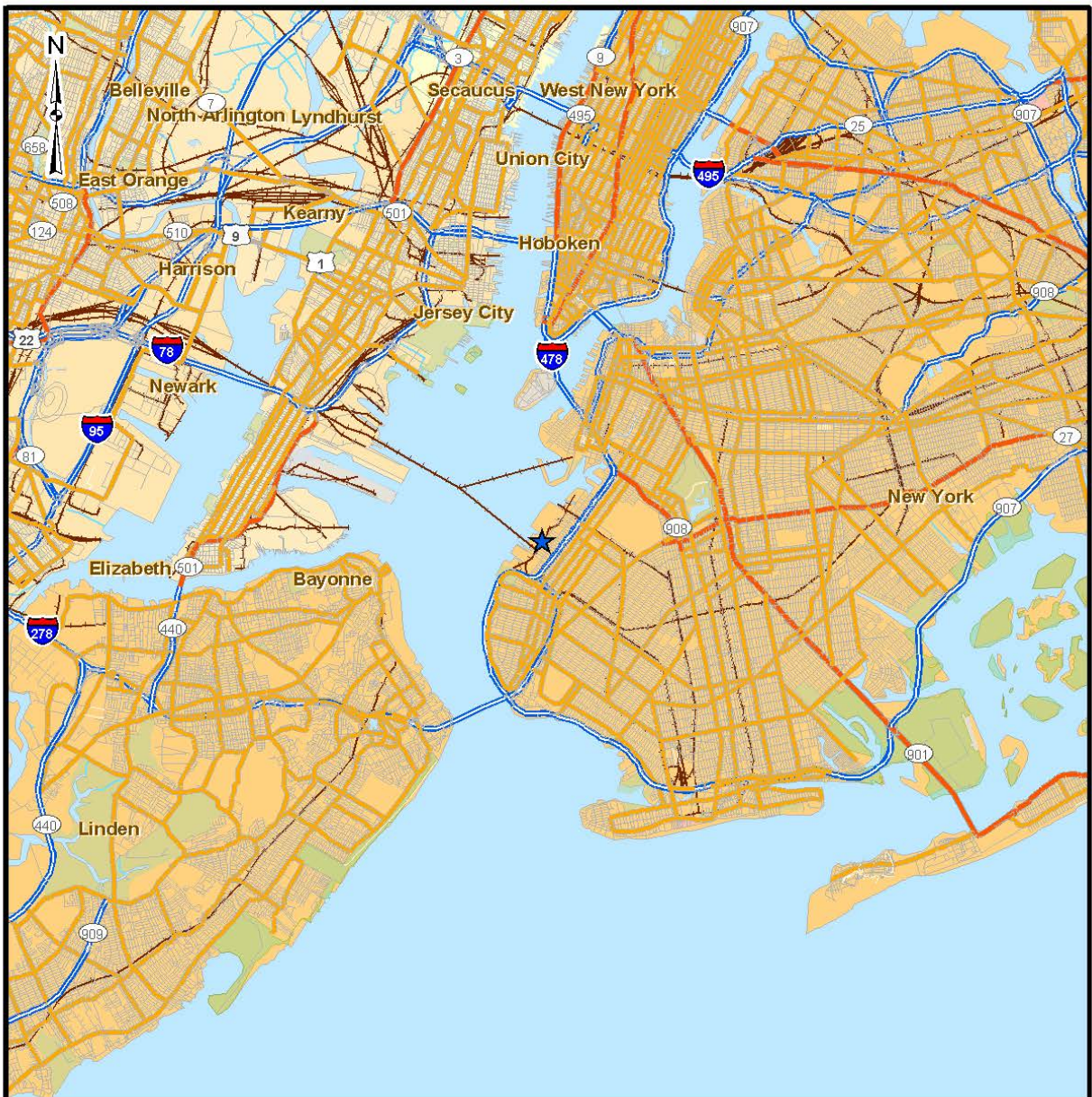
Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

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.



Legend
★ Site Location

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles

Source: NYSGIS Clearinghouse



EMPIRE ELECTRIC
WORK ASSIGNMENT
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

FIGURE 1
SITE LOCATION MAP

PROJECT MGR:
DFC

DESIGNED BY:
RSC

CREATED BY:
MJS

CHECKED BY:
SEF

SCALE:
AS SHOWN

DATE:
JULY 2009

PROJECT NO:
14474.26

FILE NO:
GIS/PROJECTS/
FIGURE1.MXD

Empire Electric Aerial Map



NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

