



Dear Interested Citizen:

This Fact Sheet is to inform you about the ongoing activities associated with the West Side Corporation site. If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact:

Mr. David Chiusano
NYSDEC Project Manager

- On Site Issues

625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7017
(518) 402-9814 or
(888) 459-8667

Ms. Nicole Bonsteel
NYSDEC Project Manager

- Soil Vapor Issues

625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7017
(518) 402-9814 or
(888) 459-8667

For site related health questions, please contact the following New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) representative:

Ms. Stephanie Selmer
Public Health Specialist

NYSDOH

Flanigan Square
547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180
(518) 402-7880 or
(800) 458-1158 Ext. 2-7880

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
COMMUNITY MEETING**

FEBRUARY 6, 2006 AT 7 PM

St. Benedict the Moor R.C. Church
171-17 Brinkerhoff (110th) Ave.
Jamaica, NY 11433

FACT SHEET

January 2006
Site # 2-41-026

WEST SIDE CORP. SITE

CITY OF JAMAICA
QUEENS COUNTY

Project Status Update and Additional Proposed Soil Vapor Intrusion Investigations

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Introduction:

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) have developed this fact sheet to provide an update on the status of On-Site soil cleanup activities (operable unit) (OU-1), the Off-Site Groundwater cleanup (OU-2) and Soil Vapor Intrusion Evaluations (OU-3) associated with the West Side Corporation inactive hazardous waste disposal site. The Site, 4.5 acres in size, is located at 107-10 180th Street in Jamaica, Queens, within a mixed commercial/residential area.

West Side On-Site Investigation and Cleanup (OU-1):

The West Side Corporation property was once used as a storage and distribution center for chemicals used in the dry cleaning industry from approximately 1969 to 1990. Groundwater and subsurface soils have been contaminated by spills of PCE. The facility is currently leased by a bus company (Atlantic Express) and is used for servicing, storage, and dispatch of school buses.

OU-1 Cleanup Background:

The site was first listed in the NYS Registry of Inactive hazardous Waste Sites in August 1997. Groundwater was found to contain up to 50,000 parts per billion (ppb) of dry cleaning chemicals and soil up to 3,100 parts per million (ppm) of dry cleaning chemicals. The current owner of the site declined to undertake the remediation of the site. Therefore, a remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) was initiated by NYSDEC in July 1998 under the NYS superfund program.

During the investigation, it was determined that groundwater contamination extends to the south-southwest of the site. A Record of Decision (ROD) was signed on July 31, 2000. The ROD specified groundwater extraction and treatment, hydraulic containment, soil vapor extraction (SVE) and treatment, and chemical oxidation for soils in the highly contaminated source area. In September 2002, the NYSDEC issued an Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) which recommended the use of a technology called electrical resistive heating (ERH) for the cleanup of onsite soils.

OU-1 Cleanup Status:

During 2005, Clayton Group Services (CGS), installed the ERH system on the Site under contract with the NYSDEC. In late December 2005, CGS began operation of the ERH system. The operation of the ERH treatment is expected to continue into Spring 2006.

West Side Off-Site Groundwater Cleanup (OU-2) Background and Status:

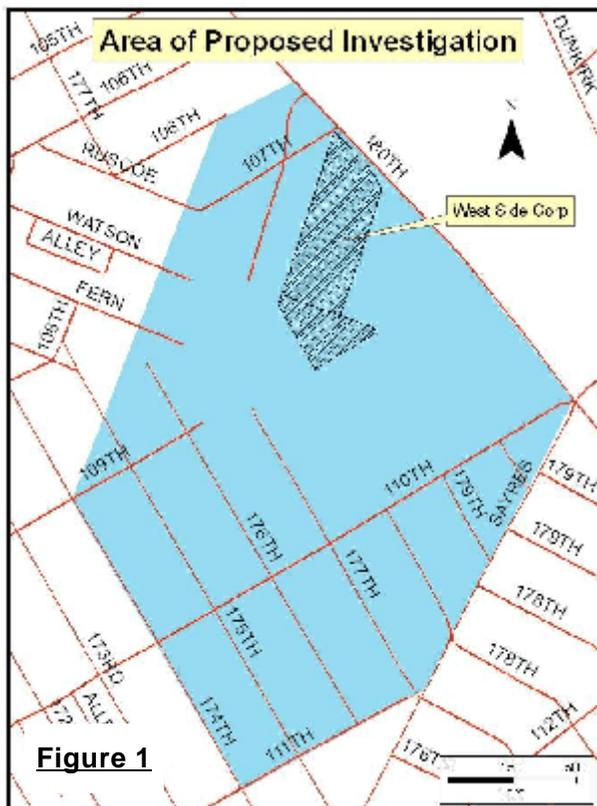
A ROD was signed in February 2002 that involves the collection, treatment, and disposal of contaminated groundwater migrating from the site. In October 2005, groundwater samples were collected from 28 existing monitoring wells located on and offsite. The data confirms the results of earlier investigations that contaminated groundwater is migrating in a southwesterly direction from the site. The NYSDEC anticipates to install more monitoring wells in the area during 2006. Concurrently, the design of the pump and treat system has been completed and is expected to be advertised for bid during the Summer 2006. Construction of the remedy is anticipated to be initiated by the end of 2006.

West Side Off-Site Soil Vapor Intrusion Investigation (OU-3):

The objective of the off-site soil vapor intrusion investigation is to determine the extent to which site-related volatile organic compounds (VOCs) have migrated from the groundwater into overlying buildings (a process known as soil vapor intrusion) and to address potential human exposures associated with the vapor intrusion.

In May of 2005, an initial Soil Vapor (soil gas) evaluation of the off-site areas located in the vicinity of the West Side Corporation was performed by the State. The evaluation included the installation of soil vapor implants at thirty locations in the near vicinity and south of the West Side Site. In addition to soil vapor sampling, indoor air and sub-slab vapor samples were collected at the Atlantic Express Bus Garage (former West Side Corporation) located on 180th Street. The samples were analyzed for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) including tetrachloroethene (PCE), the primary contaminant of concern at the West Side Site. Based on the findings of the May 2005 sampling event, the State determined that further investigation was needed to evaluate the possibility that soil vapor contaminants may be migrating into homes.

In November 2005, the State resampled the soil vapor implants, and collected a soil vapor sample from beneath the basement floor (sub-slab sample) of thirteen residential properties where permission was given by the property owner. Based on the findings of the November 2005 soil vapor and sub-slab sampling event, the NYSDEC and NYSDOH have determined that further investigation in the vicinity of the West Side Site is warranted. The purpose of the proposed additional investigation is to evaluate the potential for subsurface vapor contamination to migrate into the indoor air of homes and other buildings and affect indoor air quality.



The proposed sampling, referred to as structure sampling, will include the collection of outdoor air, indoor air, and sub-slab vapor samples (vapor samples collected from beneath the building's foundation) within the residential properties. In accordance with the NYSDOH, indoor air sampling will be conducted during the heating season because it is thought to represent the time when vapor intrusion is likely to have the greatest impact on indoor air. The State plans to complete the structure sampling within the 2006 heating season.

The area that will be included in this phase of the investigation is depicted on Figure 1. Based on the findings of sample results of the 2006 heating season sampling event, the current area of investigation may be expanded

A community meeting will be held on February 6th, 2006 at 7 pm at the St. Benedict the Moor R.C. Church located at 171-17 Brinkerhoff (110th) Avenue, Jamaica, New York. The NYSDEC and NYSDOH will present the results of the previous investigations and discuss the proposed structure sampling program.

If you are located in or near the proposed study area and would like to be put on the sample request list, please contact Ms. Nicole M. Bonsteel of the NYSDEC at (888) 459-8667. All reasonable efforts will be made to sample properties within the study area whose owners have requested sampling. Note, however, that being on the sample request list does not guarantee that your residence will be sampled. The fact that you are asked for permission to test within your house does not mean that the air within your house is being impacted by sub-surface sources. At this time, we do not know if there are impacts to indoor air from soil vapors.

Additional Information

Information can also be found in the following printed materials contained on the NYSDOH website found at: http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/gas/svi_guidance/svi_appendh.htm

Soil Vapor Intrusion: Frequently Asked Questions Sheet

- Describes the process referred to as "soil vapor intrusion"

What is exposure? Information Sheet

- Describes how a person may come into contact with chemicals in the environment

PCE Fact Sheet

- Provides additional information on PCE and the NYSDOH guideline for PCE in air

TCE Fact Sheet

-Provides additional information on TCE and the NYSDOH guideline for TCE in air

In addition, if you have any questions or concerns, you may call or write the staff listed on the front page of this fact sheet. More detailed information on site investigations, the cleanup plan and construction activities is available for your review at the document repositories listed below.

Document Repository:

Queens Borough Public Library
89-11 Merrick Blvd.
Jamaica, NY 11432
(718) 990-0778

Your patience is appreciated as we continue this project.

Should you have any comments or questions, or if you know someone who would like to be added to the project mailing list, please send in the attached mailer or contact one of the staff listed on this fact sheet. You do **not** have to return the mailer if you received this fact sheet in the mail; your name will automatically remain on the mailing list. Because our mail list includes property owners, we encourage you and any building owners to share this fact sheet with neighbors, tenants, and employees.

NYSDEC Mailer

Please feel free to use this mailer for any of the following purposes:

- _____ 1. You would like to be placed on the NYSDEC's West Side project mailing list.
- _____ 2. You would like to include the name and address of someone you know who may be interested in receiving future fact sheets.
- _____ 3. You would like to be taken off the NYSDEC's West Side project mailing list.
- _____ 4. You would like to provide us with a change of name or address. If you move, fact sheets are NOT automatically forwarded to your new address.
- _____ 5. You would like to provide us with a comment or question (please specify below).

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Please complete the form as indicated below, fold and mail directly to:
Ms. Nicole M. Bonsteel
NYSDEC Project Manager
625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7017

Add the following name(s):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Delete the following name(s):

_____	_____
_____	_____
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Make the following changes:

(Old) _____	(New) _____
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Comments or Questions: