

**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
WEST SIDE CORPORATION SITE  
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING – December 13, 2004**

**SUMMARY REPORT**

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) held a Public Information Meeting regarding soil remediation at the former West Side Corporation (WSC) site on Monday, December 13, 2004 at St. Benedict the Moor Church, Jamaica, New York. In preparation for the meeting, flyers were mailed to over 1,000 individuals, organizations, community facilities, agencies and media outlets. Flyers were also sent to Community Board (CB) #12 and local elected officials for distribution. (See Attachment A for copy of flyer.) In addition, community calendar announcements were sent to eleven local and citywide newspapers.

The meeting was scheduled to inform members of the public about the remediation of the WSC hazardous waste site, including the technologies and safety measures to be used, construction impacts, and the projected timeline. An Open House at the beginning of the meeting offered attendees an opportunity to view informational displays and speak with project staff. Project team members were also available for informal discussion after the meeting.

Handouts, including the agenda, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document, and comment sheet, were distributed to meeting attendees. (See Attachment B for copy of agenda and Attachment C for FAQs.) Over 50 persons, including elected officials, residents, representatives of Queens Community Boards #12 and 13, members of local civic associations, and project team members, attended the meeting. (See Attachment D for attendance list.)

**REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Linda Caleb Hazel, Brooklyn-Queens Aquifer (BQA) Feasibility Study Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and representative of A Better Day and St. Benedict the Moor, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and emphasizing that clean-up of the WSC site has been long awaited by the community. She then introduced Helen Neuhaus, Helen Neuhaus & Associates (HNA).

After thanking Ms. Hazel and audience members for their attendance on a cold night so close to the holidays, Ms. Neuhaus remarked that tonight's meeting would be equal parts information and celebration. She acknowledged that the presence of a hazardous waste site in the midst of a residential neighborhood has been one of the most prominent community issues for several years. Ms. Neuhaus then introduced Deputy Commissioner Doug Greeley, DEP, calling him the "single most important person in bringing us to this point." She noted that Commissioner Greeley personifies the words "public servant," adding that he is knowledgeable, gutsy, and cares about local concerns.

Commissioner Greeley stated that he was pleased to offer the WSC clean-up as a holiday gift to the community. He remarked that many people deserve credit for their efforts to bring the project to fruition, including David Chiusano, DEC; Jon Sundquist, URS Corporation; Bill Yulinsky, DEP; Don Cohen and Nicole Brown, Malcolm Pirnie, Inc; and Ms. Neuhaus, Anita Wright, Denise Woodin and Andrea Wong, HNA.

By way of background, Commissioner Greeley explained that following purchase of the Jamaica Water Supply Company, DEP considered using that company's infrastructure to pump groundwater but found that some of the wells were contaminated. In addition, the community objected to drinking water that was exclusively groundwater. Given these parameters, DEP developed the BQA Study, which has three goals: to produce high quality drinking water from the aquifer -- water that is comparable to that from upstate reservoirs; to address local groundwater flooding problems; and to clean up the WSC site. Commissioner Greeley observed that while Planet Earth was once able to absorb environmental degradation, it can no longer take such abuse, making the remediation of sites such as WSC all the more important. He added that clean-up of the WSC will also address community health concerns.

### **WSC REMEDIATION**

Before providing an overview of the remediation effort, Mr. Chiusano expressed DEC's appreciation for the community's involvement in the project. He informed audience members that project documents, including reports and work plans, are available for public review at a repository located at the Queens Public Library on Merrick Boulevard. Mr. Chiusano then offered the following information about himself and the contractors involved in the project:

- Mr. Chiusano is the Project Manager and has worked with DEC for 15 years, over four years in the investigations unit and over 10 years in construction.
- URS Corporation is responsible for design and construction management. Mr. Sundquist is the Project Engineer; Anders Brunelle will be the full-time on-site manager. Mr. Brunelle will report to Mr. Chiusano and Mr. Sundquist on a daily basis.
- Clayton Group Services is the contractor for the project. Located in New Jersey, this firm specializes in remediation projects. Thermal Remediation Services (TRS), located in the State of Washington, is the subcontractor and an expert on Electrical Resistance Heating (ERH) technology.

Mr. Chiusano thanked Ms. Neuhaus and her staff for arranging tonight's meeting and Malcolm Pirnie, Inc. for assisting DEC with the technical aspects of the remediation. Remarking that he has learned a lot from Commissioner Greeley, Mr. Chiusano added that he is looking forward to working with the Commissioner, as well as the CAC and its Scientific Review Panel (SRP).

Mr. Chiusano informed the audience that the project team has three reasons for hosting this Public Meeting: 1) to introduce team members to the community; 2) to provide the community with information about the upcoming clean-up work, including the purpose and goals, the technology that will be used and the project schedule; and 3) to obtain feedback from local residents and their public officials. He then described the two project objectives: 1) to clean up the soil contamination caused by the WSC. This will be accomplished by using two technologies – ERH and Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) – to treat three primary source areas; and 2) to prevent the spread of groundwater contamination into the surrounding communities. This will be accomplished by DEP's groundwater

remediation project, which will begin following substantial completion of the soil remediation effort.

Mr. Chiusano also elaborated on the following key issues that were previously raised by the CAC:

- Security. Full-time (24 hours/day, 7 days/week) security personnel will be hired to protect the treatment system and prevent trespassing.
- Community Impacts. Because the treatment is being done “in-place,” most of the contaminated soil will remain in the ground. This will minimize truck traffic and consequently any risk of exposure to the community.
- Schedule. The soil remediation is anticipated to take four to six months. The working hours will be 7:30 a.m.– 3:30 p.m., Monday – Friday. It is not expected that weekend or holiday work will be required.

In addition, Mr. Chiusano noted that the CAC raised questions regarding on-site safety and emergency response plans. These issues will be addressed by Mr. Sundquist later in the meeting.

In closing, Mr. Chiusano noted that the remediation contract was advertised last summer; bids were opened in August 2004. Clayton Group Services was the low bidder at \$3.85 million. Explaining that DEP is providing the funding, Mr. Chiusano expressed his agency’s deep gratitude for DEP’s assistance. DEC expects to award the contract around the first of the year and begin to mobilize equipment during the first two weeks of January 2005. He emphasized that there is still time to address community concerns before the work starts.

Mr. Sundquist continued the presentation by noting that after four years of planning, he is excited that the first phase of soil clean-up will begin in January. He reiterated that the clean-up is a collaborative effort between DEC and DEP. URS will oversee construction work at the site, while Clayton Group Services and TRS will perform the remediation. He also introduced Mr. Brunelle, who, as previously mentioned, will be the on-site project team representative.

Using PowerPoint, Mr. Sundquist displayed a map of the site, which is located on 180<sup>th</sup> Street between Liberty and Brinkerhoff (110<sup>th</sup>) Avenues. He explained that while the site is primarily surrounded by industrial buildings, there are a substantial number of residences on the south side. Emphasizing the importance of informing these residents about the remediation activities, he provided assurance that ongoing communication will be maintained throughout the process.

Mr. Sundquist then explained that the WSC site formerly housed a storage and distribution center that handled perchloroethylene (perc), a dry cleaning chemical. The company stored perc in five 10,000-gallon tanks, which spilled or leaked hundreds, perhaps thousands, of gallons of perc into the soil. Referring to a site map showing the contaminated areas, he noted that most of the perc is in the area where the tanks were located. Soil in this area, both above and below the groundwater table, will be remediated using ERH. Three additional source areas with much lower contaminant concentrations have also been identified. In these areas, SVE will be used to clean up soil above the groundwater table. Mr. Sundquist also noted that perc is present in the groundwater, as well as in the soil, but at much lower concentrations. The groundwater will be remediated in a future phase of the project.

In order to describe the ERH system, Mr. Sundquist explained that the remediation process involves the use of underground electrodes to raise the temperature in the ground. This converts the perc from a liquid to a vapor. The perc vapors move into the space between the water table and the ground surface (known as the unsaturated zone). To prevent vapors from escaping to the surface, a vacuum pump draws the vapors into the treatment system, where the perc is destroyed. Mr. Sundquist remarked that the new asphalt surface on the WSC site will act as an extra barrier to keep vapors underground throughout the ERH and SVE processes.

He then displayed a photo of a site where ERH is in use, commenting that much of the equipment is underground and therefore not visible. The SVE system looks similar to the ERH system, except that it does not include electrodes. SVE will focus primarily on the perc that is already in a vapor state in the unsaturated zones of the source areas. As in ERH, a vacuum pump will draw the vapors into a treatment system, where the perc will be destroyed.

Mr. Sundquist displayed a map of the WSC site showing the future location of the office trailers, SVE treatment system, and ERH equipment and treatment areas. The ERH treatment system will be located above the former tank area and will be fenced. Although the SVE treatment system will be installed near Source Area #1, it will treat all three source areas using underground pipes. Installation of these pipes will involve some trenching, which will be covered and repaved before SVE operation begins. Due to the relatively small scale of the ERH and SVE systems, most of the site will remain available for use by the Atlantic Express Bus Company throughout soil remediation.

Mr. Sundquist remarked that the project team intends to address all safety concerns raised by the community. Information on air monitoring, protecting the community and emergency plans in the unlikely event of vapor emissions exposure to the community will be detailed in the Community Protection Plan (CPP), a draft of which has been distributed to the CAC and SRP for review. Upon receiving comments, the CPP will be revised and finalized prior to the start of any intrusive work. Mr. Sundquist noted that coordination with local police, fire and hazardous materials units is also underway.

In order to protect Atlantic Express Bus Company employees, the public, and equipment at the site, a security fence will be installed around the immediate work area. This fence will be supplemented by existing fencing around the WSC site perimeter.

Mr. Sundquist reported that subsequent to mobilization at the site, an approximately two month period will be needed to install the electrodes, vapor recovery wells and pipes. Following six months of ERH operation, two months of soil and groundwater sampling will be conducted to compare perc levels before and after treatment. If sampling data substantiates the need for further ERH treatment, the system will be reactivated for an additional two months. The SVE operation will begin upon completion of ERH remediation. Pumping at DEP's Station 24 (located adjacent to the WSC site) to remove the groundwater plume will not start until soil remediation is substantially complete.

## **INTRODUCTION OF THE CAC AND SRP**

Ms. Hazel explained that the CAC is a group of community representatives and local elected officials working with DEP on the BQA Study, of which the WSC site clean-up is an integral component. She then introduced the following CAC members: Manuel Caughman, CB #12; New York City Councilman Leroy Comrie; Jeff Diggs, Office of New York City Councilman Comrie; Irving and Sarah Hicks, Brinkerhoff Action Association; Yvonne Reddick, CB #12; Peter Richards, CB #13; Earl Roberts, 113<sup>th</sup> Precinct Council; New York State Assemblyman William Scarborough; Gurpal Singh, Office of New York State Senator Malcolm Smith; and New York State Senator Malcolm Smith.

Ms. Hazel noted that during the early stages of the project, the CAC also invited scientists with relevant expertise to join its SRP, which assists the CAC in evaluating the more technical aspects of the project. She then introduced the following SRP members: Dr. Gilbert Hanson, State University of New York at Stony Brook; Dr. Leonard Lion, Cornell University; Dr. Paul Liroy, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey; and Dr. Alan Rabideau, State University of New York at Buffalo.

Commenting that the CAC, SRP and project team have grown into a family over the course of the project, Ms. Hazel praised them all on the progress made thus far. She noted that the CAC and the community continue to receive valuable information from the project team and reminded the audience that the FAQs document on the remediation of the WSC site is available at the sign-in table. She then wished everyone a happy holiday season.

## **QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

Questions and comments raised following the presentation are summarized below.

- In response to concerns expressed by Gertrude Gonesh, Nellis Street, Nashville Boulevard and Montauk Street Block Association, Mr. Sundquist noted that the perc vapors will not leave much residue inside the ERH and SVE pipes. He added that these pipes are being used for remediation purposes only and will be removed from the WSC site once the clean-up is completed.
- Leslie Barish, resident, asked whether the remediation process would cause interruptions in water service or water discoloration. The project team replied that the community's water service will not be affected.
- In response to a question from Crystal Erwin, resident, Commissioner Greeley noted that the perc storage tanks were removed from the site several years ago.

In a separate question, Ms. Erwin inquired about the contaminants that will be tracked by the air monitors. Mr. Sundquist and Mr. Chiusano replied that in addition to perc, air monitors can detect other volatile organic compounds and dust.

- Dr. Liroy asked for clarification regarding the vapor treatment process. Mr. Sundquist explained that after entering the treatment system, the perc vapors react with oxygen and a catalyst. The end products of this reaction are water and carbon dioxide.

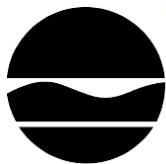
Referring to earlier questions, Dr. Lioy commented that perc vapors and dust particles require different monitoring and treatment techniques. Perc vapors are gases that are destroyed through a catalytic reaction. Particulate matter is solid and is suppressed by spraying. Mr. Sundquist added that, at the WSC site, particulates will only be of concern during installation of the remediation systems.

- Sandra Atwell, resident, congratulated the project team on its efforts to clean up the WSC site but commented on the lengthy time required to begin the remediation process. Noting that industrial businesses are still allowed to operate adjacent to residential areas in Jamaica, she asked how industrial pollution will be prevented in the future. Commissioner Greeley responded that federal regulation of industrial operations is now much more stringent than when the WSC was in business. In addition to enforcement of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act, regular monitoring of industrial properties is performed by city, state and federal agencies. He recommended that residents call 311 and request an inspection of any industrial property at which they suspect improper operations.
- Anthony LaMarca, Terminal Manager, Atlantic Express Bus Company, expressed concern about any potential hazards to its approximately 400 employees who work at the WSC site. Acknowledging that these employees could face greater exposure than the community at large, Mr. Sundquist assured him that the project team is dedicated to providing for the safety of Atlantic Express employees through regular monitoring and implementation of emergency protocols. Information on safety plans and procedures protecting Atlantic Express employees will be included in the project's Health and Safety Plan (HASP). Mr. Chiusano added that communication with Atlantic Express is a top priority and invited the company to send a representative to participate in the project's bi-weekly progress meetings.
- The following concerns and questions were raised by Senator Smith:
  - Commenting that he is familiar with SVE but not ERH, Senator Smith requested examples of locations where ERH has been successful. Mr. Sundquist noted that while SVE is a more commonly used "proven" technology, ERH has an impressive track record. Displaying a chart of ERH projects that have been successfully completed by TRS, he noted that every site responds differently due to unique conditions.
  - In response to Senator Smith's concern that the operation would disrupt the power supply to residential areas, Mr. Sundquist assured him that the effect of the clean-up process on the power supply will be no more noticeable than that of housing construction. He explained that during the remedial design process, Con Edison worked with the project team to determine the system's power needs. The project team will continue to communicate with Con Edison throughout remediation.
  - In response to questions from Senator Smith regarding the selection of ERH for this project, Mr. Sundquist and Commissioner Greeley noted that the determination was made by DEC following an extensive evaluation of several alternative remediation techniques.
  - In a follow-up question, Senator Smith asked SRP members if they believe that ERH is the best choice for the WSC site. Noting that his expertise is in remediation

technologies and that he was asked to review the selection process, Dr. Rabideau expressed his personal support for the decision to use ERH. He remarked that the levels of perc at the site are unusually high, posing a significant remediation challenge. Dr. Rabideau also explained that because most “proven” technologies are not able to effectively address such high levels of contamination, the appropriate choices tend to be more innovative. He commented that although the ERH technology is not guaranteed to be 100% successful, subsequent processes--including SVE and groundwater clean-up--will ensure effective remediation. He also praised DEP and DEC for pioneering a unique financial arrangement in order to expedite remediation.

- In response to a question from Senator Smith, Commissioner Greeley explained that the SRP is an independent panel of scientists selected by and accountable to the CAC. It serves as the community’s resource but is compensated by DEP.
- Senator Smith expressed concern that the drop in temperature as the vaporized perc moves to the unsaturated zone may cause it to condense back into a liquid. Mr. Sundquist noted that the difference in temperature will not be enough to cause the vaporized perc to revert to liquid form.
- In response to Senator’s Smith’s question regarding jurisdictional matters between DEP and DEC, Commissioner Greeley explained that, as a state agency, DEC has the final say in the decision-making process. However, he emphasized that this project is a collaborative process.
- Remarking that the community has waited a long time for clean-up of the WSC site, Senator Smith thanked the project team.

In closing the meeting, Ms. Neuhaus urged everyone to remain active in the process. She emphasized that the project team is available to meet with community groups and invited members of the public to attend CAC meetings, which are generally held on the first Thursday of the month at Hillside Manor Comprehensive Care Center, 188-11 Hillside Avenue, Jamaica Estates. After wishing everyone a happy holiday season, Ms. Neuhaus expressed optimism that the WSC site will be clean by this time next year!

NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OFENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION

# NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING



## **Clean-up of the West Side Corporation Hazardous Waste Site is about to begin!**

(Operable Unit No. 1, Site #2-41-026)

Come to a meeting to hear about the clean-up work and schedule for the West Side Corporation site, which has been a top community concern for many years. Meet the contractors and other members of the project team to learn about when and how the work will be done.

**Date: Monday, December 13th**

**Location: St. Benedict the Moor Church  
171-17 110th Avenue  
Jamaica, Queens**

**Time: 6:30 P.M. Open House - informational displays  
and informal discussion with project  
team.**

**7:00 P.M. Presentation - project update, to be  
followed by Question and Answer  
session.**

### *Why Is This Meeting Important?*

This meeting will provide an opportunity for local residents to learn about, ask questions and comment on the clean-up of the West Side Corporation (WSC) site. The WSC was a dry cleaning storage and distribution center (located at 107-10 180th Street in Jamaica, Queens) that handled large amounts of the chemical perchloroethylene (PCE) between 1969 and 1982. When the business closed, it left behind spills and storage tank leaks that resulted in the seepage of hazardous chemicals, including PCE, through the soil and into the groundwater. Today, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) are working together to clean up the soil and groundwater. The first phase of this project, involving clean-up of the most contaminated area of the site, will begin shortly. Further details on remediation activities and timeframes will be discussed at the meeting.

#### ***For more information, contact:***

*Sara Pecker, Director of Communications,  
Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations, NYCDEP, at (718) 595-5487  
or  
David Chiusano, Remediation Manager, NYSDEC, at (518) 402-9813*

NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION

## WEST SIDE CORPORATION SITE PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Monday, December 13, 2004  
7:00 P.M.

St. Benedict the Moor Church  
171-17 110<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Jamaica, NY



### AGENDA

Welcome	Linda Caleb Hazel St. Benedict the Moor/A Better Day Member, Brooklyn-Queens Aquifer Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
Greetings	Helen Neuhaus Helen Neuhaus & Associates Inc.
Project Overview - Background of West Side Corporation Site - Overall Project Goals	Douglas Greeley, P.E. Deputy Commissioner Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations New York City Department of Environmental Protection
West Side Corporation Site Remediation Program - Introduction of Contractors - Objectives of Soil Remediation Program	David Chiusano Project Manager New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- Description of Electrical Resistance Heating Process - Discussion of Soil Vapor Extraction Program - Schedule	Jon Sundquist, Ph.D. Construction Manager URS Corporation
Introduction of Members of the CAC and its Scientific Review Panel	Linda Caleb Hazel
Questions and Discussion - Future Meetings	Helen Neuhaus

**WEST SIDE CORPORATION SITE**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

***What is the West Side Corporation Site? Where is the site located?***

The West Side Corporation (WSC) site, located at 107-10 180<sup>th</sup> Street in Jamaica, Queens, is a 4.5-acre property that housed a dry cleaning chemical storage and distribution center from 1969 to 1982. The site is currently leased to the Atlantic Express Company for use as a bus depot.

***Why does the site need to be cleaned up?***

When the WSC closed, it left behind a site contaminated by spills and storage tank leaks, which resulted in the seepage of hazardous chemicals – specifically perchloroethylene (PCE or perc) -- through the soil and into the groundwater. The WSC site was listed in the New York State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites in August 1997, because of its high concentrations of contaminants in the soil and groundwater. Today, a slow-moving plume of PCE-contaminated groundwater extends beyond the boundaries of the WSC site. Pollutants must be removed from both the soil and groundwater to prevent the plume from spreading further and to protect the area's groundwater supply.

***What work will be done on the site?***

Initial work will involve cleaning up the contaminated soil beneath the asphalt in three source areas. Source areas are areas of the site where leaking tanks or spills were originally located. They represent the most highly contaminated areas of the site. The soil will be cleaned up using technologies that allow for remediation “in place.” This means that disturbance of the soil and creation of any possible exposure will be kept to a minimum. The two main clean up technologies to be used are Electrical Resistance Heating (ERH) and Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE). These technologies are explained in more detail below.

***What are ERH and SVE? How do they work? Are they safe?***

ERH is a technology that uses specially designed, electrically powered probes to heat up the ground in a defined area. (See Attachment.) By increasing the temperature in the ground, the PCE is converted from a liquid to a vapor state. The vapors move into the space between the water table and the ground surface (known as the unsaturated zone), which is the dry dirt below

the ground. The SVE system is then used to collect the vapors to assure that they are not released into the air. A vacuum pump draws the PCE vapors out of the unsaturated zone into a treatment system, where the PCE is destroyed.

A significant advantage of using an ERH and SVE system is that all of the clean-up work takes place underground. This minimizes the chance for human exposure to the contaminants – both to workers on the site and to residents in the surrounding neighborhood. Both ERH and SVE are proven technologies that have been used on major remediation sites around the country and have been shown to be very safe.

***What is the schedule for clean-up of the site?***

The project schedule calls for construction equipment to be brought onto the site in January 2005. It is anticipated that operation of the ERH and SVE systems will begin in March 2005. Operation and monitoring of the ERH system is expected to continue into September 2005. The SVE system will be operated, monitored, and maintained for a minimum of two years.

***How will the contaminated groundwater plume be remediated?***

Once ERH is completed, remediation of the contaminated groundwater plume will begin. The contaminated groundwater will be pumped from two recovery wells that will be capable of capturing the full length of the plume. The wells and treatment system will be located at the New York City Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Station 24, which is adjacent to the WSC site. After being captured and treated, the water will be discharged directly to the storm sewer system. Water treated at Station 24 **WILL NOT** be used for drinking purposes.

***How will the effectiveness of the clean-up operation be measured?***

Effectiveness will be measured in two ways. The first technique will measure the amount of chemicals that are being removed by ERH and SVE. The vapor streams pulled from the ground by ERH and SVE will be sampled for perc and other contaminants in order to calculate how many pounds per day are being removed. These operations will cease when the rate of contaminant removal drops to a point where continued operation is no longer deemed effective.

The second technique will measure the amount of contamination left in the ground following ERH. This will involve the collection of soil and groundwater samples from borings and

groundwater wells located near the treatment area. These samples will be analyzed for perc and other contaminants. The levels measured will be compared to concentrations present before treatment started.

***Will any soil be removed from the site? If so, how? How much? Where will it be disposed?***

While most of the soil will be cleaned up in place, some soil will be removed during the initial trenching activities and installation of wells and probes. These soils will be classified (hazardous or non-hazardous), containerized and sealed. It is estimated that one sealed roll-off container (similar in size to a dumpster) of hazardous soil and approximately four sealed roll-off containers of non-hazardous soil will need to be removed. The hazardous soil will be taken to a facility just outside Buffalo, NY for disposal, and the non-hazardous soil will be transported to a treatment facility in Philadelphia, PA. The truck routes for soil transport, which are detailed in the Community Protection Plan (CPP), will primarily use 180<sup>th</sup> Street and Liberty Avenue.

***What are the expected community impacts during construction?***

The community may experience impacts that are typical of any construction project in terms of truck traffic, noise, dust, etc. Heavy vehicles will have a limited access route to and from the project site from 180<sup>th</sup> Street (an industrial area) in order to avoid travel through residential areas. Noise levels will be monitored by a sound level meter to ensure that noise levels are 70 decibels (dB) or less at the property boundary. (For reference purposes, a vacuum cleaner at 10 feet is 67 dB.) Appropriate actions will be taken to reduce any noise levels that exceed the 70 dB limit. Minimal dust will be generated during installation of piping and other treatment equipment. On-site and perimeter air monitoring will ensure that air quality during construction is within acceptable limits. The CPP details information on air monitoring, as well as odor control.

***What, if any, is the danger to children who ride Atlantic Express school buses?***

There is no danger to school bus passengers.

***What kind of emergency procedures are in place?***

Although it is highly unlikely that an emergency situation will occur, contingency procedures will be in place before the start of clean-up activities. These will be detailed in the CPP and in

the Health and Safety Plan (HASP). Local police, fire, and emergency response authorities have been contacted and advised of the planned remediation activity. A meeting with these local officials to exchange detailed information on emergency procedures and security issues will be held prior to the start of work, and coordination will be ongoing.

***What are the proposed security arrangements at the site?***

The immediate work area, as well as the entire WSC property, will be fenced. Security personnel hired by the soil remediation contractor will monitor the work area 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition, Atlantic Bus Company's current security staff will continue to patrol the area. Coordination between site security and local police will be ongoing.

***What steps will be taken to ensure that the air around the site is safe during remediation?***

Air monitoring equipment will be placed in the immediate work area, as well as on the perimeter of the WSC site. This equipment will continuously record air quality levels. Should elevated levels of contaminants be detected at any time, corrective measures will immediately be taken to ensure the safety of workers and the community. This will include suspension of work and other appropriate steps, as detailed in the CPP.

***What are the proposed construction hours? How many people will be working at the site during construction?***

Construction activities will take place during typical weekday construction hours (approximately 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM). Work will be coordinated with the bus company. A maximum of 20 people will be working at the site during mobilization and start-up operations (first two months). This number will decrease to fewer than five persons once the ERH operation begins.

***Who will be overseeing work at the site?***

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and its consultants are supervising and monitoring the soil clean-up activities. DEC has hired the URS Corporation to provide construction management and full-time inspection of the clean-up.

***What is the cost of the soil clean-up operation? Who is funding the work?***

The contract for soil remediation is approximately \$4 million. It is being funded by DEP.

***Is the water in nearby homes safe to drink?***

Absolutely. The drinking water in nearby homes is drawn from the upstate reservoir supply system, which is in no way affected by the WSC soil or groundwater contamination.

***Who can I contact if I have additional questions?***

For further questions related to the soil remediation project contact:

David Chiusano, Project Manager  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway – 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Albany, New York 12233-7013  
phone: (518) 402-9813  
email: [djchiusa@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:djchiusa@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

For general project questions contact:

Sara Pecker, Director of Communications  
Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations  
New York City Department of Environmental Protection  
59-17 Junction Boulevard  
Flushing, New York 11373  
phone: (718) 595-5487  
email: [specker@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:specker@dep.nyc.gov)

***Who can I contact if I see a problem at the site?***

During regular hours of operation, contact the contractor or site personnel at the office trailers. After work hours, contact on-site security personnel. Telephone numbers will be posted at the site and online ([www.ci.nyc.ny.us/html/dep/html/news/bqa.html](http://www.ci.nyc.ny.us/html/dep/html/news/bqa.html)) as soon as the trailers are set up.

***Where can I lean more about the project?***

Project materials are available at the Queens Borough Public Library, 89-11 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica.

**Brooklyn-Queens Aquifer Feasibility Study  
Public Information Meeting – December 13, 2004**

**Attendees**

Sandra Atwell  
Resident

Crystal O. Beedles  
Resident

Jacqueline Boyce  
District Leader

Marguerite Brown  
York College

Joe DeMarco  
Atlantic Express Bus  
Company

Crystal Erwin  
Resident

Faye Evans  
SA/SG Block Association

Francena Fredericks  
SA/SG Block Association

Gertrude S. Gonesh  
Resident

Leonard Huffmire  
Atlantic Express Bus  
Company

Doris James  
Resident

Daniel Kent  
Resident

Anthony P. LaMarca  
Atlantic Express Bus  
Company

Cheryle and Verdell Lawton  
Residents

Rheola Mickews  
Resident

John Minor  
St. Benedict the Moor Church

Thomas Mitrakos  
Atlantic Express Bus Company

Alex Munoz  
Resident

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Parris  
Residents

Josephine Roberts  
Resident

Andy Rousseau  
Resident/New York City  
Department of Environmental  
Protection

Ronald Stevens  
Resident

Juan D. Valcural  
Coalition of Block Associations

**Citizens Advisory Committee**

Manny Caughman  
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