



EPA to Begin Remedial Design Activities at the Old Roosevelt Field Contaminated Groundwater Area Site

Community Update

March 2008

EPA will begin remedial design activities for contaminated groundwater at the Old Roosevelt Field Contaminated Groundwater Area Site. Pre-design field investigations will begin in mid April and continue through late spring/early summer.

Planned Activities:

- Install 3 new multi-port monitoring wells at: 1) the Stewart Avenue school; 2) the wooded area south of Garden City Plaza; 3) the parking lot west of 100 Ring Road
- Conduct testing of soils at Nassau County recharge basin # 124;
- Conduct testing of soils at the location of the future groundwater treatment facility;
- Conduct groundwater sampling of 11 multi-port monitoring wells, 2 existing wells, and 2 supply wells.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will begin the remedial design at the Old Roosevelt Field Contaminated Groundwater Area Site located near the Garden City Plaza office complex at the intersection of Clinton Road and Old Country Road in the Village of Garden City, New York. The remedial design will include a pre-design investigation that will refine the area of contaminated groundwater prior to completing the design. EPA anticipates the pre-design field investigations will begin in mid April and continue until approximately mid June 2008.

HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

The Old Roosevelt Field Site is a contaminated groundwater plume located along the eastern side of Clinton Road, approximately 0.6 mile south of the intersection with Old Country Road. Currently, the plume is documented by the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), contaminants that evaporate into the air easily, at concentrations that exceed health benchmarks. Roosevelt Field was used for a variety of aviation activities from 1911 until May 1951, including Army and Navy military airfields, and a commercial airfield.

Garden City public supply wells 10 and 11 were installed at what had been the southwestern corner of the airfield in 1952. The wells have shown the presence of VOCs since they were first sampled in the late 1970s and the early 1980s. An air-stripping treatment system was installed at the wells to remove VOCs from the raw water in 1987. During the 1990s, unusually high levels of VOCs in treated water samples from the treatment system indicated that the capabilities of the system had been exceeded. As a result, the treatment system on the wells has been upgraded, with each well treated by a dedicated air stripper. Nassau County conducts regular well sampling of the treated water, and since the air stripper upgrades, the treatment system has succeeded in removing all VOCs to acceptable health levels.

EPA encourages public participation. If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact:

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Hempstead Public Library
115 Nichols Court
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RESULTS OF REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDY

EPA completed the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS), a study conducted into the nature and extent of the contamination at a site, in the Fall of 2007. The investigation included the installation of eight multi-port monitoring wells, groundwater sampling, soil gas sampling, and indoor air sampling. Results of the RI included the following:

- Little evidence was found to indicate that a contaminant source still exists in the area of the former airfield.
- The highest levels of groundwater contamination are near a former cooling water discharge well between Garden City Plaza and Clinton Road.

The September 2007 Record of Decision (ROD) documented EPA's cleanup plan for the site. The remedy includes construction of a groundwater extraction and treatment system that will pump contaminated groundwater from the subsurface, treat it with an air stripper, and discharge the treated water to Nassau County Recharge Basin #124. The remedy also includes installation of three additional monitoring wells and soil borings in the recharge basin and treatment plant area.

Remedial Design

EPA will be conducting a pre-design field investigation that includes well installation and sampling activities in the Garden City area beginning in April 2008 at the following areas:

- Western side of Stewart School, on the corner of Stewart Avenue and Clinton Road
- Parking lot west of 100 Ring Road
- Wooded area between Clinton Road and Garden City Plaza

Superfund and Community Involvement

Public participation is essential to the success of EPA's Superfund program. Throughout the cleanup process, EPA provides the community with current information on site activities using a number of methods, including fact sheets, newspaper announcements, and public meetings. All information used by EPA to make its decision on the selection of a long-term cleanup plan documented in the ROD, is available to the public at the community Information Repository locations listed.

