



Environmental Forum Series

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SUPERFUND SEMINAR

with Guest Speakers:

Tom Schadt, a technical consultant for Anchor QEA on the Newtown Creek Superfund site. Anchor QEA provides scientific investigation and more to polluted sites around the world.

Rita Beth Pasarell is a lawyer and the Board Chair of environmental & social justice group, NAG (Neighbors Allied for Good Growth). NAG is providing community support for the NuHart State Superfund site.

All those Acronyms.....

AGENCIES

- **EPA: Environmental Protection Agency**

- The U.S. federal agency which was created for the purpose of protecting human health and the environment by writing and enforcing regulations based on laws passed by Congress.
- “Created” by an executive order from President Richard Nixon (Dec 2 1970)

- **DEC: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation**

- The NYS department responsible for the conservation, improvement, and protection of natural resources, enforcing the state’s environmental laws & regulations.
- Created by Governor Nelson Rockefeller on Earth Day in 1970 out of the existing Conservation Department and other state commissions

All those Acronyms.....

AGENCIES cont...

- **DEP: New York City Department of Environmental Protection**
 - The department of the government of NYC that manages the city's water supply
 - Created by the 1906 Water Supply Act, it became the DEP in 1983
- **OER: NYC Mayor's Office of Environmental Remediation**
 - A team of about 15 scientists & engineers that design, build, and operate municipal programs to advance cleanup and redevelopment of brownfield sites. Also provides environmental counsel to the Mayor's Office.
 - Created on Earth Day 2009 when City Council unanimously approved the New York City Brownfield & Community Revitalization Act.

All those Acronyms.....

Laws & Programs

- **CERCLA** : Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, & Liability Act. **Nicknamed Superfund**
- **Brownfield**: Started in the 90's as a term used in urban planning to describe land previously used for industrial purposes that may have been contaminated with hazardous waste or pollution. In DEC terms, a brownfield site is any property where a contaminant is present at levels exceeding the soil cleanup objectives or other health-based or environmental standards adopted by the DEC based on anticipated use of property and applicable regulations

All those Acronyms.....

Laws & Programs

- **State Superfund Program (SSF):** NYS program to identify, investigate, evaluate, cleanup & monitor land with hazardous conditions
- **BOA: Brownfield Opportunity Areas Program.** This program provides assistance to complete area-wide approaches to brownfield redevelopment planning. Funded by DEC grants.
- **VCP: Voluntary Cleanup Program.** New York State's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) has been replaced by the Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) which spurs the redevelopment and reuse of contaminated properties

NYS Hazardous Waste Site Classification

Five classifications for hazardous waste sites are specified in the Environmental Conservation Law

- **Class 1 Site:** Causing, or presenting an imminent danger of causing, irreversible or irreparable damage to the public health or the environment - immediate action is required.
- **Class 2 Site:** Significant threat to the public health or environment - action required.
- **Class 3 Site:** Does not present a significant threat to the environment or public health - action may be deferred.
- **Class 4 Site:** Site properly closed - requires continued management.
- **Class 5 Site:** Site properly closed - does not require continued management.

All those Acronyms.....

Laws & Programs

- **Community Brownfield Planning Program:** OER supports over 20 community-based planning organizations in neighborhoods throughout NYC to build and implement effective brownfield development plans by providing planning and technical assistance grants, specialized training and support, and acting as ombudsman for community planners with City agencies. OER is now working to create ten new community brownfield planning organizations in NYC.
- **New York City Brownfield Incentive Grant (BIG) Program:** BIG grants for brownfield investigation and cleanup are awarded to projects that enroll in the NYC VCP.
- **New York City Green Property Certification:** This formal City certification is given to properties that have been cleaned up in the NYC VCP and symbolizes that the land and the new buildings they contain are “among the safest places in New York City to live and work”.
- **New York City Clean Soil Bank:** This soil recycling program, which was authorized by State DEC in 2013, allows soil to be transferred directly to City capital construction projects and other development sites that need clean soil, at no charge to the developer—while also saving the City costs for soil purchase.
- **Searchable Property Electronic Environmental Database (SPEED):** SPEED is an online, GIS-based source of government environmental data. SPEED also helps community and private developers find brownfield properties to remediate and develop.
- **BrownfieldWorks!** This program provides on-the-job training for graduates of inner-city workforce development programs. OER works with developers performing cleanup in the NYC VCP to provide trainee placement on actual cleanup projects.
- **Pro Bono Environmental Expertise Program for Communities.** This program was established in collaboration with the NYC Brownfield Partnership to provide free expert advice from environmental industry professionals for community members and land owners that need help on brownfield matters.
- **New York City Brownfield Partnership:** Established by OER in 2008, the NYC Brownfield Partnership is a 50-member association of community based organizations and environmental businesses that runs a series of programs to promote community service and brownfield cleanup in NYC. It is now a free-standing, 501c3 non-profit organization.

All those Acronyms.....

- National Priorities List (NPL)
- Potentially Responsible Party (PRP)
- Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection (PA/SI)
- Site Characterization (SC)
- Interim Remedial Measures (IRM)
- Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI)
- Record of Decision (ROD)
- Inactive Site Remedial Program (State Superfund)

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