

The United States Department of Energy
has completed a Five-Year Review
for the Brookhaven National Laboratory Site
Upton, New York

(To be issued in Newsday 9/8/06 and Suffolk Life 9/13/06)

The U.S. Department of Energy has completed conducting a Five-Year Review for the Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) site, as required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). This review serves to ensure that the implementation and performance of the selected cleanup remedies continue to be effective in protecting human health and the environment. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency concurs with the protectiveness determinations as reported within this Five-Year Review. This is the first Five-Year Review of all the remediation work performed at the BNL site. This includes remediation of groundwater contamination on and off of BNL property, excavation and disposal of contaminated soils and river sediments, removal of above- and below-ground storage tanks, capping of landfills, and response actions for the former Brookhaven Graphite Research Reactor (BGRR). Land-use restrictions are in place to ensure that any contamination left in place is not dispersed and does not adversely affect human health or the environment. Information on the selected remedies at BNL as well as the status of remediation activities at the site is available on the BNL website located at <http://www.bnl.gov/erd/>

Following the completion of data review and an evaluation of the performance and protectiveness of the remedies, a report summarizing the results was prepared. This report concluded that the remedies were implemented in accordance with the record of decisions (RODs) and the *OU III Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD)*. The soil cleanup levels were met and the groundwater pump and treat systems have been functioning as intended by the RODs. The cleanup performed continues to meet the remedial action objectives identified in each ROD.

Long-term protectiveness of the Peconic River remedy will be verified by continuing to monitor the sediment, surface water, fish, and revegetation. In addition to annual reporting of the analytical results, the monitoring data will be evaluated during the second sitewide Five-Year Review in 2011 to evaluate the effectiveness of the remedy in meeting the cleanup and restoration objectives.

For the Operable Unit (OU) I soil excavation remedies, the work was performed in accordance with the ROD, applicable design documents, and Remedial Action Work Plans. The soil cleanup levels were met for these areas. The remaining work for the OU I soil excavation at the former Hazardous Waste Management Facility Waste Loading Area and BGRR will be implemented in accordance with the RODs. The remedies are expected to be protective upon attainment of soil cleanup goals once excavation is complete and the groundwater cleanup goals have been met.

A comprehensive sitewide protectiveness determination covering all the OUs and the BGRR must be reserved at this time because:

- Work is not complete for OU I soils at the Waste Loading Area.
- Work is not complete for the BGRR pile, bioshield, and final engineered cap.
- The final remedy for the g-2 Tritium Plume, Brookhaven Linac Isotope Producer (BLIP), and Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) (Areas of Concern [AOC] 16T, 16K, and 12) has not yet been selected. The Proposed Cleanup Plan is expected to be issued for public comment in the fall of 2006.

Notwithstanding the above, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency concurs that the remedies selected and implemented to date, as reported in this Five-Year Review, are protective of human health and the environment.

The Five-Year Review Report can be viewed at the following repositories and at the website <http://www.bnl.gov/erd/>

Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Public Library
301 William Floyd Parkway
Shirley, NY
(631) 399-1511

BNL Research Library
Building 477A
Upton, NY
(631) 344-3483

U.S. EPA, Region II Library
290 Broadway
New York, NY
(212) 637-4296

The second BNL Five-Year Review in 2011 will include all OUs, including the g-2 Tritium Plume, the Brookhaven Linac Isotope Producer, and USTs. A comprehensive sitewide protectiveness determination will be included at that time.

If there is a need for further information regarding this Five-Year Review, please send an email to tellDOE@bnl.gov, fax to (631) 344-3444, or write to:

Mr. Michael Holland
Site Manager, Brookhaven Site Office
Attn: Five-Year Review
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 5000
Upton, NY 11973

If there are any questions, please call John Carter, Director of Community Affairs for DOE's Brookhaven Site Office, at (631) 344-5195.