

LEGAL NOTICE # 21730626 THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF

Legal Notice # 21730626 The United States Department of Energy has completed a Five-Year Review for the Brookhaven National Laboratory Site Upton, New York. The U.S. Department of Energy has completed 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 plans continue to be effective in protecting human health and the environment. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's overall protectiveness for the site for each Operable Unit (OU) is documented in their August 6, 2021 letter. This is the fourth site-wide Five-Year Review of all the cleanup work performed at the BNL site. This includes cleaning up the groundwater contamination on and off of BNL property, excavating and disposing of contaminated soil and river sediment, removing above- and below-ground storage tanks, capping landfills, decommissioning activities and long-term surveillance and maintenance at the former Brookhaven Graphite Research Reactor (BGRR) and High Flux Beam Reactor (HFBR). Land-use restrictions and institutional controls are in place to ensure that any residual contamination left in place is not dispersed and does not adversely affect human health or the environment. Information on the selected cleanup plans at BNL, as well as the status of cleanup activities at the site is available on the BNL website <http://www.bnl.gov/gpg/>. Following the completion of data review and an evaluation of the performance and protectiveness of the cleanup plans, a report summarizing the results was prepared. This report concluded that the cleanup plans were implemented in accordance with the nine Records of Decision (RODs) and the three Operable Unit (OU) III and one BGRR Explanations of Significant Differences (ESDs). The soil cleanup levels were met and the groundwater pump and treat systems have been functioning as intended by the RODs. In some cases, additional groundwater extraction wells have been added and soil excavation completed to help ensure that the groundwater cleanup goals will be met. The cleanup performed continues to meet the remedial action objectives identified in each ROD. Supplemental sediment cleanup of a small on-site portion of the Peconic River (Area PR-WC-06) with elevated mercury levels was completed in 2018 in accordance with the cleanup goals in the ROD. For the OU I soil excavation cleanups, 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 cleanup work for the BGRR met the cleanup goals in the ROD. In 2021, demolition of the HFBR stack was completed. The remaining work for the HFBR will be implemented in accordance with the ROD. The remedies are expected to be protective upon completion of the cleanup action for the HFBR and the attainment of groundwater cleanup goals. Two additional areas of concern (AOCs) for PFOS/PFOA and 1,4-dioxane were identified in February 2021. Groundwater characterization work performed to date and the planned implementation of a Time Critical Removal Action for two PFOS/PFOA plumes are summarized in the Five Year Review. A Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study will be performed for these AOCs and will ultimately be documented in a future ROD. A comprehensive sitewide protectiveness determination covering all the OUs and the reactors (BGRR and HFBR) must be reserved at this time because work is not complete for PFOS/PFOA and 1,4-dioxane and the HFBR reactor vessel removal. Notwithstanding the above, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency concurs that the cleanups 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 on the BNL website <http://www.bnl.gov/gpg/>. BNL Research Library Building 477A Upton, NY (631) 344-3483 Stony Brook University Library (in person access is by appointment only) Melville Library Special Collections and University Archives Room E-2320 Stony Brook, New York 11794 (631) 632-7119 U.S. EPA, Region II Library 290 Broadway New York, NY (212) 637-4296 The fifth BNL Five-Year Review to be conducted in 2026 will include all OUs, the BGRR, HFBR, and the g-2 Tritium Plume, the Brookhaven Linac Isotope Producer, and the Underground Storage Tanks (USTs). A comprehensive site-wide protectiveness determination may be included at that time. If there is a need for further information regarding this Five-Year Review, please send an email to Robert.Gordon@science.doe.gov, or write to: Mr. Robert Gordon Site Manager, Brookhaven Site Office Attn: Five-Year Review U.S. Department of Energy P.O. Box 5000 Upton, NY 11973

Appeared in: **Newsday** on Friday, 06/24/2022

[Home](#)

Powered by [myPublicNotices.com](http://www.mypublicnotices.com)

[Back](#)