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PO BOX 5000
UPTON, NY 11973-5000

STATE OF NEW YORK)

Legal Notice No.

0021942749

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Monday

August 24, 2026

Suffolk

By: _____

Samantha Robinson

Print Name: _____

Authorized Designee of Newsday LLC, Publisher of Newsday

SWORN to before me this
25 Day of August, 2026.

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Ad Content

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The U.S. Department of Energy Completes Five-Year Review for the Brookhaven National Laboratory Site

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 remedies 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 7, 2026, letter. This is the fifth site wide Five-Year Review of 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, 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 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 Groundwater Protection website at <http://www.bnl.gov/gpg/>.

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 cleanup plans were implemented in accordance with the nine Records of Decision (RODs) and the four Explanation of Significant Differences. 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, or may be required, soil excavation completed, and injections performed, to help meet groundwater cleanup goals. The remediation activities completed and ongoing, continue to meet the remedial action objectives identified in each ROD.

The Time Critical Removal Action for two PFAS plumes continues to remediate groundwater in three Areas of Concern (AOCs) on site. 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 OUs must be reserved at this time because work is not complete for OU X (PFAS and 1,4-dioxane) and the HFBR reactor vessel. 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; U.S. EPA, Region 2 Superfund Records Center, 290 Broadway, New York, NY (212) 637-4308 (Call to make an appointment.)

If there is a need for more information regarding this Five-Year Review, please send an email to Kathleen.green@doe.gov, or write to:

Mr. Matthew Barger
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 Kathleen Green, U.S. Department of Energy's Brookhaven Site Office, at (631) 344-4089.

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