

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BROOKLYN-QUEENS AQUIFER FEASIBILITY STUDY
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING – November 27, 2001

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) held its first Public Information Meeting on the Brooklyn-Queens Aquifer (BQA) Feasibility Study on Tuesday, November 27, 2001 at York College, Jamaica, NY. In preparation for the meeting, letters of invitation were mailed to over 100 individuals and organizations. In addition, flyers announcing the meeting were sent to Community Board #12 for inclusion in its monthly mailing, as well as to area churches and libraries for posting. Advertisements were also placed in 9 newspapers. (See Attachment A for copy of ad and flyer.)

The meeting was scheduled to inform the public on the background and scope of the overall BQA Feasibility Study; the status of current work at the Station 6 site, which is located at 110th Avenue and 164th Place; and a summary of the project's community outreach program. The meeting also included a review of NYCDEP's efforts, in cooperation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), to clean up groundwater at the West Side Corporation (WSC), a class 2 inactive hazardous waste disposal site located on 180th Street in Jamaica. (See Attachment B for copy of meeting agenda.) Representatives of NYCDEP, NYSDEC, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), and the consultant team answered questions during the meeting.

Handouts, including a project Fact Sheet, Glossary of water supply terms, Comment Sheet and Community Outreach Program Survey were distributed to all meeting attendees. Over 120 persons, including public officials, community groups, residents and agency representatives attended the meeting. (See Attachment C.)

PRESENTATION

Helen Neuhaus, Helen Neuhaus & Associates Inc., expressed appreciation to members of the public for attending the meeting, acknowledging in particular the presence of NYCDEP Commissioner Joel A. Miele, Sr.; Jeff Diggs of Councilman Archie Spigner's Office; and Community Board #12 (CB #12) Chairperson James Davis and District Manager Yvonne Reddick. She then introduced members of the BQA study team, including Douglas Greeley, Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Water Supply and Sewer Operations, NYCDEP; Roman Kensy, Deputy Director of Distribution Operations - Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations, NYCDEP; Bill Yulinsky, Chief of Facility Engineering - Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations, NYCDEP; Donald Cohen, Project Director, Malcolm Pirnie, Inc. and Nicole Brown, Project Engineer, Malcolm Pirnie Inc.

Commissioner Miele welcomed residents to the meeting, thanked them for their attendance, and stated that both he and the Department are committed to continuing to provide all New Yorkers with potable water of the highest quality. He continued, by saying that he was present at tonight's meeting to discuss the importance of making the best possible use of groundwater (a plentiful local natural resource), while reducing local area groundwater flooding. The Commissioner pointed out that drawing water from the aquifers will enhance New York City's ability to meet water supply contingencies, including periods of severe drought and shutdowns of the upstate reservoir system for maintenance and repair.

Commissioner Miele briefly discussed the Jamaica Water Supply Company (JWS), which was taken over by NYCDEP. He noted that, prior to its closing, the Company was producing some of the poorest quality water and charging customers approximately 40% more than residents elsewhere in the City. Residents are now receiving a substantial quantity of upstate water at the same rate paid by all New Yorkers.

The Commissioner then enumerated the project's three major goals:

- production of high quality drinking water from Jamaica area wells by removing impurities and contaminants;
- control of groundwater flooding in the surrounding community; and
- groundwater cleanup at and surrounding the WSC site, in cooperation with NYSDEC's cleanup of the soil.

Commissioner Miele characterized the quality of area groundwater as being high in manganese and iron. In addition, there are other contaminants, many of which are due to the WSC site. Use of the aquifers to supply drinking water will require removal of these contaminants. He stressed that all water used from former JWS wells is tested by NYCDEP on a regular basis. Commissioner Miele acknowledged community concerns regarding the quality of its drinking water and reiterated that any groundwater introduced into the City's water supply will meet all Federal, State and City standards.

Deputy Commissioner Greeley continued, by noting that when NYCDEP assumed ownership of JWS, the Department understood that the system required improvement and that it was imperative to integrate the reservoir and groundwater supply systems. This effort began in 1997 and continues through the Department's own water distribution main installation projects, as well as in connection with roadway reconstruction projects that are undertaken jointly with the New York City Departments of Transportation and Design and Construction. He also pointed out that NYCDEP recognizes the need to plan for the City's future potable water demand and for potential disruptions, including downtime to repair leaks in the reservoir system. Bearing in mind the recent terrorist attacks, even more consideration is being given to use of the groundwater supply, since it is believed that it will be easier to safeguard multiple, smaller underground water reserves than a few, large surface reservoirs.

Deputy Commissioner Greeley discussed NYCDEP's initiatives to identify potable and non-potable uses of aquifer water. He indicated that the Long Island Water Corporation has expressed interest in purchasing potable water to supplement its supplies. With respect to non-potable uses, discussions concerning industrial uses continue with John F. Kennedy Airport officials. The sole non-potable use recommended in a study conducted by the Greater Jamaica Development Corporation was commercial use by the laundry industry. Use of aquifer water to produce electricity and steam for the Brooklyn Union Gas Company has also been suggested. Deputy Commissioner Greeley emphasized that these early explorations are tentative and that no agreements have been reached.

In concluding his remarks, Deputy Commissioner Greeley stressed that, if NYCDEP is not able to demonstrate to the community that the groundwater can be treated satisfactorily, it will not be introduced into the City's drinking water supply. Ultimately, NYCDEP is looking to provide drinking water from Jamaica aquifers that equals, if not exceeds in excellence, that of the reservoir supply.

Community Outreach Program

Ms. Neuhaus clarified that her consulting company is not a marketing firm and that she envisions her role in the BQA project as that of a facilitator of dialogue with the community and a conduit between the project team and the community to enhance residents' understanding of the project. She also announced that beginning with this meeting, the community outreach effort will be an ongoing collaboration between the project team and community, permeating every aspect of the project. Ms. Neuhaus continued her remarks by enumerating the following specific elements of the outreach program:

- Conduct of additional formal meetings, similar to tonight's, as well as informal presentations and issue-specific discussions affording more opportunity for face-to-face interaction.
- Conduct of regular, typically quarterly, briefings of Elected Officials and CB #12.
- Distribution of quarterly project Fact Sheets.
- Establishment of a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), which is considered critical to the success of the Outreach Program. The CAC will reflect the diversity and interests of the community; investigate local water resource, flooding, health and environmental issues; and facilitate outreach to the broader community to ensure its full and active involvement in the project.
- Selection of a Science Review Panel, a group of distinguished scientists, who will serve as an independent resource to provide technical expertise to the CAC and community, either individually or collectively, as issues require. CAC members will screen candidates for the Panel.

Brooklyn-Queens Aquifers and Proposed Facilities

Mr. Cohen began his presentation by discussing the composition of Brooklyn-Queens aquifers, explaining that, in cross-section, they appear as a series of water-saturated, striated layers of sand, gravel and clay. These aquifers extend from Long Island, beneath Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island and beyond, to New Jersey and Delaware. The BQA consists of three major aquifers: the Upper Glacial, nearest the earth's surface and where groundwater flooding occurs, and two deeper aquifers, that extend to bedrock (900' - 1000' below ground). Mr. Cohen noted that groundwater is the source of potable water for the majority of Americans.

Mr. Cohen explained that the impetus for the current Study originated with a challenge issued by Commissioner Miele: to demonstrate that NYCDEP can provide high quality drinking water from the groundwater system and simultaneously control groundwater flooding by reactivating wells. He then showed the locations of proposed project facilities and provided a synopsis of their prior, as well as intended, uses. Station 6, located at 110th Street and 164th Avenue in Jamaica, is a water pumping station that continues in limited use. As part of the BQA project, groundwater drawn from Station 6 wells will be tested, treated and combined with upstate reservoir water to supplement New York City's water supply. Wells at Station 24, located at 180th Street and 106th Road, were closed a number of years ago due to the presence of perchloroethylene (PCE), a volatile organic compound (VOC). A new high-capacity well will be drilled at this site and water pumped to extract contaminated groundwater that will be treated and discharged into City storm sewers; it will not be used for drinking. Mr. Cohen indicated that the project team is aware of other problem sites in the area, including the nearby New York City Transit Authority (TA) Bus Depot and leaking gasoline tanks at gas stations. He added that during recent meetings, TA personnel indicated that groundwater extraction at Station 24 may, in

fact, assist in cleanup of residual contamination at the Depot. Mr. Cohen stressed that state-of-the-art technologies are available to effectively remove all of the contaminants that have been detected in the groundwater.

Pilot Testing/Station 6 Operations

Ms. Brown reiterated that an essential goal of the BQA project is to supplement and enhance the quality of the drinking water supply. She then provided a description of the small-scale pilot testing program that will be conducted exclusively in an existing building at Station 6, where new wells have recently been drilled. Groundwater (approximately 100 gallons per minute) will be tested and treatment technologies investigated during a 6-month pilot program. Ms. Brown reported that results from recent testing at Station 6 wells have identified groundwater contaminants that include iron, manganese, and very low concentrations of PCE. The water is also considered to be hard, a naturally occurring phenomenon. Water treatment and softening technologies will be tested to assure that contaminants, including VOC's, can be removed and hardness reduced effectively. Ms. Brown noted that many of these technologies are being used at water treatment facilities nationally and internationally. Results of the water testing and technology investigations will be shared with the public while the pilot testing program is under way.

Once the community is convinced of the validity of the pilot testing program, a multi-faceted/multi-phased treatment program will be developed and Station 6 operations expanded. Existing structures at the site will be razed to make way for a new, state-of-the-art water treatment facility. It is anticipated that the layout of the facility will permit visitors to observe plant operations. Initial considerations for public use of the facility include an environmental education center and meeting space. However, additional recommendations for community use will be solicited at the time that the building is under design.

Groundwater Flooding

Mr. Cohen explained the difference between groundwater flooding and flooding that results from storm runoff. The latter occurs particularly during heavy rains when water accumulates in streets and yards. A network of catch basins, retention basins and storm sewers removes storm runoff. Groundwater flooding, on the other hand, is the result of a rise in the water table toward the surface of the ground. Unlike storm runoff, groundwater is not accommodated by catch basins and storm sewers but can only be controlled by pumping, which results in lowering the water table. Mr. Cohen explained that the rise in the water table in the Jamaica area began shortly after JWS reduced its pumping of groundwater from area wells. He identified several local facilities that experience chronic groundwater flooding, including the TA's Archer Avenue Subway Station, Intermediate School 8, and the Carter Community and South Jamaica Houses residential complexes. He also explained that some homeowners may be affected by groundwater flooding, because their houses were built in low lying areas when the water table level was lower. Due to the rise in the water table, these homes may now be experiencing groundwater flooding problems.

West Side Corporation (WSC) Site/Station 24

Mr. Cohen began his discussion of this issue by sharing NYCDEP's concerns that contaminated soil and groundwater at the neighboring WSC site pose a serious and immediate threat to area groundwater reserves. He reported that groundwater cleanup related to the WSC site must be under way before pumping at Station 6 can begin. This will be accomplished by installing a

new, high-capacity containment well at Station 24 to pump and collect the plume of groundwater contaminants that has spread into the surrounding neighborhood. NYCDEP is ready to begin construction of the well and is working closely with NYSDEC and NYSDOH. Extracted water will be treated to required standards prior to being discharged into storm sewers that drain into Bergen Basin and ultimately Jamaica Bay. He reiterated that the water will not be used for the drinking water supply. NYCDEP is prepared to begin this effort in cooperation with NYSDEC, which has committed to cleaning up soil at the site. Mr. Cohen indicated that operations at Station 6 will not begin for at least one to two years after pumping begins at Station 24.

In summary, Mr. Cohen characterized the BQA Project as very complex but extremely important and emphasized that it will ultimately address the early apprehensions of the community. He reiterated that the Public Outreach Program has been established to ensure that the community is well informed and actively involved in all aspects of the project throughout its duration. Mr. Cohen concluded by recapping the Project's three goals: to increase and improve the City's water supply, reduce groundwater flooding and clean up the WSC site in cooperation with NYSDEC.

DISCUSSION

A summary of project-related questions, comments and concerns raised during the meeting and in written statements is provided below.

Water Supply and Quality

A number of persons noted the need for immediate improvements to the current water supply system, citing such problems as odor and rust, which often affect the color of clothes and food. Although many believe that the need for good drinkable water is long overdue and that plans for an upgrade are refreshing, encouraging and informative, meeting participants expressed concern and skepticism regarding the overall project. One person suggested that groundwater not be included in the local water supply system unless it is also sent to Nassau County for use.

Several questions and comments related to procedures for testing the current drinking water supply, as well as groundwater. Meeting participants wanted assurance that all contaminants, including PCE and its breakdown products, would be detected and could safely be treated. Mark Knudsen, NYSDOH, reassured meeting participants that the Department will be working closely with NYCDEP and NYSDEC throughout the project. He indicated that although water testing will be the responsibility of NYCDEP, NYSDOH will review all data to ensure that drinking water meets State standards.

In response to a question, it was explained that residents of some areas of Queens, including in the vicinity of Station 6, are currently supplied with potable water that is a blend of reservoir water and groundwater. As a follow-up to additional questions, it was stressed that this groundwater only comes from wells that produce water that meets State standards. Similar to the entire City water supply system, this water is closely monitored and tested daily, prior to and after treatment. Any water that does not meet standards is not introduced into the drinking supply system. For example, use of the wells at 193rd Street was discontinued because Methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) was found in the water.

With regard to the proven use of the proposed technologies in other communities, Ms. Brown explained that these technologies have been used successfully in nearby locales, including Nassau and Suffolk Counties, as well as in large and small communities across the country and around the world. These treatment techniques, used both individually and in combination, have been effectively used to remove VOC's since the early 1980's.

A summary of other comments and questions is provided below:

- The estimated cost of the project is \$50 million, which includes costs related to the pilot testing program.
- Following completion of construction of the treatment plant at Station 6, potable water production will begin and water from the plant blended with upstate water and distributed throughout Southeast Queens.
- Contamination is defined as anything that finds its way into groundwater and makes it unfit for its intended use.
- Consideration is also being given to storing excess reservoir water in the aquifers to provide local supplies during periods of peak usage and emergencies, including drought. This water would be stored in the lower aquifers to safeguard it from contamination and to assure that it retains its purity.

Groundwater Flooding

Meeting participants noted that elimination of groundwater flooding is practical, logical and long overdue and expressed hope that engineering plans would provide the intended relief. However, many expressed a preference for using the groundwater for a use other than drinking. Several persons emphasized the need to evaluate alternative uses, preferably industrial, even if this would involve development of new technology.

Several persons reported flooding conditions, particularly during or after a heavy rain. Specific locations cited included 110th Avenue, between 176th and 178th Streets, and the basement of the 300-unit Allen Senior Citizens housing complex. One person also noted that entrances to local homes are often flooded during rain events, as a result of street repaving.

With respect to groundwater flooding, the Commissioner pointed out that area facilities, including the Archer Avenue Subway Station, schools and housing complexes, are pumping millions of gallons of water a day from deep basements and garages. This is needed to control flooding resulting from the rise in water tables following the reduction in pumping from the former JWS wells.

West Side Corporation Site

A number of questions and comments were asked relating to current conditions at the WSC site, cleanup of the site and associated health concerns. Meeting participants were very pleased that the site and groundwater will finally be cleaned up but noted that the effort is long overdue.

In response to a number of questions, Andrew English, NYSDEC, indicated that cleanup of the site is receiving priority funding. He reiterated that while NYSDEC will have primary responsibility for this activity, it will be a cooperative effort with the City. He added that, although State Superfund monies have all been obligated, the agency has available funding to complete the investigation and design of the remedial action. Mr. English also explained that the Superfund is being reauthorized and that NYSDEC expects funds to be available when

construction begins. In response to additional questions, he reported the cost estimates for the work to be about \$4.5 million for on-site cleanup and \$1 million to build the off-site treatment facility. An additional \$3 million is estimated to operate the system for 10 years. He reassured the community that NYSDEC is working closely with NYCDEP to ensure that contamination from the site is not drawn further into the community. NYSDEC's proposed plan for cleaning up the site will be presented at a public meeting at St. Benedict the Moor Church on December 13th at 7:00 p.m. Notices for the meeting, which is being jointly sponsored by NYSDEC and NYSDOH, will be mailed this week.

In final comments, it was reiterated that NYCDEP's offer to clean up groundwater at the WSC site will not only assist but actually expedite NYSDEC's total cleanup effort. By working closely, openly and collaboratively, the two agencies expect to successfully realize BQA project goals and provide the community with accurate and consistent information about these and related multi-jurisdictional projects.

The following additional details about the WSC site and Station 24 activities were provided in response to questions raised by meeting attendees:

- The closing of wells at Station 24 in the early 1980's involved sealing them with concrete.
- Migration of the groundwater contamination plume from the WSC site has been confirmed by recent testing conducted by NYSDEC. It has moved, generally in a south-west direction. NYCDEP will continue to monitor the size and movement of the plume as part of its participation in the cleanup program.
- Results of testing by NYSDEC indicate that contamination at WSC is limited to soils below the surface and groundwater.
- Persons walking on and school buses operating from the WSC site are not being exposed to contaminants.
- NYSDEC is responsible for remediating the WSC site and expects to begin soil cleanup in approximately two years.
- A list of known contaminated sites in the Jamaica area is available from NYSDEC. Major sites include the TA Bus Depot and an Amoco Gas Station. The schedule for pumping at Station 6 is being coordinated with the TA's remediation schedule, to ensure successful implementation of both projects. Cleanup of the Amoco Station, where the principal contaminant is MTBE, is ongoing.
- Existing, state-of-the-art technologies can effectively treat all contaminants that have been identified, and regulations now require that groundwater systems develop a wellhead protection program, to ensure against future groundwater contamination.
- Remediation at the WSC site will require both on-site groundwater and soil cleanup and off-site groundwater cleanup. Final discussions are underway between NYCDEP and NYSDEC to authorize the City to undertake the off-site groundwater portion of this effort.

Additional issues and concerns are summarized below:

- Concern about the effectiveness of the groundwater cleanup process and the length of time that will be required for this operation.
- Comment that the bus company should be removed from the site in order to properly clean up the area.

- Comment that the WSC site should be cleaned up before any pumping, even for testing purposes, occurs at Station 6.
- Concern about soil erosion at the site and the impact of contamination on groundwater.
- Concern that PCE contamination is not limited to the WSC site.

Public Outreach

Most meeting attendees were very pleased with the overall process and appreciated the meeting and the “super” educational materials provided to the community. In general, residents requested to be kept informed of the status of the overall project, as well as future public meetings. Specific suggestions for continuing to reach the community included:

- publicizing meetings in newspapers (Daily News, Newsday) and on radio stations (WBAI, CD101.9, WBLS, WRCD)
- distributing meeting notices to churches and civic organizations
- distributing monthly project reports to TV stations and newspapers

With regard to health issues and related concerns, several persons stressed the need to inform the community of the health effects of PCE and other contaminants and to educate residents about actions to be taken at home to avoid putting toxics in the drinking water supply. Some persons suggested conducting an informational series or community workshops on health issues and distributing informational materials to residents and community agencies.

In response to a comment that many persons had not been informed of the meeting, Commissioner Miele indicated that ads had been placed in local newspapers and notifications provided to elected officials and community organizations. He also noted that the project team was pleased with the turnout and stressed that there would be many more meetings for the public to participate in throughout the project.

As a follow-up to other questions, Ms. Neuhaus explained that a Report of tonight’s meeting, including a summary of the discussion session and issues and requests requiring follow-up, will be prepared and distributed to all meeting participants. She indicated that the next Public Meeting, which will principally focus on Station 6 pilot testing, will be scheduled in approximately six months. An updated Fact Sheet will be distributed prior to that time. Ms. Neuhaus added that the CAC will be established shortly, noting that it is anticipated that the Committee will hold its initial meeting in late January 2002.

Other

A number of questions and comments were raised relating to health issues and the security of the City’s water supply system. Several persons expressed concern about the number of residents in the community who are suffering from or have died of cancer and voiced their opinion that there is a direct correlation between conditions at the WSC site and the community’s health.

Numerous persons stressed the need for completion of NYSDOH’s Cancer Incidence Study and communication of its findings to the community as soon as possible. Mr. Knudsen reported that the Study data has been collected and that the Report should be released early next year. He added that preliminary information will be presented at NYSDEC’s December 13th meeting, if available. [NOTE: At the December 13th meeting, NYSDOH announced that results of the

Cancer Incidence Study will be presented at a meeting at St. Benedict the Moor Church on Monday, January 7, 2002, at 7:00 P.M.]

In a response to a related comment, which cited a January 2000 newspaper article indicating that Southeast Queens has the highest rate of cancer in the country, Mr. Knudsen explained that cancer maps focus on a large area. However, NYSDOH's Cancer Incidence Study is being conducted specifically for this community. After noting that cancer is actually many different diseases, Mr. Knudsen further explained that standard methodology focuses on statistical analysis to determine if higher-than-expected levels of a number of different types of cancer appear in a given area.

Responding to a question regarding the status of security at Station 6 and other water supply facilities, Deputy Commissioner Greeley reported that within the last two years, NYCDEP has begun an aggressive program to upgrade security at its upstate and downstate water supply facilities. Measures already implemented or being planned include increased security patrols; installation of advanced security equipment, including special-keyed locks, telemetry to link facilities with a central security headquarters and installation of security cameras; and initiation of a facilities vulnerability study.

Other comments related to security included:

- Concern about whether a specific incident triggered stationing a guard at the water plant on 224th Street and 114th Avenue.
- Comment that surveillance cameras need to be monitored and film replaced on a regular basis.
- Suggestion that NYCDEP dispatch enforcement crews, with visibility similar to that of the Sanitation Police, to monitor spillage of contaminated fluids and materials. The need to patrol commercial districts and car washes was specifically noted.

A summary of non-project-specific issues, comments and concerns is provided below:

- In response to a remark that it is difficult for residents to discuss complaints and other issues with NYCDEP, Commissioner Miele urged meeting participants to call the Department's Help Line (718-DEP-HELP), contact the local Community Board or write to him with any problems. Commissioner Miele assured residents that they will receive a response.
- In response to a question, Commissioner Miele explained that Con Edison's reading of water meters will result in savings of time and money for NYCDEP. He explained that Con Edison reads its meters every month and will read water meters every three months (as is presently done by NYCDEP). If a reading is not consistent with a previous reading, NYCDEP will ask Con Edison to reread the meter the following month.
- Suggestion to use groundwater to provide residents of Southeast Queens with an Olympic-size swimming pool (to be located in Baisley Pond Park, along 150th Street and North Conduit Avenue). It was noted that although there are a number of major hotels in the area, the community has no reasonably sized pool.
- Commenting on an earlier project (conducted by the M.W. Kellogg Company) that used desalination and purification technologies to convert raw sewage to pure grade drinking water, one person asked if similar methods are being considered in case of drought or for commercial processes. Mr. Cohen noted that although these technologies provide a good

environmental reuse of water (often to replenish ponds or other water bodies), the current study will not examine potential re-use of discharge from sewage treatment plants.

- Concern about the impact of closed cesspools and residential use of insecticides and pesticides on soil and groundwater contamination in the area.
- Comment that all hazardous waste sites in the area targeted by the BQA Project need to be inspected.
- Concern about the large number of dumpsites ('transfer stations') in the area and their impact on groundwater. It was noted that southeast Queens houses five (5) of the seven (7) stations in the Borough.
- In response to a question, Commissioner Miele indicated that the upcoming change in City administration will not jeopardize the project's ability to move forward. He added that NYCDEP personnel currently involved in the project will remain and that project funding is secure.

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Brooklyn-Queens Aquifer Feasibility Study

DATE: Tuesday, November 27, 2001 ~
TIME: 7:00 pm
LOCATION: York College
Academic Core Building - Room 3D01
94-20 Guy Brewer Boulevard
*(between Liberty and Archer Avenues,
across from parking lot)*
Jamaica, NY

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) invites you to participate in a Public Information Meeting on the "Brooklyn-Queens Aquifer Feasibility Study." This project is designed to investigate using groundwater from aquifers (thick layers of soil through which groundwater moves) to supplement the City's drinking water supply and reduce flooding in Southeast Queens.

The meeting will include a presentation on the background and scope of the overall study; the status of current work at the Station 6 site, which is located at 110th Avenue and 164th Place; and a summary of the project's community outreach program. The presentation will also include a review of DEP's efforts, in cooperation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, to clean up groundwater at the West Side Corporation Site, an inactive hazardous waste site located on 180th Street in Jamaica. A question and discussion session will follow.

DEP encourages your participation at this meeting and welcomes your input. For additional information, please contact Helen Neuhaus at (212) 532-4175.

Ad also appeared in:

Jamaica Times (11/21/01)
Laurelton Times (11/21/01)
Leader-Observer (11/15/01)
Newsday (11/15/01)

Southeast Queens Courier (11/15/01)
The New Voice of New York (11/15/01)
Queens Tribune (11/15/01)
Queens Village Times (11/21/01)



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

59-17 JUNCTION BLVD., 19TH FLOOR, CORONA, NEW YORK 11368-5107

JOEL A. MIELE, SR., P.E., COMMISSIONER

(718) 595-6565 FAX: (718) 595-3525

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING **Brooklyn-Queens Aquifer Feasibility Study**

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) invites you to participate in a Public Information Meeting on the "Brooklyn-Queens Aquifer Feasibility Study." This meeting will include presentations on DEP's recently initiated project to:

- Investigate the use of groundwater from aquifers (thick layers of soil through which groundwater moves) to supplement the City's drinking water supply system;
- reduce groundwater flooding in Southeastern Queens; and
- cooperate with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to clean up contamination at the West Side Corporation Site, an inactive hazardous waste site located on 180th Street in Jamaica.

The meeting will be held:

DATE: Tuesday, November 27, 2001

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

LOCATION: York College
Academic Core Building – Room 3D01
94-20 Guy Brewer Boulevard (between Liberty and Archer
Avenues, across from parking lot)
Jamaica, NY

The presentation will also provide information about the background, scope and status of the overall study and a summary of the project's community outreach program. A question and discussion session will follow.

We hope to see you on November 27th. For additional information, please contact Mark Lanaghan at (718) 595-3519.



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BROOKLYN-QUEENS AQUIFER FEASIBILITY STUDY

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

7:00 P.M.

York College

94-20 Guy Brewer Boulevard

Jamaica, NY

AGENDA

Welcoming Remarks

Helen Neuhaus
Community Outreach Coordinator
Helen Neuhaus & Associates Inc.

Introductory Remarks

Joel A. Miele, Sr., P.E.
Commissioner
New York City Department of Environmental Protection

Douglas Greeley, P.E.
Deputy Commissioner
Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations
New York City Department of Environmental Protection

Public Participation Program

Helen Neuhaus

Technical Presentation

Donald Cohen
Project Manager
Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.

Nicole E. Brown
Engineer
Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.

Questions and Discussion