



Soil Cleanup to Begin at the Martin Aaron, Inc. Site

Camden, New Jersey

Community Update

August 2016

Site Information

Martin Aaron is located at 1542 South Broadway in Camden, NJ. Industrial activity at the Site left a legacy of contamination in the soil and groundwater. Soil at the Site is contaminated with arsenic, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and other chemicals.

Arsenic – Arsenic is a naturally occurring element widely distributed in the earth's crust. It is a known human carcinogen.

PCBs – PCBs are chemicals that persist in the environment and can affect the immune, reproductive, nervous, and endocrine systems and are potentially cancer-causing.

VOCs – Volatile organic compounds are often found in paint, solvents, aerosol sprays and other cleaning fluids. Some VOCs can cause cancer. The extent and nature of potential health effects depend on many factors including the level and length of exposure to the VOCs.

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In the late summer and early fall of 2016, investigation and characterization activities will continue at the Martin Aaron Superfund Site in Camden. Activities will include installation of additional borings to further define areas of contamination; evaluation of alternatives for disposal of water generated during the cleanup activities; and removal of concrete.

With oversight by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the Group has installed borings to determine the location and types of soil contamination. Contaminated soils will be excavated to cleanup standards defined by the EPA. It is estimated that more than 12,000 tons of soil and concrete will be removed and shipped to a permitted facility for treatment and disposal. Removal of surface concrete and associated soils will begin in the fall/winter 2016/2017. The main soil removal activities are expected to begin in early 2017 and continue through early 2018, with a break over the winter months between 2017 and 2018. After removal of soils is complete, the Site will be backfilled and capped.

Activities at the Martin Aaron site will result in increased road traffic in the area, and may require road closures. Residents will see construction equipment and personnel at the Site. The work will involve use of an excavator and other smaller construction equipment (such as jack hammers) for a variety of activities including soil/concrete sampling, demolition and removal of concrete slabs, and installation/removal of steel sheeting. As a result, residents living near the Martin Aaron Site may hear noise or feel vibrations similar to what you would hear from other construction projects (such as road work or building demolition and construction).

Air monitoring and dust suppression practices will be used during all phases of the soil removal to protect residents and businesses from the potential release of contaminants from the Site. Temporary construction fencing will be used to limit access and protect the Site.