



Riverside Industrial Park Superfund Site

Newark, NJ

COMMUNITY UPDATE

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For additional information about the Riverside Industrial Park site, please contact:

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Site Investigation

A thorough investigation of the Riverside Industrial Park site, located at 29 Riverside Ave. in Newark, New Jersey, is set to begin. The investigation activities of this seven-acre site will be divided into two phases. The first phase, scheduled to start this summer, includes: site surveys; building safety, existing monitoring well and subsurface piping evaluations; and container, soil and groundwater sampling. PPG Industries and their contractors will be performing the work with oversight by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the work is expected to last about four months. The second phase is anticipated to include additional soil and groundwater sampling to further define the limits of the contamination, and may include vapor intrusion samples, if needed.

Site Background

The Riverside Industrial Park site is a former paint manufacturing/chemical packaging facility. Since the early 1900s, Riverside Industrial Park has been used by many businesses, including a paint manufacturer, a packaging company and a chemical warehouse. Although this is currently an active industrial park, several parts of the property are abandoned. Following foreclosures, the City of Newark owns these areas.

In 2009, a spill of oily material into the Passaic River was reported and traced back to a pipe on the property. The EPA investigated and discovered that chemicals including benzene, mercury, chromium and arsenic were improperly stored at the site. The EPA took immediate actions to prevent further release of these chemicals into the river by plugging discharge pipes and removing the tanks responsible for the spill. The site was added to the Superfund National Priorities List of the country's most hazardous waste sites in 2013 and in 2014 an agreement was signed with PPG to perform the study of the site.