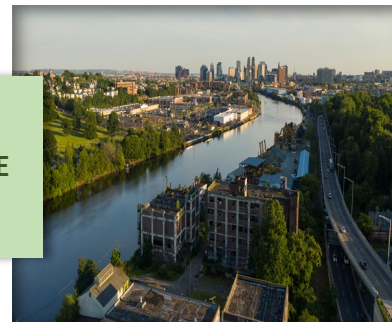


**EPA ANNOUNCES CLEANUP DECISION  
RIVERSIDE INDUSTRIAL PARK SUPERFUND SITE  
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY**



**SEPTEMBER 2021**

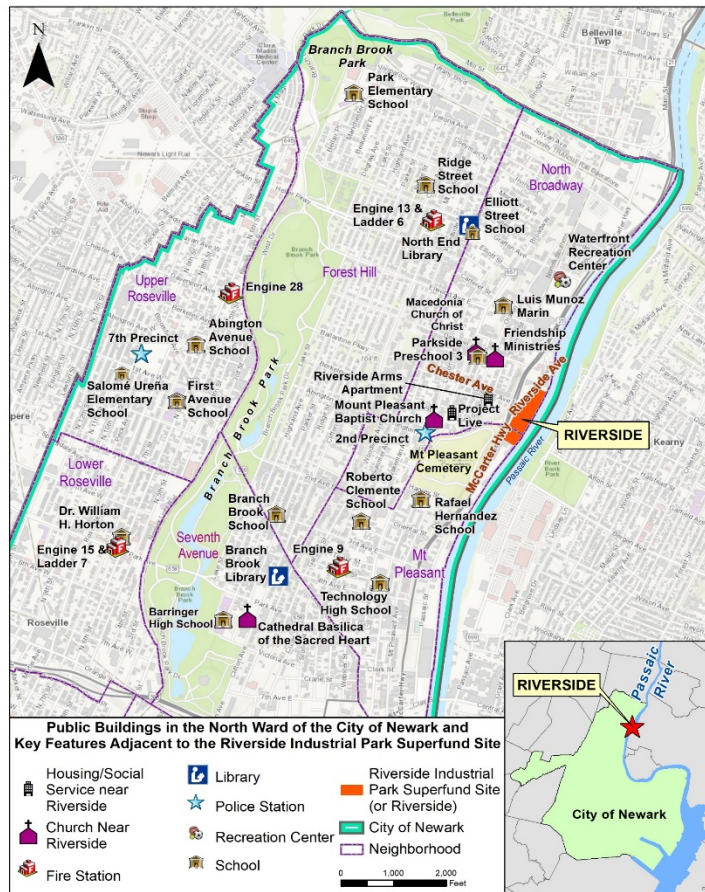
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) selected a final cleanup plan for the Riverside Industrial Park Superfund site in Newark, New Jersey, which is documented in a record of decision, or ROD issued on September 28. The cleanup addresses contaminated sewer water, soil gas, soil/fill material, and groundwater, as well as various wastes found across the site.

The ROD document is available online:  
[www.epa.gov/superfund/riverside-industrial](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/riverside-industrial)

## The Selected Cleanup

EPA's cleanup plan requires removing and disposing waste from underground storage tanks (USTs), contaminated soil surrounding the USTs, and various wastes found across the site. These wastes will be transferred into appropriate containers or transport vehicles for off-site treatment and/or disposal. The cleanup plan also requires removing and disposing contaminated sewer water and solids from an inactive sewer line. The material will be transferred into appropriate containers or transport vehicles for off-site treatment and/or disposal along with properly closing the sewer line.

EPA will assess if vapors from soil below the surface (also known as soil gas) are getting into occupied buildings at the site at levels of concern and, if needed, EPA will require the installation of vapor intrusion mitigation systems to protect occupants from vapor intrusion. Buildings constructed in the future will be required to have a vapor barrier or vapor intrusion mitigation system to protect occupants. Site-wide deed notices and appropriate restrictions will be established or amended to restrict the use of the property, such as, to not allow for residential use.



## Community Input

On August 5, 2020, EPA held a [virtual public meeting](#) to discuss its proposed cleanup plan and encourage public participation. EPA finalized its cleanup decision after reviewing and considering all comments received during a lengthy public comment period, and after consultation with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. The [ROD for the Riverside Industrial Park site](#) includes a Responsiveness Summary that addresses the comments that were received on [EPA's Proposed Plan](#).

The selected cleanup plan also requires excavation or containment of contaminated soil/fill material to protect people and wildlife. Lead-contaminated soil/fill material around Building #7 will be removed and disposed of off-site. The bulkhead bordering the site along the river will be reinforced or reconstructed, and a site-wide cap will be constructed. In addition, deed notices will be recorded or amended, and fencing will be maintained and enhanced as appropriate across the site.

EPA will address contaminated groundwater with targeted in-place treatment across the site. EPA will install a water system to pump and treat groundwater to minimize migration of groundwater contaminant to the river. EPA will require monitoring of the groundwater to ensure the cleanup plan is working as anticipated. Institutional controls will be used to prevent the use of groundwater from being used as drinking water.

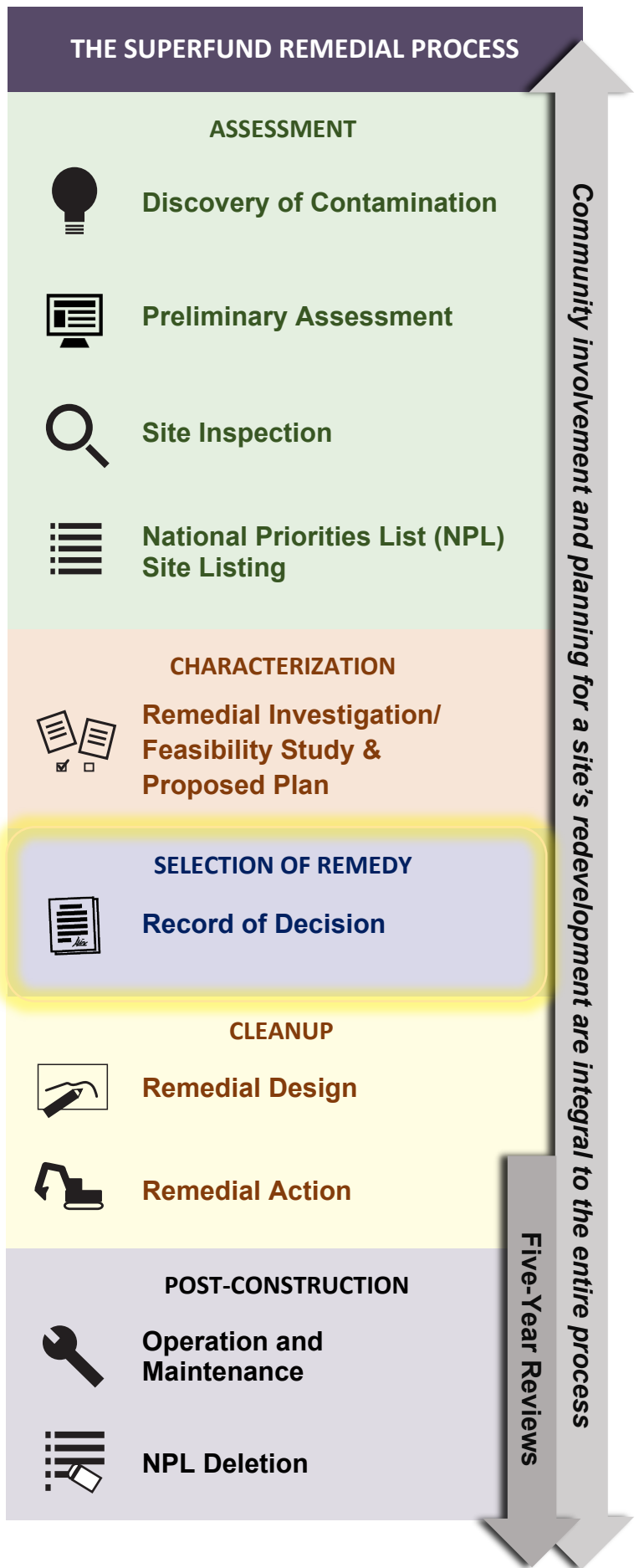
### Past Activities

EPA responded to an oil spill into the Passaic River originating from the site in October 2009. EPA and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection traced the source of the oil spill to two basement tanks located in a vacant building. EPA found several hazardous substances present in the tanks and initiated an emergency removal action to stop the discharge and secure the source. EPA also sampled soil, groundwater, and waste.

Riverside Industrial Park was added to the National Priorities List of Superfund sites in May 2013. In May 2014, EPA entered into a legal agreement with PPG Industries, Inc., one of the 18 potentially responsible parties identified at the site, to perform an investigation of the extent of contamination and a study of feasible cleanup options, called a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study.

### Background

The 7.6-acre, partially active Riverside Industrial Park site is in the North Ward community of the City of Newark, New Jersey. Both Riverside Avenue and McCarter Highway border the site on the west along with a segment of railroad tracks adjacent to McCarter Highway. Currently, the central and northern portions



of the site contain active industrial/commercial businesses, while the southern portion of the site contains mostly vacant buildings. The Passaic River borders the site on the east. Sections of steel, concrete, and wooden bulkhead provide a retaining wall along most of the site bordering the Passaic River; however, the bulkhead has fallen into disrepair in some locations.

Much of the land that houses the Riverside Industrial Park site was reclaimed from the Passaic River between 1892 and 1909 by using imported fill material to elevate the land above the river. The property was used for paint, resins, linseed oil and varnish manufacturing from 1902 to 1971 by Patton Paint Company, which merged into the Paint and Varnish Division of Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company in 1920. Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company changed its name to PPG Industries, Inc., in 1968. From the 1970s to the present day, the site was subdivided into fifteen lots and the property has been used intermittently by various companies for a variety of businesses which range from warehousing and packaging to chemical and cosmetics manufacturing.

## EPA Contact Information

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**Josh Smeraldi**  
Remedial Project Manager  
212-637-4302  
[smeraldi.josh@epa.gov](mailto:smeraldi.josh@epa.gov)

**Shereen Kandil**  
Community Involvement Coordinator  
212-637-4333  
[kandil.shereen@epa.gov](mailto:kandil.shereen@epa.gov)

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