

NJDEP Public Notice & Comment Period

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) is issuing a Proposed Plan to address contamination at the former Alexander Cleaners Site at 137 Broadway, Hillsdale Borough, Bergen County.

Comment Period:

NJDEP solicits public comments on the Alexander Cleaners Proposed Plan during the public comment period that runs for 30 days from **February 23, 2018 to March 23, 2018**. No decision on the Proposed Plan will be made until all public comments are evaluated. Please provide NJDEP with any written and verbal comments. Contact information is provided below.

Background

Alexander Cleaners operated as a dry-cleaning establishment on the corner of Broadway and Orchard Street from roughly the late 1960's until 1996. The subject property is currently developed with a two-story commercial building which is surrounded by a paved parking lot on three sides. The primary contaminant of concern associated with this site is tetrachloroethylene (also known as perchloroethylene [PCE]), which is attributed to the former dry-cleaning operations conducted onsite. This compound has been detected in both soil and groundwater at the site. A subsurface depressurization system/soil vapor extraction system was installed in the basement of the building in 2002, and augmented in 2003. The system is maintained by NJDEP to mitigate indoor air concerns. In addition, the basement walls were sealed in 2004 to reduce vapor intrusion into the basement.

Based on the findings of the Remedial Investigation, as well as results from prior investigations, free phase contamination is likely to be present beneath the western part of the building. Significantly elevated concentrations of PCE were confirmed to be present in soil at a concentration as high as 510,000 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg), at a depth of 8-8.5 feet beneath the basement slab. The soils below the building are acting as a continuing source of the contamination impacting groundwater and affecting vapor intrusion inside the on-site building.

Source Remediation Alternatives Analysis

NJDEP evaluated eight remedial alternatives for effectiveness, ease and safety of implementation, and cost. The recommended remedy involves demolishing the existing structure on the property which will allow access to the "PCE source area" or hotspot to complete an alternative form of excavation using large diameter augers. Excavated soils would be dewatered, then transported off site for disposal. The excavations would be backfilled and paved. The ground water would continue to be monitored for five years.

The Proposed Plan for Alexanders Cleaners is available for review at the office of:

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For more information and to submit comments, please contact:

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