



Council of Greater Manhasset Civic Associations, Inc.

(Greater Council)

PO Box 600, Manhasset, New York 11030-0600

www.manhassetcivic.org

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Chamber of Commerce
Manhasset Preservation Society

Tara Rutland (via eMail to tara.rutland@dec.ny.gov)
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway

Albany, NY 12233-7015
and

Charlotte Bethoney (via eMail to BEEI@health.ny.gov)
NYS New York State Department of Health
Empire State Plaza Corning Tower Room 1787
Albany, NY 12237

April 10, 2015

RE: DEC Site Number V00396

Dear Ms. Rutland and Ms. Bethoney:

The Council of Greater Manhasset Civic Associations stand with Town of North Hempstead Supervisor Judi Bosworth in unanimous support of the homeowners request for the NYS-DEC to require additional soil testing of adjacent homeowner properties to this LIRR substation brownfield site to assure residents that there is no soil contamination. At the 3/30/15 community meeting with LIRR/engineers, residents requested that the LIRR project engineers provide/ identify the specific locations of their prior soil testing samplings. That information was not made available at the meeting, but LIRR and their engineers indicated it would be shared, which it never followed through in circulation to the attendees. I personally recall that at least one resident described the water runoff from the existing contaminated LIRR property swale soil area, onto Virginia Drive continuously over the past decade had allowed potentially contaminated water to run onto their property, following water paths that led to Virginia Drive storm runoff drains. The adjacent homeowner/ residents are unclear of the precise locations of soil samplings, but were verbally told soils sampling ended before the LIRR property border. Thus, leaving it unclear if the prior LIRR soil sample locations adequately covered the specific area pathways where water runoff was chronically observed.

The LIRR/engineers refused to consider this request of homeowners upon which residents asked if LIRR/engineers would assist the homeowners by organizing a group procurement of additional soil testing of their properties at the residents shared expense. This request was also rebuffed by the LIRR and Engineers because it is not required by NYS-DEC and the LIRR/Engineer's obligation to contain costs of the projects. We urge the NYS DEC to require the LIRR for additional soil testing directly along the noted pathway for the home properties immediately adjacent to that chronic past water runoff pathway.

This multiple adjacent homeowner concern is clearly not self-manufactured and is reasonable having been caused by the LIRR's past poor substation handling of hazardous mercury at the site. We rely on the NYS-DEC to take every reasonable best effort to assure that these homeowner properties are proven to be clear of the LIRR's contamination before the scope of remediation work is finalized.

Sincerely and on behalf of the Council,

Richard J Bentley, President