

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December 14, 2020: 30-day Public Comment Period begins

Submit comments to Adolph Everett at everett.adolph@epa.gov by January 12, 2021.

If you have questions, please contact:

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Region 2 PCB Coordinator
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Community Involvement Coordinator
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The Administrative Record file (supporting documentation) for the site is permanently stored at:

EPA Region 2 Record Center
290 Broadway, 18 Floor
New York, NY 10007
(212) 637-4308
Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm

City of Albany Record Center
City Hall
24 Eagle Street
Albany, NY 12207
518-434-5090

More information about the site is available at www.epa.gov/ny/2021-12-risk-based-disposal-polychlorinated-biphenyl-pcb-waste-port-albany-albany-new-york

Upcoming Activities

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed to approve a polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) cleanup plan submitted by the Albany Port District Commission (APDC) for the Port of Albany under the Agency's PCB Cleanup Program. This EPA program, governed by Toxic Substances Control Act, focuses on cleaning up contaminated sites and returning them to beneficial use, where possible.

If issued as drafted, EPA's approval will establish the requirements that APDC must meet for the cleanup of PCB contamination at the Port of Albany site located at 700 Smith Boulevard, Albany, New York. The proposed cleanup plan is to remove soil with PCB concentrations between 25 and 2,170 parts per million that is located down to five feet below ground surface. In addition, EPA's approval will require that a one-foot thick cover be placed over soil with residual PCB contamination up to 25 ppm to prevent unacceptable exposures, as well as restrict the site to industrial use unless EPA approves otherwise in writing. Any future development of the site for high occupancy or other non-industrial usages must meet relevant TSCA cleanup requirements, including, but not limited to, installing TSCA-compliant covers.

Public Participation

The public comment period will extend for 30 days, beginning on December 14, 2020. EPA will consider any comments submitted during the comment period before making a final decision. If EPA issues an approval, APDC must subsequently accept the approval in writing, and site cleanup activities will proceed accordingly.

Past Activities

An assessment in August 2014, called a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment (ESA), provided the results for surface soil and groundwater samples showing the PCB concentrations up to 126.7 parts per million (ppm) and no detection, respectively.

There were eleven localized hot-spot areas of contaminated soil

with PCB levels above the EPA and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) cleanup standards. In January 2018, APDC submitted a risk-based PCB cleanup application to EPA for review and approval for the Port of Albany site.

Site Background

The Port of Albany site, located at 700 Smith Boulevard, Albany, New York, is owned by APDC. The site is currently vacant and zoned for industrial use. The site was used for rail operations and metal recycling since 1937.