

**The United States Department of Energy
announces the availability of a document relating to the
investigation of the Brookhaven National Laboratory
Inactive Hazardous Waste Site, Operable Unit V,
for public review**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announces the availability of a document relating to the environmental restoration activities at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). The *Action Memorandum: Peconic River Removal Action for Sediment outside BNL Property* is available for review at the libraries listed below and on-line at <http://www.bnl.gov/erd/Peconic/factsheets.html>.

Cleanup of areas on laboratory property were previously conducted under a separate action memorandum. This document describes the intended cleanup action for sediment at pre-determined areas of the Peconic River off the BNL site. There was a separate public comment period for the on-site Action Memorandum; the public comment period for the off-site Action Memorandum was incorporated with the comment period for the *Proposed Plan for Operable Unit V: Peconic River*. Both action memoranda will be incorporated into the Record of Decision for the Peconic River cleanup.

Wastewater from Laboratory operations is processed and treated at the BNL Sewage Treatment Plant. The treated water is monitored and discharged into the Peconic River in accordance with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation discharge permit requirements. Past operations and practices resulted in wastewater containing chemical and radiological contaminants being discharged into the Peconic River; contaminants were deposited into the sediment.

Over the past several years, DOE has conducted numerous investigations of the Peconic River sediment, fish, water, and plants. Mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) have been detected in fish living in portions of the Peconic River.

Analytical results of extensive sampling indicate that the source of the mercury and PCBs found in fish is the sediment in the upstream areas of the river.

Operable Unit V, Peconic River is being addressed as part of a nationwide U.S. Department of Energy effort to clean up legacy waste.

Located in Upton, N.Y., BNL is classified as an Inactive Hazardous Waste Site by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. BNL is on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Priorities List.

The *Action Memorandum: Peconic River Removal Action for Sediment outside BNL Property* is available for review at the following libraries:

Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Public Library
301 William Floyd Parkway
Shirley, NY
(631) 399-1511

BNL Research Library
Building 477A
Upton, NY
(631) 344-3483

U.S. EPA, Region II Library
290 Broadway
New York, NY
(212) 637-4296

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