The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a Propose Plan identifying its preferred cleanup alternatives for addressing contamination at the Riverside Industrial Park Superfund site. EPA's proposal addresses contaminated soil, groundwater, and vapor intrusion as well as waste removal and cleaning out inactive manhole to prevent an uncontrolled release of contaminants to the environment. A 30-day public comment period on the Proposed Plan begins on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 and ends on Friday, August 21, 2020. As part of the public comment period, EPA will hold a virtual public meeting on the Proposed Plan on August 5, 2020 at 7:00-9:00 p.m. To participate in the meeting, please visit our website for more information: [HYPERLINK "http://www.epa.gov/superfund/riverside-industrial"]. To participate by telephone, please call into the conference line, 315-565-0493, Code: 304001388#. Please register in advance of the meeting at [HYPERLINK "https://www.eventbrite.com/e/us-epa-riverside-industrial-park-proposed-plan-virtual-public-meeting-tickets-113382201216"] or by emailing Shereen Kandil, Community Involvement Coordinator, at [HYPERLINK "mailto:kandil.shereen@epa.gov"] or calling her at (212) 637-4333.

EPA's preferred alternative includes the following components: (1) The soil remedy would include a focused excavation of lead-contaminated soils with off-site disposal. The alternative also includes an engineered cap and bulkhead repair to contain any remaining contaminants and prevent further exposures. (2) The groundwater remedy would include a site-wide pumping system to extract contaminated groundwater for treatment and off-site disposal. Based on water quality, EPA may choose to implement periodic injections to assist with the remediation of the groundwater. (3) The vapor intrusion remedy would include air monitoring in existing occupied buildings. It also requires future buildings to be constructed with a vapor barrier or other technology to seal the ground surface underneath the new building slab to prevent vapor intrusion. (4) The waste remedy would include removal of underground storage tanks, petroleum-impacted soils, petroleum pooled in a basement of an abandoned building, and containerized waste. Waste would be transferred to vehicles for off-site disposal or recycling to prevent an uncontrolled release of waste to the environment. (5) The sewer remedy would include cleaning out and power-washing an inactive manhole and sewer pipe. The deposited sediments and remaining water in the manhole will be transferred to vehicles for off-site disposal or recycling to prevent an uncontrolled release of waste to the environment.

The projected cost of EPA proposed alternative is $39 million, with a construction timeline of one year with additional time for operation and maintenance. EPA expects that the parties responsible for the site to pay for and conduct the cleanup.

The Proposed Plan and other site documents are available on EPA's website: [HYPERLINK "http://www.epa.gov/superfund/riverside-industrial"]. The public can also call Shereen Kandil, EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator for the project at 212-637-4333 or [HYPERLINK "mailto:kandil.shereen@epa.gov"], with any question and request a copy by mail. Written comments on the Proposed Plan must be postmarked no later than August 21, 2020 and may be mailed to Josh Smeraldi at EPA Region 2 Office, 290 Broadway, New York, New York 10007 or sent electronically to the following address: [HYPERLINK "mailto:smeraldi.josh@epa.gov"]. The Administrative Record file containing the documents used or relied on in developing the alternatives and preferred cleanup plan is available for public review at the following information repository: USEPA Records Center, 290 Broadway, New York, New York 10007.