

ExxonMobil Progress Greenpoint Community News

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Dear Neighbor:

Welcome to the second issue of the *ExxonMobil Greenpoint Progress*, a newsletter intended to keep residents of Greenpoint fully informed of ExxonMobil's activities.

Please take a few moments to read about how ExxonMobil is working to be a good neighbor to the Greenpoint community. This newsletter contains stories not only about our ongoing remediation activities, but also about our community involvement to help make Greenpoint a better place to live and work.

Whether ExxonMobil is providing positive leaders and role models in the community, ensuring that schools receive access to the most up-to-date learning tools, or is implementing the most effective remediation technologies, we continue to be deeply dedicated to contributing to a more healthy and positive community. Thanks for caring about our activities and reading this issue of *Progress*.

Sincerely,

Carolina Asirifi
COMMUNITY LIAISON

ExxonMobil representatives spoke with more than 200 community residents, answering their questions about the ExxonMobil Greenpoint Remediation Project, during Town Square's 2nd annual Earth Day event on April 10. Pictured is Christopher Proce, Senior Hydrogeologist, Roux Associates, an environmental services company working with ExxonMobil.

Installation of 10 new wells will optimize recovery process

In an effort to optimize its remediation project at Greenpoint, ExxonMobil has added 10 new dual-pump recovery wells, nearly doubling the total number of wells to 21. Three wells are fully operational; for the others, crews are in the process of installing the piping necessary to connect them to the two treatment facilities in Greenpoint. All wells are expected to be operational by the end of the year.

The dual-pump recovery system used in almost all of ExxonMobil's product recovery wells operates by depressing the water table to create a "cone of depression" that draws petroleum products and groundwater into the wells. This type of remediation system recovers significantly more product than is possible when using systems without groundwater depression. Historically, ExxonMobil recovered an average of more than 30,000 gallons of petroleum product a month using dual-pump wells, while pumping and treating approximately 15 million gallons of groundwater each month. The 10 new wells were strategically placed and once operational are intended to enhance the recovery process.

The recovered product is pumped directly to tanks where it is stored until it is transported off-site and recycled. The groundwater is pumped to one of ExxonMobil's treatment facilities, where it is treated by various processes to remove remaining petroleum contaminants, as well as some metals found naturally in groundwater. The treated water is then discharged into Newtown Creek.

ExxonMobil has a SPDES Permit from the state's Department of Environmental Conservation that authorizes it to treat and then discharge pumped groundwater into Newtown Creek.



Workers install piping and product storage tanks as part of the 10 new dual-pump recovery wells at ExxonMobil's Greenpoint Remediation Project site. All wells are expected to be fully operational by the end of the year.

2008 Highlights

ExxonMobil made significant progress last year on its Greenpoint Remediation Project, most notably the installation of 10 new dual-pump recovery wells (see page 1). Other highlights include:

- > In 2008, ExxonMobil recovered 327,363 gallons of product from the subsurface and treated and discharged 158,076,801 gallons of groundwater.
- > Last year, ExxonMobil began construction of a new soil vapor treatment facility at the intersection of Bridgewater and Varick Streets on the land ExxonMobil acquired in 2007. The new facility will address the soil vapor found in isolated locations in the industrial/commercial area. The facility should be substantially completed this year. ExxonMobil expects to begin running the interim system later this year, with the goal of having the full system operational by early 2010.
- > We met all milestones laid out by the NYSDEC schedule for the Greenpoint Remediation Project.
- > ExxonMobil reported to the state data pertaining to its monthly outfall testing of the treated groundwater that is discharged in accordance with ExxonMobil's SPDES permit.
- > ExxonMobil submitted quarterly progress reports to the state and one annual report to the state covering the progress on all aspects of its remediation project.
- > ExxonMobil completed a comprehensive remedial investigation of the former terminal property.
- > ExxonMobil submitted design plans for the expansion of its groundwater treatment buildings, which are being upgraded to meet the treatment requirements associated with the increased volume of water resulting from the 10 new dual-pump wells.



In honor of his 30 years with ExxonMobil, Steve Trifiletti, Greenpoint Remediation Project Manager, broke ground on the new Soil Vapor Treatment facility and office building. Pictured (from left) are members of the Greenpoint Remediation Project team: Justin Kennedy, Steve Trifiletti, Vito Genova, and Chris Proce.

ExxonMobil supports study of Newtown Creek

The sources of contamination in Newtown Creek are many and complex. That's why ExxonMobil supports the New York State Department of Conservation's recommendation to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a first-time study of past and current environmental impacts to Newtown Creek. It is also ExxonMobil's understanding that this effort will incorporate an assessment of the creek's use as an industrial waterway and urban discharge area. The goal of this comprehensive investigation is to have a scientifically sound understanding of the creek's condition and usage prior to development of an effective and appropriate remedy.

Contamination of the creek is partly the result of nearly two centuries of heavy use as an urban discharge area and industrial waterway. Sources of contamination, historically and today, include both treated and untreated discharges from New York City's municipal

wastewater treatment system and other permitted and unpermitted discharges¹ from industries operating near the creek. Historically, Newtown Creek was home to industries that ranged from shipbuilding to manufacturing to refining. The responsibility

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for the creek's environmental condition lies with numerous potential entities, many of which no longer exist or inherited the issue when they bought companies that operated along the creek. But contrary to reports circulating within the media and the

community, there was never a massive spill of petroleum product into the creek—nor is oil believed to be the primary contributor to the creek's condition.

Petroleum's role in the creek's current condition was first identified in 1978 by the Coast Guard when oil was observed seeping into the creek. The source of the seep was determined to be an underground petroleum plume. Efforts began in 1979 not only to stop the seepage of petroleum into the creek, but also to remove product from the underground plume, which lies as deep as 40 feet in some areas. Today, wells and pumps are in operation to recover the product and to prevent it from leaking into the creek. (See stories on page 1 and 2 regarding ExxonMobil's Greenpoint Remediation Project.)

The comprehensive investigation of Newtown Creek would be paid for by ExxonMobil and other potentially responsible parties.

¹ "U.S. EPA's "Newtown Creek/Greenpoint Oil Spill Study, Brooklyn, New York," September 12, 2007

INNOVATION CORNER : ExxonMobil testing new technology

ExxonMobil continually evaluates new technologies in an effort to enhance its remediation activities and to accelerate the recovery of petroleum products at Greenpoint. One promising new technology ExxonMobil is presently testing is Primawave™, which uses a new tool design called Hornet. This new technology is designed to increase the volume of groundwater that can flow towards the recovery wells, thereby increasing the migration and recovery of petroleum product. This technology and tool was developed by Wavefront Energy and Environmental Services, Inc.

Employee Snapshot: Vito Genova

Some people say that Vito Genova is ExxonMobil's unofficial ambassador. With deep roots in Brooklyn, Vito has worked at the Greenpoint facility for two decades. He's well-known within the neighborhood, especially at Peter Pan Bakery, where he and other neighborhood long-timers can be found at the back table—dubbed “Section 8” by the morning coffee crew. “We’re just a bunch of guys that solve the world’s problems over a little coffee,” he laughs.

But Vito is even better known for his work with kids. Vito is passionate about providing kids with safe, active, after-school programs. For years, Vito has coached and staged junior bowling scholarship tournaments. But his contributions span much farther than merely introducing kids to the sport—he makes sure they can participate by helping to raise the money to pay for equipment, travel costs and tournament entry fees. And last year, as coach of Valley Stream North High School, he led the kids to their first-ever county championship.

Vito's personal interests converged with his professional responsibilities when he was recently asked to present the Greenpoint YMCA with a \$25,000 check from ExxonMobil to support the Strong Kids Campaign. The Strong Kids Campaign raises funds to ensure that no child or family is turned away from life-enhancing YMCA programs because of the inability to pay. The Campaign supports programs vital to the community, such as early childhood development

programs, childhood obesity prevention programs, after-school activities that target at-risk students, teen leadership programs to build our future community leaders, drug prevention programs, as well as many other programs for young people, families and individuals.



ExxonMobil employee Vito Genova, who has spent most of his 30 years with ExxonMobil working in Greenpoint, presented the Greenpoint YMCA with a \$25,000 contribution towards the Strong Kids Campaign.

“I was really proud to be allowed to present the check for the YMCA,” Vito said. “We’ve really found a great community partner and I’m thrilled that ExxonMobil supports their youth programs year over year so they can keep doing all the great things they do for the Greenpoint families.”

Discovery of chlorinated solvents plumes prompts indoor air testing by New York State Solvents plumes unrelated to petroleum plume

Recent media coverage regarding tests to determine whether vapors from the so-called Meeker Avenue chlorinated solvents plume are present in nearby homes has caused some confusion with the prior testing done in association with the Greenpoint petroleum plume. The Meeker Avenue plume is not associated in any way with ExxonMobil's historic operations. Also, an additional underground chlorinated solvents plume was found in the area of Norman and Morgan Avenues.

The current testing of the two chlorinated solvents plumes is being conducted by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and Department of Health (DOH). The agencies are testing to see if potentially harmful vapors are being created by contamination in the soil near the chlorinated solvents plumes.

We would like to share the facts about how these independent plumes are different and to discuss the data that demonstrate *there are no indoor air issues in residential areas above the Greenpoint petroleum plume.*

- > **The chlorinated solvents plumes are completely different from the petroleum products plume:**
 - > **Dry cleaning/chlorinated solvents plumes:** NYSDEC reports indicate that the plumes at Meeker Avenue and Norman/Morgan Avenues contain chlorinated solvents, the result of past activity by dry cleaners and other light industrial activities, including metal fabrication and painting facilities, brass foundry facilities, lacquer storage, and soap and light fixture manufacturing facilities.
For more information on chlorinated solvents plumes, contact Ms. Dawn Hettrick, NYSDOH (800) 458-1158, ext. 27860.
 - > **Petroleum plume:** The Greenpoint plume contains petroleum products, a legacy from the area's 100-year-plus industrial history when as many as 50 independent refineries operated in the area.
 - > **Air vapor testing in residential areas:** In 2006/2007, the NYSDEC and DOH conducted air vapor intrusion studies of the Greenpoint petroleum plume and found *no evidence of petroleum vapor intrusion* in residential areas. Tests were performed on 52 homes.
- > **ExxonMobil's soil and air vapor testing in industrial /commercial area:** In 2005 ExxonMobil's bi-annual soil vapor testing above the plume area found elevated soil vapor levels in the shallow subsurface area in an isolated section of the industrial commercial area by Bridgewater Street. ExxonMobil took immediate action and did two things: conducted indoor air testing and began a thorough investigation to determine the source of the soil vapors. ExxonMobil continues to sample soil vapor twice each year and report the results to the NYSDEC.
- > **Indoor air testing:** ExxonMobil conducted indoor air testing within offices located in the industrial/commercial area and the *investigation indicated there were no indoor air quality impacts associated with vapor intrusion.* These findings were submitted and approved by the NYSDEC.
- > **Soil vapors:** When ExxonMobil discovered the soil vapor data, it began a thorough investigation process to determine the source of the elevated soil vapor concentration levels and the precise location of the impacted area. Through the research, ExxonMobil was able to determine the perimeter of the affected area and determine the appropriate remediation strategy. The state has approved the soil vapor remediation plan, which includes creation of a soil vapor treatment facility, and outlined a remediation schedule.

ExxonMobil is aggressively moving forward with its remediation plan. In 2007, ExxonMobil acquired the land necessary to construct a soil vapor treatment plant and construction is well underway. ExxonMobil expects remediation efforts will commence through the interim system later this year, with the goal that the system will be fully operational in early 2010. (See 2008 Highlights story, page 2.)

In the Community...**Spotlight on P.S. 110**

ExxonMobil believes education is the key to the progress, development and economic growth of both our nation and local communities. That's why, as a responsible member of the Greenpoint community, ExxonMobil reached out to P.S. 110 to find out how it could support educational programs in this community. What ExxonMobil found was a school trying to make do with an outdated computer lab because there was no room in the budget to provide updated equipment.

"(When) ExxonMobil sought us out, we were certainly looking to partner with corporations in the area, but I have to say that the outreach on ExxonMobil's part was so great (and) showed that they wanted to form a relationship. We were very grateful," said Principal Anna Cano Amato.

Amato said when ExxonMobil asked her how it could help the school, her answer was immediate. "Given today's economic crisis...

we were desperate for a new computer lab and didn't know quite how to go about getting the funding."

Amato said ExxonMobil worked with school officials to determine their specific technology needs and then provided the school with a grant of \$38,000 to cover the majority of the cost to completely upgrade the computer lab.

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Principal Anna Cano Amato, P.S. 110

"The new lab has provided our students, many of whom do not have access to computers in their homes, the opportunity to really become technologically savvy, which is so important for our students," Amato said.

"With the help of ExxonMobil, we were able to get the new computer lab in one turn around, which was amazing for us because that's never happened to us before."

The new lab includes 19 state-of-the-art computers, allowing students to develop a strong foundation in computer basics. Students are learning how to use common tools such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and are exploring a selection of online learning web sites. District officials believe that students' early exposure to these tools will better prepare them for the future.



Top left, P.S. 110 Principal Anna Cano Amato. Top right, Antoinette Sgrizzi, computer teacher at P.S. 110, is shown with her students in the school's new computer lab. Bottom, P.S. 110 students explore new computer lab. With ExxonMobil's support, P.S. 110 was able to purchase 19 new computers and complete a full upgrade of the school's computer lab.



For comments or inquiries contact Carolina Asirifi, Community Liason, at (718) 389-8987 or carolina.a.asirifi@exxonmobil.com.

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