



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
New York District

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Peter Shugert
Phone: (212) 264-1722
E-mail: peter.h.shugert@usace.army.mil
Fax: (212) 264-0614

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 11, 2001

Corps Halts Dredging Project Upon Discovery of Radioactive Material

New York — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New York District announced today that they have immediately halted dredging operations at Glen Cove Creek, NY upon discovery of some of the dredged material from the Creek being radioactive. The area was subsequently secured.

Approximately 22,000 cubic yards of dredged material had been placed on a parcel along the Creek formerly used by the Li Tungsten industrial facility, which once processed metals and ores. This facility was being remediated under the EPA superfund program.

The City of Glen Cove, the non-federal sponsor, in their efforts to beneficially re-use the dredged material as backfill for an ongoing Superfund clean-up project, requested an EPA contractor to examine the dredged material. Approximately 40 percent of the dredged material was examined and at 50 individual locations it was discovered that radiation levels exceeded the 5 picocuries/gram (pc/gm) action level.

In their initial Superfund screening of the area, EPA had determined that radioactive materials were confined to the upland areas. Prior to commencement of the dredging, the Corps and the City of Glen Cove tested the material for radioactivity with negative results. Those results were reviewed and concurred with by EPA, NY State Dept. of Environmental Conservation, an independent consultant for the City of Glen Cove, and the Corps' Safety and Occupational Health Officer.

Glen Cove Creek is one mile in length consisting of an outer harbor, containing several marinas and a passenger ferry terminal and an inner channel currently used by commercial facilities. The inner channel was being dredged for the first time since the mid-1930's. The outer harbor has been maintenance dredged several times since construction, most recently in the mid-1990s.

Glen Cove Creek has historically been an industrial area. Several individual parcels along Glen Cove Creek were and are currently being cleaned up under the EPA Superfund program. One of the contaminants of concern being remediated at some of those sites is radioactive material.

--30--