

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



RECOVERY ACT

EPA Supports America's Recovery



North Albany, New York Albany County

Total Recovery Act Investment – \$500,000

Jobs Created By Recovery Act – Environmental contractors, remediation equipment supply businesses, excavation companies, testing laboratories, hauling companies, and landfill operators will be employed during the underground storage tank cleanups in the Albany area of New York.

Community Background

In February 2010, work began to clean up contamination from leaking underground storage tanks at the former Courtney George Mobil station on Pearl Street in North Albany, Albany County, New York and includes removing leaking underground storage tanks, excavating contaminated soil, and removing between 4,500 and 5,000 tons of contaminated soil and groundwater.

Workers believe that this infusion of LUST Recovery Act money will speed up the cleanup, which should be completed in weeks.

Albany County has been unable to attract potential buyers to this parcel, which was abandoned a decade ago, because the land is not yet cleaned up. Albany's Mayor Jerry Jennings considers this area an entrance way into North Albany and the Pearl Street corridor. Two other local sites in the Albany area will also receive LUST Recovery Act money. One is Joe's Service Station on Western Avenue in Guilderland, which was closed down recently when the owner passed away. The other is the former Vanilla Bean Bakery, which was originally used as a gas station several decades ago, on 4th Street in Troy.

North Albany is one of many neighborhoods located within the urban area of Albany. North Albany is an older neighborhood located roughly from the Livingston Avenue railroad bridge on Broadway north to the city line with Menands and west from the Hudson River to Van Rensselaer Boulevard. North Albany is a large and diverse neighborhood with single family homes, duplexes, apartment buildings, and older row houses. The area also includes many older industrial sites along Broadway and North Pearl Street.

Recovery Overview

EPA provided New York's Department of Environmental Conservation with \$9.212 million to assess and clean up contamination released from federally-regulated underground storage tanks. New York identified approximately 60 sites across the state where they will assess and clean up petroleum product contaminated soil and groundwater caused by underground storage tank leaks.

Protecting Our Environment

Cleaning up this site is an important first step to improving North Albany's industrial area and boosting business in the city. After the contamination is removed, this site will be good candidate for positive reuse to benefit the neighborhood

Protecting Our Health

Cleaning up underground storage tank releases protects human health and our environment. Underground storage tanks are a leading source of groundwater contamination in our country. Even a small amount of petroleum can contaminate groundwater, the source of drinking water for nearly half of all Americans and 99 percent of citizens in rural areas.

For More Information

[New York LUST Program](#)

[EPA Region 2 UST-LUST Program](#)



Workers cleaning up a site in North Albany, NY



Underground storage tanks from a former gas station in North Albany, NY