

Environmental Business Report: In New Jersey, "Green" is Good

Besides being a healthy business sector, environmental science will enable future generations to benefit from brownfields redevelopment, recycling and alternative energy.

BY MARTIN C. DAKS
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

NEW JERSEY'S ONGOING ECONOMIC RECOVERY, the extreme weather, plus a century's worth of legacy pollution will keep environmental services firms in the Garden State busy, to say the least. In New Jersey, "green" is good for business.

There's plenty of work in the Garden State for remediation firms, according to William Soukup, senior hydrogeologist at Cornerstone Environmental Group LLC, an environmental services firm based in Middletown, New York.

"Land is at a premium in New Jersey, and the state's heavily industrialized past means that it's also a hotspot for contaminated sites," Soukup explains. "We're currently using advanced technology on large-scale remediation and redevelopment projects such as the Honeywell [riverside] site in Jersey City, where decades ago chromium ore tailings were land-filled by the prior owner to extend the shore."

Today, using modern-day alchemy, Cornerstone can inject chemicals into the area's toxic ground water, transmogrifying the poisonous soup into benign water, helping Honeywell—which has partnered with Jersey City—in its plans to redevelop the barren site as a mixed-use residential and retail complex.

Other firms are seeing business activity in the environmental sector, as well.

"Among other projects, we've been providing remediation and other services in connection with the site preparation of the Woodbridge Energy Center, a natural gas power plant," says Valerie Montecalvo, founder, president and CEO of Bayshore Recycling, a full-service recycling facility located in the Keasbey section of Woodbridge, New Jersey. "The 27-acre plant is being built by Competitive Power Ventures, an energy company based in Maryland, and upon completion will produce 700 megawatts of electricity, enough to power 700,000 homes."

Bayshore, which provides soil management and other services, has already delivered about 50,000 truckloads of material that is being used for roads and other projects at the site.



"The project remains under construction and Bayshore continues to deliver additional recycled products to the site," says Montecalvo. "We expect to be there until it's completed in 2015."

Out-of-state firms are also finding New Jersey a great place to find work.

"Our remediation practice is significant and strong in New Jersey and beyond, with development interests a major driver—and we expect demand in this area to continue," says Rick Brannon, the Chelmsford, Massachusetts-based senior vice president and environment business line leader, U.S. North, for AECOM Technology Corp. "But other issues are driving demand as well."

A global professional, technical and management support services firm, AECOM has a considerable New Jersey presence with more than 60 environmental professionals working at project locations across the state, including serving as the program manager and environmental consultant for an electric utility, overseeing a "significant electric transmission and distribution upgrade," Brannon adds. "Large, privately funded energy projects for utilities and oil and gas companies are also showing significant growth, and we see an emerging global market for environmental services related to the impact of climate change."

Recent storms and hurricanes have caused a boom in environmental studies, says Brannon. "And clients are taking action to protect their assets from flooding and other threats."

As the economy stages a recovery, more remediation and redevelopment projects are being launched, according to CIANJ Chairman Tracy Straka, executive vice president of Hackensack, New Jersey-based Creamer Environmental Inc. One of the larger projects she's

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working on is the remediation of a Superfund site in central New Jersey. Straka is seeing some emerging segments within the industry.

"Vapor intrusion remediation is a growing area," explains Straka. "There's more awareness and new regulations focusing on indoor air quality investigation and remediation. Another trend involves river sediment remediation in places like the lower Passaic and the Hudson. This will be a big market, since pollutants were discharged and migrated to water bodies. We're also seeing a move towards 'greener' methods of remediation—instead of digging up contaminants and taking them to landfills, we're trying to detoxify them in place, or recycle them."

Population shifts are also creating business opportunities for environmental firms.

As more people move to cities, "We're seeing more redevelopment of contaminated properties, especially in urban areas



"Land is at a premium in New Jersey, and the state's heavily industrialized past means that it's also a hotspot for contaminated sites," explains Cornerstone Environmental Group's William Soukup.

throughout the state," says Timothy C. Kinsella, vice president and group manager of the New Jersey environmental Remediation Practice at Middletown, New Jersey-based T&M Associates. "We're currently involved with many redevelopment projects, including one in Woodbridge Township, New Jersey."

He calls it a "showcase site," noting that the formerly contaminated site is being cleaned up and repurposed as a park with a pool and water sprays.

"We're also seeing an across-the-board increase in various types of projects funded from both public and private sources," Kinsella adds. "As more attention is focused on initiatives such as energy audits, energy efficiencies and alternative fuel development, T&M is providing consulting services that evaluates our client's options and reviews their operational needs. Following this review, we provide recommendations for efficient clean energy approaches, resulting in cost savings for our client, and a healthier environment for the citizens of New Jersey."

Some firms are finding hidden "gold" in residential real estate.

"We are seeing a lot of activity in the multifamily redevelopment market," says Ileana Ivanciu, the Parsippany-based vice president for environmental services at Dewberry, a consulting firm that offers engineering, and other services. "One interesting project is Latitude, a luxury rental community under construction in Morristown that's being developed by Mill Creek Residential."

As part of the revitalization effort, Dewberry is providing

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remediation services to address impacts from a Department of Public Works facility that was previously located at the site. The company is also working with Third and Valley Urban Renewal LLC, which is constructing a mixed-use residential and commercial development in South Orange—replacing a surface parking lot with a “vibrant neighborhood asset.”

Other issues—from natural disasters such as Hurricane Sandy to new programs such as Licensed Site Remediation Professionals (LSRPs)—also continue to

to remediation, predicts Benjamin Alter, senior vice president of GZA GeoEnvironmental Inc.

“One large project we’re involved in is a 60-acre parcel in Middlesex County that had a host of contaminants stemming from almost a century of industrial use,” says Alter. “This assignment draws on our expertise in geology, ecology and other technical disciplines.”

Private sector projects, from *Fortune 500* companies to “mom and pop shops” are GZA’s area of expertise, he adds, noting that GZA GeoEnvironmental is also han-



“We’ve been providing remediation and other services in connection with the site preparation of the Woodbridge Energy Center, a natural gas power plant,” says Bayshore Recycling’s Valerie Montecalvo.



“Large, privately funded energy projects for utilities and oil and gas companies are showing significant growth,” says AECOM Technology Corp.’s Rich Brannon.

drive new business ventures. In addition, the Remedial Investigation Deadline Extension—a measure signed in January that lets many sites qualify for a two-year extension to May 2014, to complete investigatory work—has also spurred the pace of projects.

Right now, much of the current environmental activity involves investigation, but in the next few years, it’ll shift

ding more public sector projects. “We’re engaged in projects throughout the state, from Cape May to Bergen County.”

The new deadline set by the Remedial Investigation Deadline Extension is helping to drive a lot of work to drilling companies, labs, surveyors “and just about anyone who works on site remediation projects,” says Philip

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I. Brilliant, the owner and principal environmental scientist of Brilliant Environmental Services, LLC, in Toms River, New Jersey.

One project Brilliant is working on involves a preliminary investigation and site assessment of a marina in South Toms River, New Jersey.



"Vapor intrusion remediation is a growing area," says CIANJ Chairman Tracy Straka of Creamer Environmental, Inc.

Kill landfill that had been remediated and redeveloped into a park some years back.

"But then it was slammed by Hurricane Sandy and the shoreline—as well as part of the engineered cap on the contaminated soil—was eroded," explains Robert Schwarzkopf, project manager and LSRP at Eatontown-



"We're seeing more redevelopment of contaminated properties, especially in urban areas throughout the state," says T&M Associates' Timothy C. Kinsella.

, "The facility, which is in the process of being refinanced, previously suffered some spills from underground storage tanks, and it was further damaged by flooding during Hurricane Sandy," he explains.

Although much of the brownfield redevelopment activity is centered in northern New Jersey, Brilliant is seeing a fair amount in Monmouth County. "If the project and price are right, developers will jump on it," he says.

Hurricane Sandy threw a wrench in the works of one brownfield in Woodbridge, New Jersey, near the Arthur

based Najarian Associates. "We were called in to do the permitting and to remediate it. We recently obtained all the permits and the project is targeted for completion in the near future."

The next "big thing" will center on advanced technology, Schwarzkopf says. "In the past, remediating ground water contamination was a long, drawn-out process," he explains. "But technology is accelerating remediation, and new chemicals are being brought to market to inject into the ground water to clean it faster; so even

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more properties will be candidates for redevelopment. This entire process has been further expedited under the LSRP program where the role of the NJDEP has been replaced by the LSRP."

Another reason for growth in New Jersey's environmental business sector is the Garden State's growing population and limited land. These factors mean that brownfield remediation projects will stay strong for a long time, according to Kiran K. Gill, president of PARS Environmental Inc., a Hamilton Township, New Jersey-based environmental consulting firm. But she also sees significant opportunities for growth in water supply and wastewater treatment, and in energy conservation and alternative energy.



Much of the current environmental activity involves investigation, but in the next few years, it'll shift to remediation, predicts GZA GeoEnvironmental's Benjamin Alter.



The Remedial Investigation Deadline Extension is helping to drive a lot of work to drilling companies, labs, surveyors "and just about anyone who works on site remediation projects," says Brilliant Environmental Services' Philip I. Brilliant.

"The Northeast has an aging infrastructure for water supply and wastewater treatment," she says, noting that most municipalities and towns are facing financial difficulties and are therefore looking to extend the life of existing systems with innovative and creative solutions. "Our research work on the management of urban storm water discharge with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Edison is an example of this approach, and it's an approach that has been implemented in several states."

New engineering and other advances are enabling environmental remediation specialists to tackle increasingly complicated challenges, according to James L. Peterson, president of Princeton Geoscience Inc.

"Tools are now available to assess complex site conditions that posed insurmountable challenges in the past," Peterson says. "One result of this development is that the volume of projects involving LSRP-managed remediation of complex sites, particularly those involving contamination in bedrock aquifers and dense, non-aqueous phase liquids (ground water contamination) will continue to grow."

New opportunities for Princeton Geoscience, Inc., will likely include LSRP-managed remediation of complex sites, "particularly those with difficult issues such as bedrock ground water contamination and dense, non-aqueous phase liquids,

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"We are seeing a lot of activity in the multifamily redevelopment market," says Dewberry's Ileana Ivanciu.

which are difficult to characterize and represent long-term sources of ground water contamination."

Princeton Geoscience, for example, is handling the ground water remediation at a research and development lab.

Within the general category of environmental remediation, there are a series of sub-markets, note some experts.

"We've received numerous requests to work on sites that range from dry cleaners, service stations, and full-scale petrochemical facilities," says Dermot Dillon, regional vice president of operations at Bridgewater, New Jersey-based Summit Drilling. "We've also had requests for everything from confirmatory soil boring to projects requiring 100-plus injection wells to be drilled and installed as a part of an in-situ soil remediation program."



"Technology is accelerating remediation, and new chemicals are being brought to market to inject into the ground water to clean it faster; so even more properties will be candidates for redevelopment," says Najarian Associates' Robert Schwarzkopf.

Funding for these projects comes from public and private sources, but "the economic recovery means that investors will once again begin looking toward brown-field redevelopment," Dillon adds. "These investments, along with the streamlined LSRP process will drive business to the environmental services community.

"Summit has made a substantial capital investment in expanding our roto-sonic drill fleet, but the advances are not limited to drilling technology," he explains. "New advances will also support the remediation of more sites, which means more activity"

New markets are also leading to new business opportunities. Right now, the market share for EWMA, a Parsippany, New Jersey-based environmental consulting and remediation firm, is "primarily split evenly between environmental cleanup and compliance services," says Managing Executive Donald W. Richardson. "But compli-

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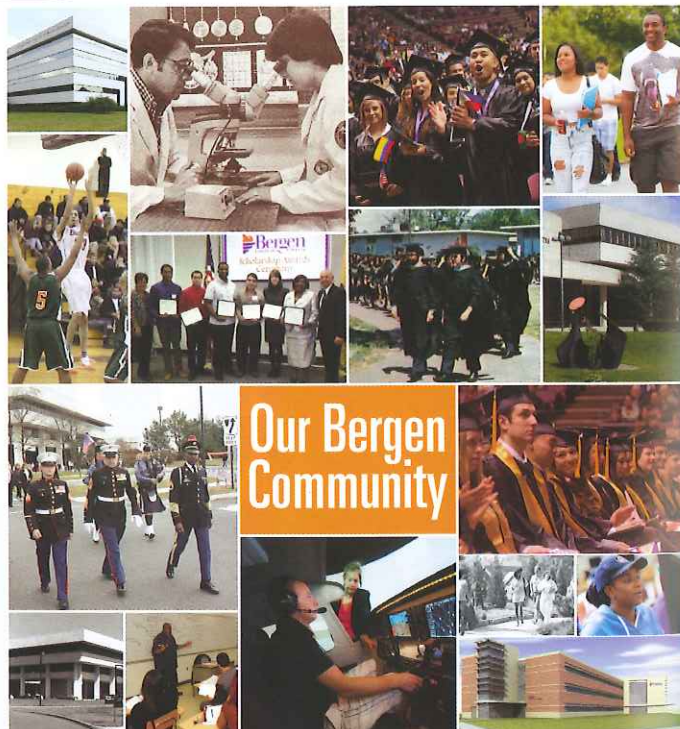
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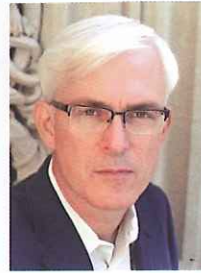


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ance consulting appears to offer more long-term sustainable opportunities, so we're aligning our firm with risk managers and facility operators as a way to capture those kinds of projects."

EWMA is engaging in cleanups to facilitate brownfield redevelopment, such as one in Union County that formerly housed a series of small commercial establishments, but was contaminated by a chlorinated solvent associated with dry cleaning operations.

"Our client will redevelop the site as office space," says Richardson. "It's in a strategic location near a transit hub, but this kind of 'pocket development' in an urban area presents plenty of logistical challenges. But that's where the work is right now, so you figure out ways to overcome the obstacles."

Meanwhile, Somerset, New Jersey-based AMEC Environment & Infrastructure is currently working with

a *Fortune 100* financial institution on the design and implementation of remedial actions at a number of properties across the state, according to Principal Ecologist Charles R. Harman.

"One is a standard dig-and-haul, but it includes the removal of thousands of cubic yards of contaminated soil and debris," he explains. "The other project for that client is the implementation of an innovative ground water treatment system."

Much of the new work Harman sees is privately funded, and springs from brownfields development, but there's also a growing volume of projects focusing on vapor intrusion problems and contaminated sediments. A lot also stems from the implementation of the LSRP program.

"Most of the projects we see are located in the New York City metropolitan area of Hudson, Essex, Bergen,

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Union and Middlesex counties," he adds. "Also in the Philadelphia metropolitan areas of Mercer, Burlington, Camden and Gloucester counties."

New Jersey is seeing growth in the education sector and in private-commercial projects, but the two are not necessarily exclusive, according to Robert Carvalho, P.G., president and CEO of EAI Inc., a Jersey City-based environmental management services firm.

"We frequently see a combination of public and private efforts and often a combination of both at the same project," he adds. "Two key environmental projects we

because people need updated space for schools, housing and retail."

Covanta Energy takes a multi-pronged approach to environmental quality, according to Margretta E. Morris, Covanta Energy Corp.'s vice president, materials management.

The Morristown, New Jersey-based company has facilities such as Covanta Essex, a waste-to-energy site in Newark that cleanly burns 2,800 tons per day of municipal solid waste while generating about 65 megawatts of electricity for sale.



"We've received numerous requests to work on sites that range from dry cleaners, service stations and full-scale petrochemical facilities," says Summit Drilling's Dermot Dillon.




"Compliance consulting appears to offer more long-term sustainable opportunities," says EWMA's Donald W. Richardson.

are working on are Prologis in Jersey City, at the old PJP landfill; and the Exchange Place project in Secaucus at the old Gallo landfill site. Opportunity continues to exist in New Jersey because of the ever-expanding market located between New York City and Philadelphia, and

Covanta also constructed a natural gas fueling station in Newark for garbage trucks that use its facility, offering a cleaner and quieter alternative to diesel fuel.


"We're also investigating anaerobic digestion, a process that uses microorganisms to break down

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biodegradable material," Morris adds. "Each year, four million tons of New Jersey waste is still dumped in landfills. We are continually upgrading our systems and looking for even more environmentally friendly initiatives."

CHEMTECH President Emanuel Hedvat says his Mountainside, New Jersey analytical services firm is working on a "mixed bag" of remediation projects that are tied to a variety of public and private organizations.

"Our clients stretch from Atlantic City to Fort Lee, and include the USEPA, the military, state agencies, and pri-



There is a growing volume of projects focusing on vapor intrusion problems and contaminated sediments, according to AMEC Environment & Infrastructure's Charles R. Harman.

private developers," he says. "I'd say about half of the projects are privately funded; 25 percent are tied to state agencies, and 25 percent are from the federal government. CHEMTECH has one of the most advanced environmental labs in the country with the state-of-the-art instrumentation and very advanced online capabilities.

We're open for operation 365 days a year, and we can provide our clients with fast and quality data."

CHEMTECH has been involved in most of the major projects in the New Jersey and New York area during the past 40 years, Hedvat adds. "After a slower than usual couple of years, we are very optimistic about the future of the environmental industry."

One looking to the future can clearly see that niche firms will continue to play a significant and growing role in remediation. Borbas Surveying and Mapping, LLC, for



EAI, Inc., President and CEO Robert Carvalho, P.G. is seeing growth in the education sector and in private-commercial projects.

example, helps to provide the basemap for prime contractors and others involved in investigating and remediating contaminated sites.

The company may be called in at the start of a project to prepare computerized base-mapping that "ties all the data together," says J. Peter Borbas, president of the Boonton,

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"Each year, four million tons of New Jersey waste is still dumped in landfills," says Covanta Energy Corp.'s Margretta E. Morris.



"After a slower than usual couple of years, we are very optimistic about the future of the environmental industry," says CHEMTECH's Emanuel Hedvat.

New Jersey-based company. The firm also ensures that remediation contractors are working in the correct areas.

"We're the lead surveyors on Perth Amboy's I-Port 440 project," Borbas adds, noting the \$178 million I-Port 440 redevelopment project aims to construct a mix of commercial and office space between State Street and the Arthur Kill tidal strait.

"Our work is spread across the state, but most of it is near or close to waterways, including the Delaware, the Raritan, the Arthur Kill and Newark Bay, and we've seen an increased emphasis on health and safety," Borbas notes. "Rules and regulations have been tightened and everyone is very conscious of contaminants."

Finding unconventional ways to recycle unusual and hazardous materials has helped to spur growth at Premier Facility Management (PFM), a Woodland Park, New Jersey-based company. This firm provides sustain-

able methods for recycling and material byproduct marketing, locates surplus material exchanges and finds global outlets for clients' recyclables.

"We handle recycling for MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, among our many other projects," says PFM CEO Bob Frustaci. "We have a five-year contract for a 'tailgate recycling program' that helped shave more than 20 percent of the facility's cleanup budget."

Premier also works with companies such as Monro Muffler Brake and Service, collecting and recycling tires from more than 125 Monro stores.

"The tires were going to various disposal areas in a manner that was not sustainable," explains Frustaci. "Instead, we contracted with a company that uses them to create products for artificial turf and mats. Our equipment marketing and other trademarked programs increase recyclable material value while reducing and

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stabilizing waste removal costs, and further minimizing the carbon footprint.”

Premier’s source separation program also efficiently separates material that has no “green value,” he adds, which satisfies concerns of export markets that are closely inspecting bales of recyclables before accepting them.

Another company, Pure Soil, provides “end-of-pipe” services in the environmental remediation market, according to George Farrand, general manager of the Wall, New Jersey-based environmental services firm.

“Typically, remediation contractors contact us looking for solutions to their material management problems, which often include contaminated materials,” he says. “Thousands and thousands of tons of it. Then we offer them à-la-carte services, including but not necessarily limited to sampling analysis, loading, transportation and remediation, followed by recycling or re-use.”

Pure Soil processes material at its Class “B” Recycling facility in Jackson, New Jersey. Some of the remediation involves thermal desorption, or “clean burn” treatment, but Farrand says that tends to be more costly and is usually used to a great degree by the larger *Fortune 500* companies. Other, lower-cost options include asphalt encapsulation, recycling, and beneficial reuse, and a planned expansion into onsite treatment, which would represent a new area of service for the firm.



“We’ve seen an increased emphasis on health and safety, regulations have been tightened and everyone is very conscious of contaminants,” says J. Peter Borbas of Borbas Surveying and Mapping, LLC.



“We handle recycling for MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, among our many other projects,” says Bob Frustaci (center) of Premier Facility Management.

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Pure Soil is continually looking for innovative technologies to introduce into its service offerings, “but in New Jersey, at least, the trend among clients is trending toward the less-expensive remediation alternatives,” Farrand says.

Law firms also play a big role in New Jersey’s environmental business sector.

ties; and there’s also a lot of interest in residential-retail mixed-use development.”

One such project is the former General Motors site on Parkway Avenue in Ewing, New Jersey.

“We were retained by the Revitalizing Auto Communities Environmental Response Trust to provide legal



“We’re seeing a lot of commercial warehouse development, mainly in Hudson and Middlesex counties; and there’s also a lot of interest in residential-retail mixed-use development,” says Jeffrey Cappola of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer P.A.



“The new land-use regulations adopted in response to the flooding [from Sandy] could lead to the passage of additional environmental laws,” says David Farer of Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP.

When the economy slowed and government funding dried up back in 2009, there was a corresponding drop in environmental brownfield remediation projects, says Jeffrey Cappola, an environmental attorney and shareholder at the Woodbridge, New Jersey office of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer P.A.

“But now, government money is flowing again, and that stimulates private funds, so everyone benefits,” he notes. “We’re seeing a lot of commercial warehouse development, mainly in Hudson and Middlesex coun-

counsel related to this 90-acre site,” says Cappola. “It is in contract with a redeveloper and will feature more than 1,000 units of multifamily housing and more than 100,000 square feet of retail and commercial space.”

Much environmental work involves remediation, which is all about removing or neutralizing toxic substances, but it can also involve addressing natural disasters, says Dennis Toft, an attorney and co-chair of the Environmental Group of Wolff & Samson PC, a West Orange, New Jersey-based law firm.

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"We were retained by the Bay Head Yacht Club to assist in legal matters concerning its post-Sandy restoration project," explains Toft. "The activity involves preserving and elevating the historic structure to help protect it against future floods."

The 2012 hurricane resulted in changes to flood elevation maps, resulting in new height and other requirements aimed at making structures more resilient, he adds.

Woodbridge, New Jersey, law firm Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP. "The new land use regulations adopted in response to the flooding that took place could lead to the passage of additional environmental laws."

One case his firm is currently handling involves a mix of environmental and real estate law, centering on the cleanup and redevelopment of two "related federal Superfund sites on a major waterway," Farer explains.



"Many of the site remediation projects involving our legal team are mixed-use, residential, retail and commercial redevelopments in northern and central New Jersey," says Steven T. Senior of Riker Danzig Scherer Hyland & Perretti LLP.



One of the biggest challenges for environmental contractors in the New York tri-state area is "action-over claims," a roller-coaster of litigation that starts when an employee gets injured on a jobsite, according to the Dale Group's Daniel Borgna.

"Sandy drove a lot of activity, but that's far from the only issue," Toft says. "We're seeing new standards targeting vapor intrusion from underwater ground contamination, and other environmental regulations that will keep lawyers busy for a long time."

Hurricane Sandy also changed the picture in terms of land use, according to David B. Farer, chair of the Environmental Department and the Environmental Practice Group of the

"The issues there also involve institutional and engineering restrictions on the future uses of the sites in order to protect the public, flood hazard issues, easements and right-of-ways, and litigation for cost recovery against responsible entities. As demand rebounds for brownfield redevelopment, we're seeing even more work like this, especially in northern and central New Jersey, since that's where so many of the original manufacturing sites were located."

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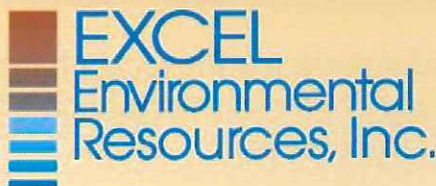


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A number of issues—from residential demand in the New York City region to the elevation of the Bayonne Bridge—are helping to drive remediation activity in northern New Jersey, observes Edward A. Hogan, an environmental lawyer and member of the Bridge-water, New Jersey-based law firm Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A.

“The Bayonne Bridge roadway is being raised in order to accommodate the new, huge ‘Post-Panamax’ ships, and the expected increase in shipping activity is driving big demand for large warehouse space near Port Newark,” Hogan says. “Demand for properties up and down the New Jersey Turnpike is rising, even for ones that require extensive remediation.”

The increase in large projects is also leading to more disputes between owners and general contractors, and subcontractors, he adds.

“People are looking closely at contracts and bid proposals,” says Hogan. “And they’re asking attorneys to provide guidance and to eliminate ambiguities.”

Attorneys address other kinds of concerns, too.

“Many of the site remediation projects involving our legal team are mixed-use, residential, retail and commercial redevelopments in northern and central New Jersey,” according to Steven T. Senior, a partner in the environmental group of Riker Danzig Scherer Hyland & Perretti

LLP, a Morristown, New Jersey-based law firm. “We’re also seeing a fair amount of litigation activity addressing recovery of cleanup costs or the need for remediation of contaminated sites from potentially responsible parties.”

Many of these large-scale cleanup and redevelopment projects feature a public transportation component, he adds, reflecting the trend towards brownfield redevelopment around transportation hubs.

“For the most part, these projects are driven by private resources,” Senior says. “But state and federal incentives also help a lot. We believe that the pace of these projects will continue to accelerate as the national economy improves.”

Insurance can be critical to a project’s progress and ultimate success.

One of the biggest challenges for environmental contractors in the New York tri-state area is “action-over claims,” a roller-coaster of litigation that starts when an employee gets injured on a jobsite. What should be a typical workers’ compensation claim can explode into a mass litigation involving not only the workers’ compensation policy of the employer, but also their general liability policy. This could double the cost of a company’s liability insurance premiums.

“In most situations, injured employees are prohibited from suing their employer due to protection under

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Ford’s C-MAX Solar Energi Concept Car is the First Sun-Powered Hybrid

FORD MOTOR COMPANY, A FOUNDING MEMBER of the Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey, has introduced a new solar car concept in collaboration with Georgia Tech. The C-MAX Solar Energi Concept is a first-of-its-kind hybrid electric vehicle with the potential to free drivers of their dependence on the electric grid.

Instead of recharging its battery from an electrical outlet, the C-MAX Solar Energi Concept harnesses the power of the sun by parking under a special concentrator that acts like a magnifying glass, directing intensified rays from the sun onto solar panels on the parked vehicle’s roof below.

The result is a car that takes a day’s worth of sunlight to deliver the same performance as Ford’s conventional C-MAX Energi plug-in hybrid, which gets combined miles per gallon gasoline equivalent (MPGe), with EPA-estimated 108 city/92 highway/100 combined MPGe.

Ford and SunPower co-developed the solar panel-based roof specifically for the C-MAX Solar Energi

The car has a self-parking feature that automatically moves the car to keep the sunlight focused on the rooftop panels.



Concept. Because of the time that would be needed for conventional solar panels to absorb enough energy to fully charge the vehicle, Ford turned to Professor Bert Bras’ Sustainable Design and Manufacturing lab at Georgia Tech for ways to amplify the sunlight to make a solar-powered hybrid feasible for daily use.

His lab helped develop a carport-type solar concentrator that uses lenses similar to what lighthouses use to amplify a small light. Special Fresnel lenses in the carport direct sunlight to the solar panels on the vehicle’s roof, so the concentrator acts “like a magnifying glass, but it’s squished,” Bras explains. Grooves in the thin glass reflect the sunlight down to the car, boosting sunlight’s impact by a factor of eight. ■

Excerpted and adapted from an article in the Georgia Institute of Technology’s publication, Research Horizons, by Brett Israel.

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workers' compensation laws," says Daniel Borgna, vice president of environmental at Dale Group, a Florham Park, New Jersey-based insurance and surety bond agency. "So instead they'll sue the jobsite owner, who in turn sues the injured worker's employer, triggering a third-party bodily injury claim under the general liability

policy. This has become a major concern in New York State, and it's affecting New Jersey and Connecticut domiciled companies doing work in New York."

Concrete concerns often fly under the radar, but they need to be addressed, too.

When people think of environmental contamination, concrete may not be the first thing that comes to mind, but Roger Haftek's Paterson, New Jersey-based company, Haftek CWS, Inc., knows better.

"Our primary product is the patented Concrete Washout Systems that controls, captures and contains all concrete washout waste water and material at construction sites," says Haftek, president of CWS and a licensee of Wilton, California-based Concrete Washout Systems, Inc. "The Federal Clean Water Act prohibits companies from dumping caustic concrete washout on the ground."

His firm works with companies such as PSE&G, taking slurry and hardened concrete back to CWS' site, where it's recycled over a period of about a week. "Then we take the recycled product to a facility that's been approved by the Department of Environmental Protection, where it's resold as roadbed material.

"The long-term prospects for this industry are good because, as new commercial construction and upgrades increase, more concrete washout is generated," explains Haftek. ■

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WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Going Wild in the Race to Save the World's Cheetahs

BY JOHN JOSEPH PARKER
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

TELEVISION PERSONALITY AND ANIMAL EXPERT Jack Hanna, Director Emeritus of Columbus Zoo and Aquarium and the Wilds, has agreed to serve as the Honorary Chair for the Cheetah Conservation Fund's Human for Cheetahs team, which will be making its debut as an official charity partner team in the Portland Rock and Roll Half Marathon in Portland, Oregon, May 18, 2014.

Humans for Cheetahs is CCF's new charity team initiative, launched in an effort to provide runners, bikers and other racers with an opportunity to help the world's fastest land animal win the race against extinction. Racers, in exchange for raising money to support the Cheetah Conservation Fund, compete for free in the event and receive other team benefits, including a team jersey and access to training resources from sponsor Foot Traffic to prepare for the event. The Portland Rock and Roll Half Marathon is the first in what CCF hopes

"Nothing beats being able to do something you love and make a difference, and Humans for Cheetahs allows runners to do just that," explains animal expert Jack Hanna.



will be a series of events around the country that will raise money and awareness to save the cheetah.

"The cheetah is known throughout the world as the ultimate runner," says Hanna. "I was so excited to add my support to CCF's Humans for Cheetahs team, and encourage competitors of all kinds to help us win the race against extinction."

The money raised by Humans for Cheetahs will go to the Cheetah Conservation Fund, the world's leading organization dedicated to saving the cheetah in the wild.

"We're so excited to launch this effort in Portland," says Humans for Cheetahs Chair Teresa Delaney. "We're hoping that the success we have here will inspire runners and bikers and other competitors to start their own Humans for Cheetahs teams in their cities." ■