

**APPENDIX A:
CORRESPONDENCE**

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Fish, Wildlife & Marine Resources
New York Natural Heritage Program
625 Broadway, 5th floor, Albany, New York 12233-4757
Phone: (518) 402-8935 • **FAX:** (518) 402-8925
Website: www.dec.state.ny.us



March 3, 2005

Leah Kelly
A K R F Consultants
117 East 29th Street
New York, NY 10016

Dear Ms. Kelly:

In response to your recent request, we have reviewed the New York Natural Heritage Program databases with respect to an Environmental Assessment for the proposed Mott Haven Yards High School Campus, site as indicated on the map you provided, located on a six acre portion of the Rail Yards in the Mott Haven Section of the Bronx.

We have no records of known occurrences of rare or state-listed animals or plants, significant natural communities, or other significant habitats, on or in the immediate vicinity of your site.

The absence of data does not necessarily mean that rare or state-listed species, natural communities or other significant habitats do not exist on or adjacent to the proposed site. Rather, our files currently do not contain any information which indicates their presence. For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted. For these reasons, we cannot provide a definitive statement on the presence or absence of rare or state-listed species, or of significant natural communities. This information should not be substituted for on-site surveys that may be required for environmental assessment.

Our databases are continually growing as records are added and updated. If this proposed project is still under development one year from now, we recommend that you contact us again so that we may update this response with the most current information.

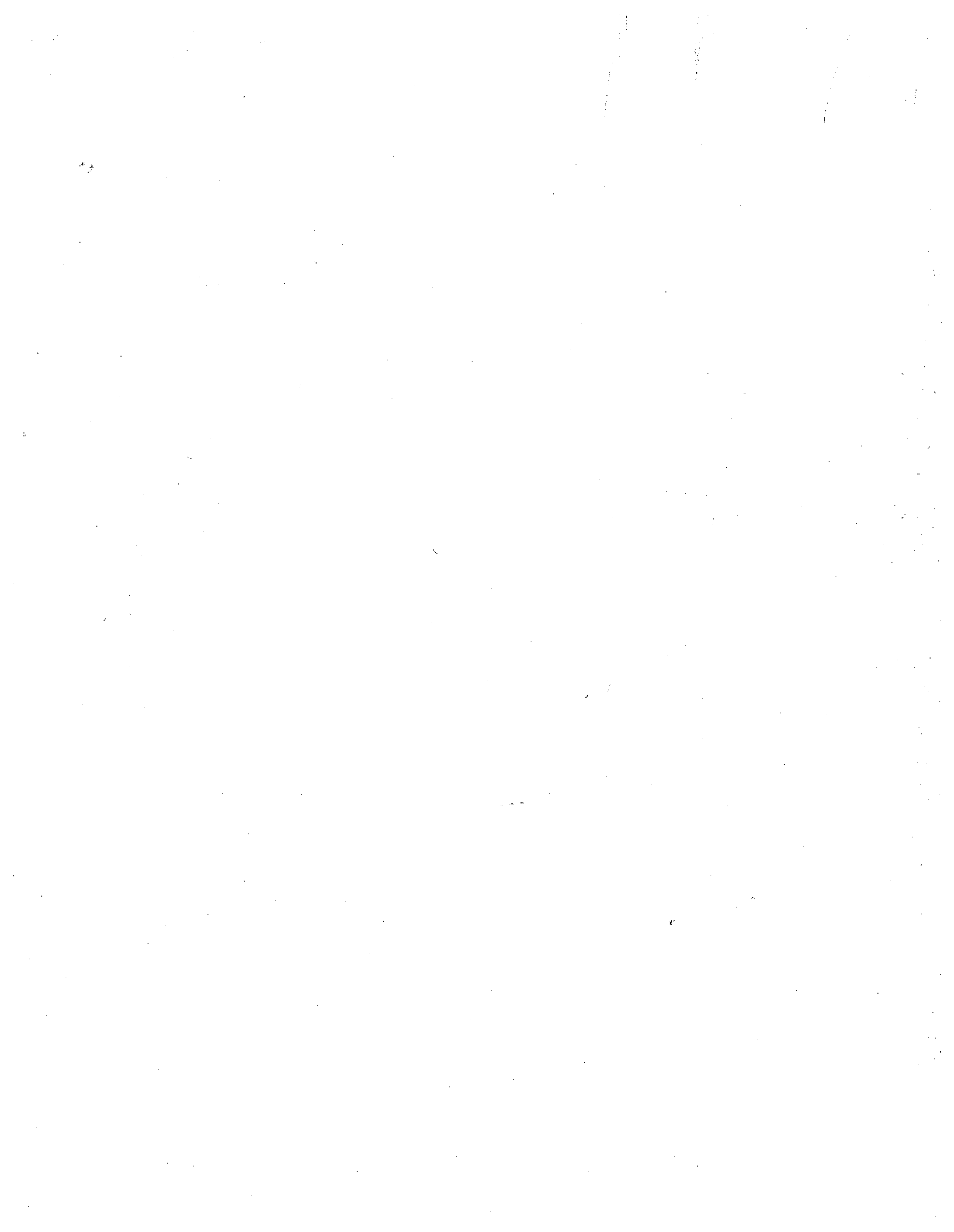
This response applies only to known occurrences of rare or state-listed animals and plants, significant natural communities and other significant habitats maintained in the Natural Heritage Data bases. Your project may require additional review or permits; for information regarding other permits that may be required under state law for regulated areas or activities (e.g., regulated wetlands), please contact the appropriate NYS DEC Regional Office, Division of Environmental Permits, at the enclosed address.

Sincerely,

Heidi Krahl
Heidi J. Krahl, Information Services
New York Natural Heritage Program

Enc.

cc: Reg. 2, Wildlife Mgr.



New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Environmental Remediation, Region 2

47-40 21st Street, Long Island City, NY 11101-5407

Phone: (718) 482-4996 • FAX: (718) 482-6368

Website: www.dec.state.ny.us



Denise M. Sheehan
Commissioner

July 5, 2006

Ms. Lee Guterman
New York City School Construction Authority
30-30 Thomson Avenue
Long Island City, NY 11101

Re: Former Metro North Property (AKA Mott Haven Site), BCP# 203030
Remedial Investigation Report, dated November 15, 2005; and
Remedial Action Work Plan, dated November 15, 2005

Dear Ms. Guterman:

The Department of Environmental Conservation (Department), in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), has completed its review of the subject documents referenced above. The documents were released for public comments for 45 days as required by the Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP). The comment period ended on May 30, 2006.

The Remedial Investigation Report is hereby approved. The Remedial Action Work Plan as amended by the Remedial Action Work Plan Addenda dated June 14, 2006, and the Subslab Depressurization System Letter to NYSDOH dated June 16, 2006, is hereby approved with the following conditions:

1. Locations and number of end point soil samples in the excavated area must be approved by the Department project manager.
2. New York City School Construction Authority must develop a site management plan for Department approval to: (a) identify any use restrictions of the site; and (b) provide for the operation and maintenance of the components of the remedy, and if applicable, any vapor intrusion mitigation system.

The goal of the remedy is to excavate and dispose of all soil within the BCP area with contaminants level exceeding TAGM 4046 recommended soil cleanup objectives. Groundwater remediation will include localized dewatering of the excavated area and on-site natural attenuation.

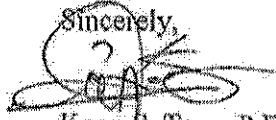
The approved plan, including the plan addenda and the letter to NYSDOH, must be placed in all publicly accessible repositories for the project within five business days of this letter. A certification that the documents are in the project repositories, and that the repositories are complete with all project documents, must be submitted to the Department project manager within ten business days of this letter.

Once the Department has reviewed and approved the Pre-Construction Fact Sheet, it must be transmitted to the parties on the Brownfield Site Contact List, at least 10 days prior to the start of the construction. A certification of mailing of the Fact Sheet must be provided to the Department project manager. The

certification must also include the date of release, a list of recipients, a copy of the Fact Sheet released, and a statement that no changes were made to the Fact Sheet after approval by the Department.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at (718)482-4928.

Sincerely,



Koon S. Tang, P.E.
Remediation Section Chief
NYSDEC, Region 2 Office

cc: Amar Nagi, NYSDEC
P. D. Smith, NYSDEC
Wan-Joe Sun, NYSDEC
Sarah Anderson, NYSDEC
Julia Guastella, NYSDOH
Michael Sherwood, Shaw Environmental



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
Pebbles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

518-237-8643

September 18, 2006

Ross J. Holden
New York City School Construction Authority
30-30 Thomson Avenue
Long Island City, New York 11101

Re: NYSCA
New Mott Haven School Campus
Concourse Village West, East 153rd
St./BRONX, Bronx County
06PR04815

Dear Mr. Holden:

Thank you for requesting the comments of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). We have reviewed the project in accordance with the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law, Section 14.09.

Based upon this review, it is the OPRHP's opinion that your project will have No Impact upon cultural resources in or eligible for inclusion in the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

If further correspondence is required regarding this project, please be sure to refer to the OPRHP Project Review (PR) number noted above.

Sincerely,

Ruth L. Pierpont
Director



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

3817 Luker Road
Cortland, NY 13045

January 31, 2005

Ms. Leah Kelly
Environmental Scientist
AKRF, Inc.
117 East 29th Street
New York, NY 10016

Dear Ms. Kelly:

This responds to your correspondence of January 25, 2005, requesting information on the presence of Federally-listed endangered or threatened species and significant habitats in the vicinity of the proposed construction of six secondary schools on the site of the Mott Haven rail yard in the Mott Haven section of the Bronx, Bronx County, New York.

Except for occasional transient individuals, no Federally-listed or proposed endangered or threatened species under our jurisdiction are known to exist in the project impact area. In addition, no habitat in the project impact area is currently designated or proposed "critical habitat" in accordance with provisions of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). Therefore, no further ESA coordination or consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is required. Should project plans change, or additional information on listed species or critical habitat becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered. The most recent compilation of Federally-listed and proposed endangered and threatened species in New York* is available for your information. If your project is not completed within one year from the date of this determination, we recommend that you contact us to ensure that the listed species presence/absence information for your proposed project is current.

The above comments pertaining to endangered or threatened species under our jurisdiction are provided pursuant to the ESA. This response does not preclude additional Service comments under other legislation.

For additional information on fish and wildlife resources or State-listed species, we suggest you contact the appropriate New York State Department of Environmental Conservation regional office(s), * and:

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
New York Natural Heritage Program Information Services
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-4757
(518) 402-8935

If you require additional information or assistance please contact Jill Olin of our Long Island Field Office at (631) 581-2941.

Sincerely,



David A. Stilwell
Field Supervisor

* Additional information referred to above may be found at our website at:
<http://nyfo.fws.gov/es/esdesc.htm>.

cc: NYSDEC, Long Island City, NY (Environmental Permits)
NYSDEC, Albany, NY (Natural Heritage Program)