The MSLA 1-D Landfill is a 93.8 acre site owned by the Town of Kearny and New Jersey Department of Transportation. The landfill is located at 1500 Harrison Avenue, near Exit 15 W on the NJ Turnpike. The landfill was operated by the Municipal Sanitary Landfill Authority (MSLA) during the 1970s and 1980s. Under administrative order from New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the landfill ceased operations in 1982. However, because the landfill was not properly closed, thousands of gallons of leachate contaminated with organic compounds and metals discharge from the landfill into the adjacent wetlands and Passaic River daily.

The DEP’s Site Remediation Program is currently designing measures to prevent the leachate discharge as prescribed in the Remedial Action Plan (RAP), which include an impermeable cap, subsurface barrier wall, gas management system and leachate collection system. This work has been divided into several contracts. Kearny Municipal Utility Authority is currently constructing a leachate force main and a leachate pump station at the landfill, with DEP funding.
The construction contractor is Barbella Construction Services, LLC, of Somerville, New Jersey. In October, DEP and Barbella Construction began a site improvements project that will prepare the site for the more extensive closure measures. This includes the construction of a perimeter road and staging area for future work around the base of the landfill, relocation and removal of gas pipelines which would interfere with the proposed barrier wall and cap, construction of supporting structures for a landfill gas flare and fencing for the site. Currently, efforts are concentrated on making the site accessible by means of a road around the base of the landfill. DEP is using green construction practices including the use of a minimal thickness of recycled concrete over geotextile to provide a stable roadway.

Construction activities began in Fall 2009 and are expected to be completed in May 2010. Funding for the project is provided by the constitutionally-dedicated portion of the Corporate Business Tax (CBT) assigned to the cleanup of hazardous waste sites. SRP and Barbella Construction will be working closely with Kearny Police Department to insure traffic safety along Harrison Avenue because construction vehicles will be entering and leaving the site.