



**THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF MARGARET S. CHIN**

250 Broadway, Suite 1804  
New York, NY 10007

**\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\***

*December 21, 2012*

---

Contact: Kelly Magee (212) 788-7259/ (917) 828-3634

***COUNCIL MEMBER MARGARET CHIN'S CALLS FOR ACTION PROMPTS  
CRACKDOWN ON GENERATORS IN LOWER MANHATTAN***

*Department of Environmental Protection steps up enforcement during sweep of generators in  
Financial District*

New York, NY – Today, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) reported to Council Member Chin the results of its re-inspection of generators in lower Manhattan that took place on December 13 and December 14, 2012. The results were as follows:

- Three generators and three boilers had current registration
- 45 generators had pending registrations
- One generator and one boiler were disconnected
- 12 generators and 4 boilers were no longer on site, and
- 30 generators and six boilers had no registration

This re-inspection follows an initial inspection by the DEP that took place on December 7, 2012. During this inspection, it was found that of the 12 boilers and 105 generators operating in lower Manhattan, not one operator could produce the proper registration or Certificate of Operation for the equipment. DEP inspectors will continue to check on locations that failed to produce the proper paperwork, and violations for failure to register will be issued.

As a result of these inspections, between the period of November 9 and December 20, DEP has issued a **total of 46 notices of violation**, including 42 for failure to register emergency generators and temporary boilers, three for smoke violations, and one for odor violations in lower Manhattan. As of December 10, 2012, the Department of Environmental Protection had only issued **only 9 summonses** to generators in lower Manhattan.

“I am pleased that there is a noticeable increase in enforcement regarding generators in lower Manhattan,” **Council Member Margaret Chin said**. “I urge all Financial District residents and workers who have been affected by noise and fumes from emergency generators in Lower

Manhattan to **call 3-1-1 today**. It is important that the community reports these incidents effectively in order ensure that commercial buildings make repairs as quickly as possible and remove generators from our neighborhood.”

On December 14, 2012, Council Member Margaret Chin, Catherine McVay Hughes, Chair of Community Board 1, and Financial District residents gathered in front of 1 New York Plaza to call for increased enforcement on behalf of city agencies with regards to noise and fumes emanating from emergency generators servicing buildings in lower Manhattan post-Hurricane Sandy.

At the press conference, Council Member Chin called on the City to do the following:

- Take immediate measures to move generators away from residential buildings
- Increase enforcement on behalf of the Department of Environmental Protection to remove dirty generators from lower Manhattan
- Department of Health of Mental Hygiene must provide REAL solutions to residents battling fumes in their apartments
- Ensure that management companies do everything in their power to make repairs and become fully electrified; and take action against those who continue to push back their repair dates
- Install comprehensive air monitoring in lower Manhattan
- Use the Mayor’s Fund to Advance the City of New York to reimburse and provide air filters for residents in this neighborhood

In addition, DEP in collaboration with Lower Manhattan Construction Command will create and distribute guidance for building owners informing them of steps they can take to reduce emissions from emergency generators. Some of this guidance includes urging owners to use ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel, relocating equipment to wider streets where emissions disperse better, positioning exhaust systems up toward the sky and away from building intakes.

Also this week, the State Department of Environmental Conservation released the first batch of results of street level air monitoring in lower Manhattan. You can view the results here:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/87659.html>.

##