



FACT SHEET

MGP Remedial Program

Port Jervis Former MGP Site

January 2010

3-36-049

City of Port Jervis, NY

Activities to Begin at Port Jervis Former MGP Site to Support Design of Cleanup Program

A pre-design investigation is about to begin at the Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. (O&R) Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site ("site") located at 16 Pike Street, in Port Jervis, Orange County, New York. See Figure 1 on Page 2 for the site location. A remedy has been selected for the site (see Page 3) based on the comprehensive Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) which were completed at the site. Additional information is needed to assist in the development of detailed engineering plans and specifications which will be used to construct the remedy. The upcoming activities are being conducted to collect the necessary data.

The pre-design activities are part of an overall cleanup program being overseen by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) for the site. The upcoming activities include performing site and utility surveys, conducting a further soil investigation and assessing technologies to address MGP-related contamination in groundwater. The investigation activities will be performed by O&R with oversight provided by the NYSDEC. In addition to the above, O&R will also initiate a sediment monitoring program to obtain data on current sediment conditions in the Delaware River. Previous sediment sampling events did not show any definitive site-related impacts to sediments. The monitoring program will ensure that there are no impacts to the river sediments due to remediation activities conducted at the site. Under the monitoring program, data will be collected prior to on-site construction activities to serve as a baseline, and subsequent data will be collected during and after on-site construction activities. If necessary, any impacts identified would be mitigated.

MGP Remedial Program: From the late 1800's to the mid 1900's, hundreds of manufactured gas plants operated across New York State, supplying homes and industry with fuel for heating, cooking, and lighting. Today, the NYSDEC is overseeing the investigation and cleanup of contamination left behind from these plants.

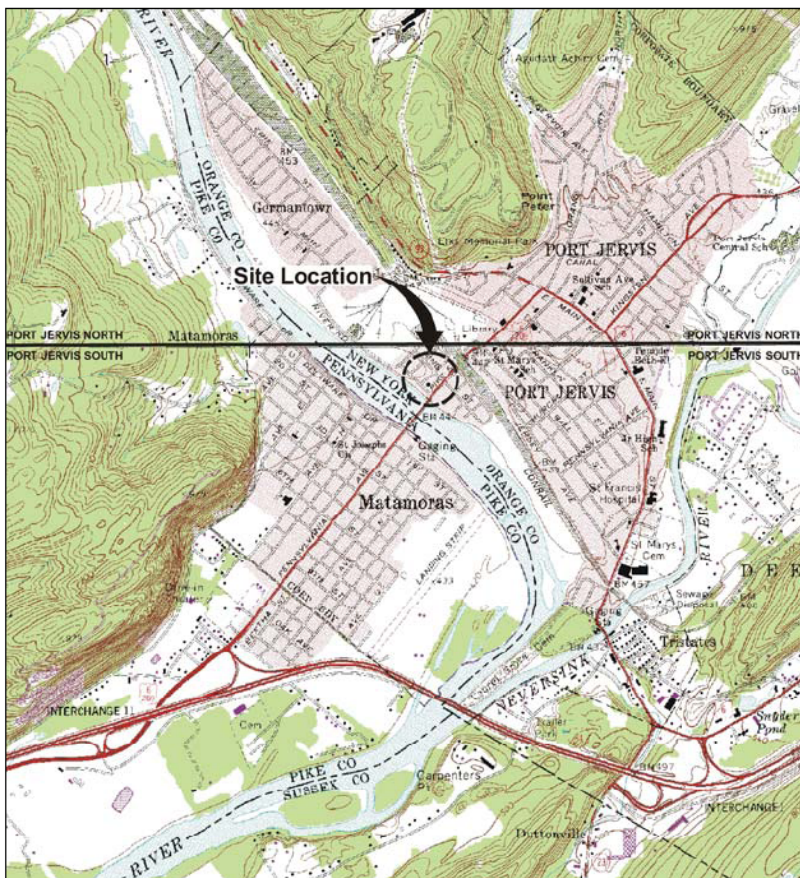
For the majority of the former MGP sites in the State, the remedial program is being conducted by the utility company which services that region.

For more information about the MGP program visit:
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8430.html>

Highlights of the Upcoming Investigation Activities

The goal of the pre-design investigation is to collect enough information to properly design the cleanup program selected by the NYSDEC for the site. The details of the pre-design investigation are included in the Remedial Design Work Plan, dated January 2010 which is available for public review at the locations identified on page 4 under "Where to Find Information". The pre-design investigation will consist of the following activities:

- A New York State-licensed land surveyor will survey the necessary property boundaries and site features. The survey will provide an accurate picture of existing site topography to help in designing the cleanup program.
- A utility survey will be conducted to locate utilities within and near the site. These include overhead electrical lines, underground gas lines, storm sewer lines, telecommunication lines, municipal utilities (water lines, sanitary sewer lines, etc.), and an on-site natural gas regulator station.
- A soil investigation will be conducted on O&R property to assist in the design of the remedy. Soil borings will be installed to define source areas previously identified, and to collect soil data to assist in the design of a system to structurally support the necessary excavations. Test pits will also be dug to confirm the locations of shallow foundations and obstructions within the planned soil removal area.
- O&R will also study site groundwater to test for MGP chemicals and other parameters necessary to design the groundwater treatment system. Samples of site groundwater will be collected and sent for laboratory testing. Monitoring wells will be installed on O&R and off-site properties.
- O&R will also test certain technologies to assess their relative effectiveness in removing MGP chemicals from groundwater. Results from this testing will help in designing an effective cleanup approach for site groundwater.
- Finally, the vacant apartment building located on O&R-owned property at the corner of Pike and Water Streets will be assessed to prepare for future demolition.



Work at the site will be conducted in a safe and orderly manner according to a Health and Safety Plan prepared specifically for this project, as well as a Community Air Monitoring Plan, which will be implemented to protect the surrounding community from potential releases of airborne contaminants.

Next Steps

On-Site Soil & Buildings: O&R, with NYSDEC oversight, is expected to begin the pre-design investigation activities for site soil and buildings in February 2010. After it completes the pre-design investigation activities for site soil, O&R will prepare a Summary Report for soils, presenting the final results, and begin designing the soil cleanup program. O&R's goal is to complete the design for the soil excavation and structure removal by the end of 2010. Once finalized, the Summary Report will be available for public review at the locations identified on page 4 under "Where to Find Information".

Groundwater: The pre-design investigation activities for site groundwater are anticipated to begin in February 2010. This task will take more time (approximately 18 months) and O&R will prepare periodic Summary Reports throughout the performance of the groundwater investigation that present the results of these activities. After finishing the groundwater investigation, O&R will begin designing the groundwater cleanup program. Once finalized, each Summary Report will be available for public review at the locations identified on page 4 under "Where to Find Information".

Background

From the mid-1800s to approximately 1959, an MGP operated at the site. As such, the site contained several structures associated with the MGP, many of which were changed, expanded, and/or abandoned over the plant's lifetime. The plant ceased regular operations in 1938, but may have continued operating in some capacity for some time thereafter. The site was later converted into an operations facility for O&R. It currently is used for

equipment storage and contains an operations and customer service center, a natural gas regulator station, and a communications building. Investigations of the site began in 1998 with a Site Characterization, which confirmed the location of the former MGP and found that MGP-related impacts were present on the site. Remedial investigations were performed from 2000 through 2008, and found several source areas of soil contamination at the site, as well as MGP-related groundwater contamination.

Details of the remedial investigations performed at the site were presented in various reports prepared by O&R (most notably the "Remedial Investigation Report – Phase II for the Port Jervis Manufactured Gas Plant Site"). Copies of these investigation reports can be found at the document repositories listed on page 4.

Selected Cleanup Program

In the Record of Decision for the site, the NYSDEC selected the following cleanup program:

- Excavation of accessible on-site source area soils. Demolishing, excavating, and removing the former MGP structures and their contents.
- Re-establishing pavement at the site to prevent exposure to contaminated soils.
- Installing tar (NAPL) collection wells to remove tar (NAPL) from the subsurface.
- Installing groundwater treatment wells downgradient of the site to intercept the groundwater plume heading toward the Delaware River.
- Establishing a Site Management Plan for future use and activity at the site and environmental easements.

The results of the pre-design investigation discussed in this fact sheet will be used to design the cleanup program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public to stay informed. These documents include the decision document describing the selected cleanup program for the site, called the Record of Decision, and the Remedial Design Work Plan, which includes details regarding these pre-design investigations.

Port Jervis Public Library
138 Pike Street
Port Jervis, NY 12771
845-856-7313
Hours: 10 am to 9 pm (M, Tu, Th)
10 am to 6 pm (W, F)
10 am to 5 pm (Sa)

NYSDEC Region 3 Headquarters
21 S. Putt Corners Road
New Paltz, NY 12561
845-256-3154
Attention: Mr. Michael Knipfing
Hours: 8:30 am to 4:45 pm (M-F)
By Appointment

Who to Contact

Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project Related Questions

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Site-Related Health Questions

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If you know someone who would like to be added to the site contact list, have them contact the NYSDEC project manager above. We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.