

Mr. Joshua Cook, P.E. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Environmental Remediation Remedial Bureau C, 625 Broadway, 11th Floor Albany, New York 12233-7014

ENVIRONMENT

ARCADIS of New York, Inc.

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Subject:

Proposed Modifications to Scope of Remaining PDI Activities Port Jervis Former MGP Site City of Port Jervis, Orange County, New York Site No. 3-36-049

Dear Mr. Cook:

This letter has been prepared on behalf of Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. (O&R) to propose certain modifications to the scope of the non-aqueous phase liquid (NAPL) and groundwater/hydrogeologic assessments at the Port Jervis former manufactured gas plant (MGP) site. These pre-design investigation (PDI) activities were originally proposed in Sections 2.6 and 2.7 of the *Remedial Design Work Plan* (RD Work Plan; ARCADIS 2010) and were initiated in April 2010.

The modifications generally concern the PDI soil borings and monitoring wells to be installed at the privately-owned properties located to the south (across Pike Street) of the former MGP site – namely, Tax Parcels 18-14-8.2 and 18-14-9.11 (the Meder properties). The locations of these soil borings and monitoring wells were previously depicted on Figure 6 of the RD Work Plan. The modifications are depicted on the attached Figure 1 and are summarized as follows:

Existing monitoring wells MW7 and MW8 (which were originally proposed to be overdrilled and replaced) will remain in place for the time being. Historically, monitoring well MW7 has not accumulated NAPL at thicknesses greater than 0.6 feet. These measurements were confirmed in April 2010 during the PDI NAPL gauging activities. Upgrading monitoring well MW7 to a larger diameter casing (and larger sump) is not appropriate at this time based on the minimal volume of NAPL observed at this location.

Date:

November 2, 2010

Contact:

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Our ref: B0043021

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As previously discussed with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), 1) the location of monitoring well MW8 (on the shoulder of Pike Street) makes access difficult and poses several health and safety risks to the drilling crew and vehicular/pedestrian traffic and 2) ARCADIS has obtained the necessary NAPL recharge rate information to proceed with future NAPL recovery design activities. In addition to the above, off-setting a replacement well for MW8 horizontally from its current location (in the direction of the sidewalk) does not appear feasible given the presence of overhead and several underground utilities (which were identified during the PDI utility survey). O&R will re-evaluate the need to decommission and re-install monitoring wells MW7 and MW8 as 6-inch stainless steel wells in the future as part of the NAPL recovery portion of the remedy following the completion of PDI activities.

- The proposed locations of soil borings PDI-SB10 (MW21) and PDI-SB16 have been moved slightly based on accessibility and to account for overhead/ underground utilities. In the case of PDI-SB16, the location has been moved south (out of the shoulder of Pike Street) to the parking lot of Tax Parcel 18-14-9.11 to reduce health and safety concerns and minimize impacts to traffic along Pike Street.
- Three additional soil borings (identified as PDI-SB17, PDI-SB18, and PDI-SB19) will be drilled in the rear of Tax Parcel 18-14-9.11 to further define the southern extent of NAPL (if present). Soil boring PDI-SB17 will be drilled to a depth of approximately 50 feet below ground surface (bgs) and soil borings PDI-SB18 and PDI-SB19 (which are located near the river retaining wall) will be drilled to a depth of approximately 75 feet bgs. An additional monitoring well (identified as MW24) will be constructed at soil boring PDI-SB19 to gain additional information regarding groundwater flow and fluctuations along the river retaining wall. The well will be constructed using 2-inch-diameter, Schedule 40 PVC riser and screen (generally consistent with the anticipated construction of new monitoring wells MW21, MW22, and MW23).

The above activities will be performed in accordance with the applicable Standard Operating Procedures of the RD Work Plan. At this time, it is anticipated that the new wells will be constructed using 2-inch-diameter, Schedule 40 PVC; however, the drilling contractor will be prepared to install 6-inch-diameter stainless steel wells in the event that there are observations of significant NAPL impacts in these boring locations. Such decisions will be made with concurrence from NYSDEC. Also, in the event that 2-inch diameter PVC wells are installed and are later observed to accumulate significant quantities of NAPL, O&R acknowledges that these wells will likely need to be converted to 6-inch-diameter stainless steel wells to facilitate the NAPL recovery program.

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Further, as indicated in Section 2.7.1 of the RD Work Plan, if NAPL is found to be present at soil borings PDI-SB10, PDI-SB11, and/or PDI-SB12, new monitoring locations would need to be selected for the groundwater/hydrogeologic assessment (as the bioremediation treatment system would need to be installed down-gradient of NAPL-containing intervals to be most effective). As indicated above, monitoring wells MW21, MW22, and/or MW23 would still be installed if the quantity of NAPL is significant (i.e., source material as defined in the ROD), however, these wells could not be used for the shallow aquifer characterization/evaluation and bench/pilot scale studies.

NYSDEC will be notified a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the initiation of the off-site PDI work. In the meantime, please feel free to contact Ms. Maribeth McCormick of O&R at 845.783.5534 with any questions or comments regarding the information provided herein.

Sincerely,

ARCADIS of New York, Inc.

Andrew Corbin, P.E. Principal Engineer

Copies:

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