



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

## FACT SHEET

### State Superfund Program

**School Street Fire Training Area**  
North Mohawk Street/Crescent Road  
Colonie, NY 12047  
Site No. 401044  
**NYSDEC Region 4**

**March 2018**

#### **Where to Find Information:**

*Project documents are available at the following locations to help the public stay informed.*

##### **Cohoes Public Library**

169 Mohawk Street  
Cohoes, NY 12047  
Call for hours: 518-235-2570

##### **NYSDEC Region 4 Office**

1130 North Westcott Road  
Schenectady, NY 12306-2104  
Hours: 8:30 AM - 4:45 PM, M-F  
Call for appointment: 518-357-2045

#### **Who to Contact:**

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

##### **Project Related Questions**

Joshua Haugh, Project Manager  
NYSDEC Region 4 Office  
1130 North Westcott Road  
Schenectady, NY 12306-2014  
518-357-2008  
[joshua.haugh@dec.ny.gov](mailto:joshua.haugh@dec.ny.gov)

##### **Site-Related Health Questions**

Julia Kenney  
NYSDOH  
Corning Tower, Room 1787  
Albany, NY 12237  
518-402-7860  
[BEEI@health.ny.gov](mailto:BEEI@health.ny.gov)

*For additional information on New York's  
State Superfund Program, visit:  
[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html)*

## **NYSDEC Announces Reclassification of Site on State Superfund Registry; Certifies Cleanup Requirements Achieved at Site**

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has determined that the cleanup requirements to address contamination related to the School Street Fire Training Area (the "site") located at North Mohawk Street/Crescent Road in Colonie, Albany County, under New York's State Superfund Program have been or will be met. Please see the map on page 3 for the site location.

Soil at the former fire training site and nearshore sediment in the adjacent Mohawk River were contaminated primarily with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The cleanup was performed and paid for by Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (the "Remedial Party"), now known as National Grid, with oversight provided by NYSDEC. NYSDEC recently approved a Final Engineering Report (FER) and issued a Certificate of Completion (COC) for the site. Copies of the FER and Notice of the COC are available at the locations identified under "Where to Find Information" on the left side of the page.

#### **Completion of the Project:**

The following cleanup activities have been completed at the site:

- **Soil excavation:** About 3,925 cubic yards of PCB-contaminated soil were excavated from the former fire training area and properly disposed of off-site. Clean fill was brought in to replace the excavated soil and the area was seeded to restore vegetation.
- **Sediment dredging:** About 125 cubic yards of PCB-contaminated sediment from the near shore area of the adjacent Mohawk River were mechanically dredged over two phases and properly disposed of off-site. The dredged area was restored using similar materials to match pre-remediation grades and provide habitat for benthic invertebrate colonization.
- **Site Management Plan** – A Site Management Plan (SMP) was developed and implemented. The SMP describes the institutional and engineering controls put in place to address residual impacted soil at the site.
- **Environmental Easement:** An institutional control in the form of an Environmental Easement was executed and recorded with Albany County. The Environmental Easement requires compliance with the approved SMP and limits the use and development of the property to commercial or industrial uses only.
- **Site Cover System:** A site cover system was installed as an engineering control designed to prevent exposure to residual impacted soil at the site. The site cover system, which may consist of either a minimum of 12 inches of clean soil or structures such as buildings, pavement or sidewalk, will be inspected and maintained according to the SMP.

Following the cleanup activities, NYSDEC reclassified the site from Class 2 to Class 4. A Class 2 site is one that presents a significant threat to public health and/or the environment and requires remedial action, whereas a Class 4 site is one that has been properly closed but requires continued management.

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**Final Engineering Report Approved:**

NYSDEC has approved the FER, which includes the following:

- A description of the cleanup activities completed.
- A certification that cleanup requirements have been or will be achieved for the site.
- A description of any institutional/engineering controls to be used. An institutional control is a non-physical restriction on use of the site, such as an Environmental Easement, when contamination left over after the cleanup action makes the site suitable for some, but not all uses. An engineering control is a physical barrier or method to manage contamination such as a cover system or vapor barrier.
- A certification that the NYSDEC-approved SMP is in place.

**Next Steps:**

With its receipt of a Certificate of Completion, the Remedial Party has no liability to the State for contamination at or coming from the site, subject to certain conditions.

A COC may be modified or revoked if, for example, there is a failure to comply with the terms of the order or agreement with NYSDEC.

**Site Description and Background:**

The approximately 1-acre site is located outside a mainly suburban area in the Town of Colonie, just north of the Town of Cohoes line. The site is part of a larger parcel, which is one of multiple contiguous properties comprising the School Street Hydroelectric Station. It is bound to the west by Cohoes-Crescent Road and to the east by the Mohawk River. The hydroelectric properties extend over half a mile to the north and south of the remedial site. The site property is used for industrial purposes of hydroelectric power generation. The area is zoned as Land Conservation. The area to the west of Cohoes-Crescent Road is zoned Single Family Residential.

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation used this area to train employees in various firefighting techniques from 1968 to 1980. In conducting these exercises, oil containing PCBs was spilled onto the ground, impacting the underlying soil and adjacent Mohawk River

sediments. Sampling results show that the site is not significantly impacted by perfluoroalkyl substances, which are commonly associated with fire training centers.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the site code, "401044") at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/externalapps/derexternal/index.cfm?pageid=3>

**State Superfund Program:**

New York's State Superfund Program identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

NYSDEC attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the State Superfund Program, visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html>

***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.***

**Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email**

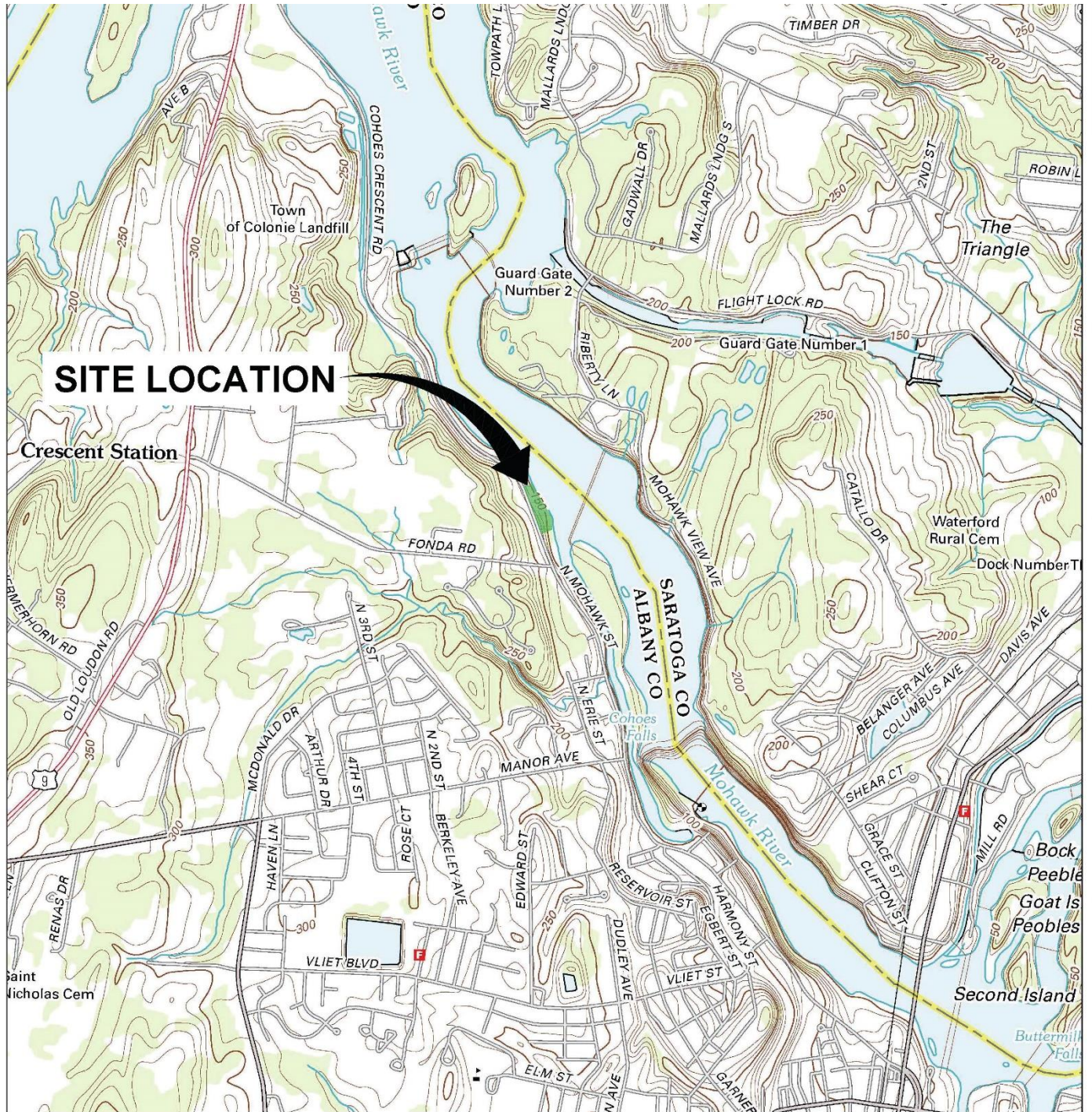
Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page: [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html)

It's quick, it's free, and it will help keep you better informed. As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county or counties you select.

Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.



# STATE SUPERFUND PROGRAM



REFERENCE: BASE MAP USGS 7.5 MIN. TOPO. QUAD, TROY NORTH, NY, 2013.

0 2000' 4000'

A Graphic Scale: 1 in. = 2000 ft.



NEW YORK

ERIE BOULEVARD HYDROPOWER, L.P.  
FORMER NATIONAL GRID  
SCHOOL ST. HYDROELECTRIC STATION - TOWN OF COLONIE, NY  
**FINAL ENGINEERING REPORT**

## SITE LOCATION MAP

**ARCADIS** Design & Consultancy  
for natural and built assets

FIGURE

1

**Electronic copies:**

M. Ryan, Director, Division of Environmental Remediation  
J. Quinn, Director, Bureau of Technical Support  
K. Lewandowski, Chief, Site Control Section  
G. Burke, Director, Remedial Bureau B  
R. Mustico, RHWRE, Region 4  
N. Baker, Regional Permit Administrator, Region 4  
R. Georgeson, Regional CPS, Region 4  
K. Anders, NYSDOH  
J. Deming, NYSDOH Regional Chief  
J. Kenney, NYSDOH Project Manager  
L. Ennist, DER, Bureau of Program Management  
J. Haugh, Project Manager  
L. Zinoman, Site Control Section



Site Investigation & Remediation Manager  
Attn: Brian Stears  
National Grid  
300 Erie Boulevard  
West Syracuse NY 13202

Josh Haugh  
NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation  
1130 N. Westcott Road  
Schenectady NY 12306

Document Repository c/o Director  
Cohoes Public Library  
169 Mohawk Street  
Cohoes NY 12047

City Engineer  
City of Cohoes, City Hall  
97 Mohawk Street  
Cohoes NY 12047

President  
Cohoes City Council, City Hall  
97 Mohawk Street  
Cohoes NY 12047

Albany County Clerk  
Albany County Court House, Room 128  
16 Eagle Street  
Albany NY 12207-1077

Commissioner  
Albany County Health Department  
175 Green Street  
Albany NY 12202

The Record  
270 River Street  
Troy NY 12181

The Spotlight Newspapers  
125 Adams Street  
Delmar NY 12054

WNYT Channel 13  
PO Box 4035  
Albany NY 12204

Jason Zehr  
Erie Boulevard  
Hydropower L.P. / Brookfield Renewable  
399 Big Bay Rd  
Queensbury NY 12804

Andrew Guglielmi  
NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway  
Albany NY 12233

Mayor  
City of Cohoes, City Hall  
97 Mohawk Street  
Cohoes NY 12047

Director  
City of Cohoes Industrial Development  
AgencyCity Hall  
97 Mohawk Street  
Cohoes NY 12047

Superintendent  
City of Cohoes  
Department of Public Works  
97 Mohawk Street  
Cohoes NY 12047

Chairperson  
Albany County, Legislature Offices  
Room 710  
112 State Street  
Albany NY 12207

Assemblymember Didi Barrett  
106th Assembly, District Room 553  
Legislative Office Building  
198 State St  
Albany, NY 12210

The Times Union  
News Plaza  
Box 15000  
Albany NY 12212

WRGB Channel 6  
1400 Balltown Road  
Niskayuna NY 12309

Spectrum News  
104 Watervlet Ave. Ext.  
Albany NY 12206

Julia Kenney  
NYS Dept of Health  
Bureau of Environmental Exposure  
Investigation Corning Tower, Room 1787  
Empire State Plaza  
Albany NY 12237

Joseph S. Giordano  
Program Manager, Environmental  
National Grid – Legal Dept.  
175 East Old Country Road  
Hicksville NY 11801

City Clerk  
City of Cohoes, City Hall  
97 Mohawk Street  
Cohoes NY 12047

Chairman  
City of Cohoes  
Planning Board, City Hall  
97 Mohawk Street  
Cohoes NY 12047

Daniel P. McCoy  
Albany County  
Executive Albany County Offices  
Room 1200  
112 State Street  
Albany NY 12207  
Dept. of Econ Development  
Conservation and Planning  
Albany County, OfficesRoom 800  
112 State Street  
Albany NY 12207

Honorable George A. Amedore, Jr., Senator  
46th Senatorial District, Room 802  
Legislative Office Building  
198 State St  
Albany, NY 12210

The Daily Gazette  
2345 Maxon Road  
Schenectady NY 12301

WTEN Channel 10  
341 Northern Boulevard  
Albany NY 12204

Current Occupant  
101 Fonda Road  
Cohoes NY 12047

Current Occupant  
112A Fonda Road  
Cohoes NY 12047

Current Occupant  
18 Ledgestone Road  
Troy NY 12180

Current Occupant  
123 Fonda Road  
Cohoes NY 12047

Current Occupant  
124 Fonda Road  
Cohoes NY 12047

Current Occupant  
32 Lockrow Avenue  
Albany NY 12205

Current Occupant  
116 Fonda Road  
Cohoes NY 12047

Current Occupant  
121 Fonda Road  
Cohoes NY 12047

Current Occupant  
122 Fonda Road  
Cohoes NY 12047

Current Occupant  
130 Fonda Road  
Cohoes NY 12047