



FACT SHEET

Voluntary Cleanup Program

Receive Site Fact Sheets by *Email*. See "For More Information" to Learn How.

Site Name: NM - Cohoes MGP
DEC Site #: V00468
Address: Whitehall/Linden St.
Cohoes, NY 12047

Have questions?
See
"Who to Contact"
Below

Remedy Proposed for Voluntary Cleanup Site Contamination; Public Comment Period and Public Meeting Announced

Public Meeting, Thursday, 3/13/2014 at 7:00 PM Cohoes Senior Center, 10 Cayuga Plaza, Cohoes, NY

NYSDEC invites you to a public meeting to discuss the proposed remedy to address contamination at the site. You are encouraged to provide comments at the meeting, and during the 30-day comment period described in this fact sheet.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has released a proposed cleanup plan for the NM - Cohoes Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) site ("site") located at Whitehall/Linden St., Cohoes, Albany County. Please see the attached map for the site location. Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information."

How to Comment

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed plan for 30 days, from **February 26, 2014** through **March 29, 2014**. The proposed plan is available for public review at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area below.

Draft Alternatives Analysis and Proposed Decision Document

The cleanup plan is described in NYSDEC's Proposed Decision Document, which is based on a more detailed "Alternatives Analysis Report". The proposed remedy consists of:

- In-situ solidification (ISS) of impacted soil. ISS is a process that binds the soil particles in place creating a low permeability mass. ISS will be required for all grossly contaminated soil and any soil exhibiting visible tar or sheen in the area of the former gas plant structures.
- Excavation and off-site disposal of contaminant source areas that are not subject to ISS. The source material excavation will occur along the riverbank and in the purifier waste area. Approximately 21,600 cubic yards of MGP impacted soil will be removed.
- Installation of site cover to allow for commercial use of the site. The cover will consist either of structures to be built on site (such as buildings, pavement or sidewalks) or a soil cover in areas where the upper one foot of exposed surface soil will exceed the applicable soil cleanup objectives (SCOs).

- Implementation of a Site Management Plan (SMP), which is a document that outlines procedures for future monitoring and maintenance of the remedy.
- Placement of a deed restriction on the property to restrict the use of the site to commercial use and restricts the use of site groundwater.

The proposed remedy was developed by National Grid ("volunteer(s)") after performing a detailed investigation of the site under New York's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP).

Summary of the Investigation

A remedial investigation (RI) was completed to delineate the nature and extent of contamination at the site. The RI was completed in several phases from 2005 until 2012. During the course of the investigation various environmental media were sampled including soil, groundwater and soil vapor. Numerous soil borings, groundwater wells and test pits were installed at the site to facilitate the sampling efforts. In addition, bedrock groundwater wells were drilled off-site to investigate contamination that was discovered to have migrated from the site through fractures in the bedrock.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments, revise the plan as necessary, and issue a final Decision Document. The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) must concur with the proposed remedy. After approval, the proposed remedy becomes the selected remedy. The draft Alternatives Analysis Report and Proposed Decision Document are revised as needed to describe the selected remedy, and will be made available to the public. The volunteer(s) may then design and perform the cleanup action to address the site contamination, with oversight by NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the cleanup of the site.

Background

Location: The site is located on the Linden Street Extension, off of Route 787 N, in a residential area of the City of Cohoes, Albany County. The Mohawk River borders the site to the east, and NYS Route 787 borders the site to the west.

Site Features: The site consists of a grass covered field and a wooded area. A sewer pump station, owned and operated by the City of Cohoes, is located in the east-central portion of the site. The grass portion of the site has been fenced.

Current Zoning and Land Use: The site is currently unoccupied. The property is zoned for commercial and office use. Residential properties are located adjacent to the site.

Past Use of the Site: A manufactured gas plant (MGP) operated on the site from 1852 to 1949. The MGP operations have resulted in contamination of the site. Coal tar has leaked from MGP structures including the former western gas holder, tar filter and purifier areas.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: The site's overburden consists of mostly fill material containing lenses of native sand and silt. The underlying bedrock consists of weathered shale and siltstone.

The depth to groundwater ranges from 6 to 18 feet below grade across the site. Overburden groundwater flow is primarily east toward the Mohawk River.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=V00468>

Voluntary Cleanup Program: New York's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) was developed to encourage private sector volunteers to investigate and clean up contaminated properties and return these sites to productive use. Once cleaned up, the properties may be redeveloped for commercial, industrial, residential or public use.

For more information about the VCP, visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8442.html>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed.

Cohoes Public Library
169 Mohawk Street
Cohoes, NY 12047
phone: (518) 235-2570

NYSDEC Central Office
Attn: John Miller
625 Broadway, 11th floor
Albany, NY 12233
phone: (518) 402-9662
(jymiller@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

John Miller
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7014
518-402-9589
jymiller@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions

Nathan Freeman
New York State Department of Health
Corning Tower Room 1787
Albany, NY 12237
518-402-7880
BEEI@health.state.ny.us

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:
<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(ies) you select.

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

Figure 1

