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DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

**Oneonta  
Former Manufactured Gas  
Plant Site  
James Georgeson  
Avenue**

**October 12, 2005**

### **Introduction**

Beginning in late October, as a continuation of an environmental protection program, NYSEG will remove coal tar-impacted soil on the eastern plant area of the former manufactured gas plant (MGP) site at James Georgeson Avenue in Oneonta. The site location and study area are shown on the attached Figure 1.

The public is invited to learn more about the project from NYSEG and the New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Health (DOH) on Wednesday, October 26 at 7 p.m. in the Oneonta City Hall Common Council Chambers.

### **Site History**

Gas was manufactured at the James Georgeson Avenue (formerly Gas Avenue) site from 1881 until 1887 by the Ononta Gas Light Company, from 1887 until 1918 by Oneonta Electric Power and Light Company, from 1918 until 1929 by Ithaca Gas and Electric Company and from 1929 until 1950 by NYSEG. Heating coal in the presence of steam produced manufactured gas. Local businesses and residents used the gas for lighting, cooking and heating.

Byproducts of the manufactured gas process often remained at former MGP sites when the plants were closed. These byproducts can include coal tar, gas purifier wastes and coal ash. The aboveground MGP facilities, excluding the gashouse, were dismantled in 1956. The property was sold to the City of Oneonta in 1966.

In February 1986, NYSEG began investigating the site. This investigation included sampling of surface and sub-surface soils on and near the site and installing groundwater-monitoring wells.

In 1996, NYSEG installed an air sparge/soil vapor extraction (AS/SVE) system along the southern portions of the MGP site to address coal tar constituents in the groundwater. The AS/SVE system operated from July 1997 until July 2001, when it was shutdown to allow an investigation to support the current cleanup project.

The investigation was completed in June 2004 and the Record of Decision (clean up plan) for the site was issued by the DEC in March 2005.

### **Planned Work**

Excavation work for the eastern plant area will begin in late October and is expected to be completed in December 2005. Site restoration work will be completed in the spring of 2006. Work will take place Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. All material that is removed from the site will be disposed of at permitted facilities. All work will be done in accordance with a work

plan developed by NYSEG and approved by DEC. A health and safety plan was reviewed by DOH. Air monitoring for coal tar constituents and dust will be conducted during this project. Cleanup of the western plant area is planned for fall 2006.

**To Learn More**

NYSEG, in cooperation with DEC and DOH, will distribute updates and hold public availability sessions as is necessary. In addition, documents about James Georgeson Avenue site are available for your review at:

**Huntington Memorial Library**

62 Chestnut Street

Oneonta, NY

Ask for: Marie Bruni

607.432.1980

**DEC**

625 Broadway

Albany, NY

Ask for: Bernard Franklin

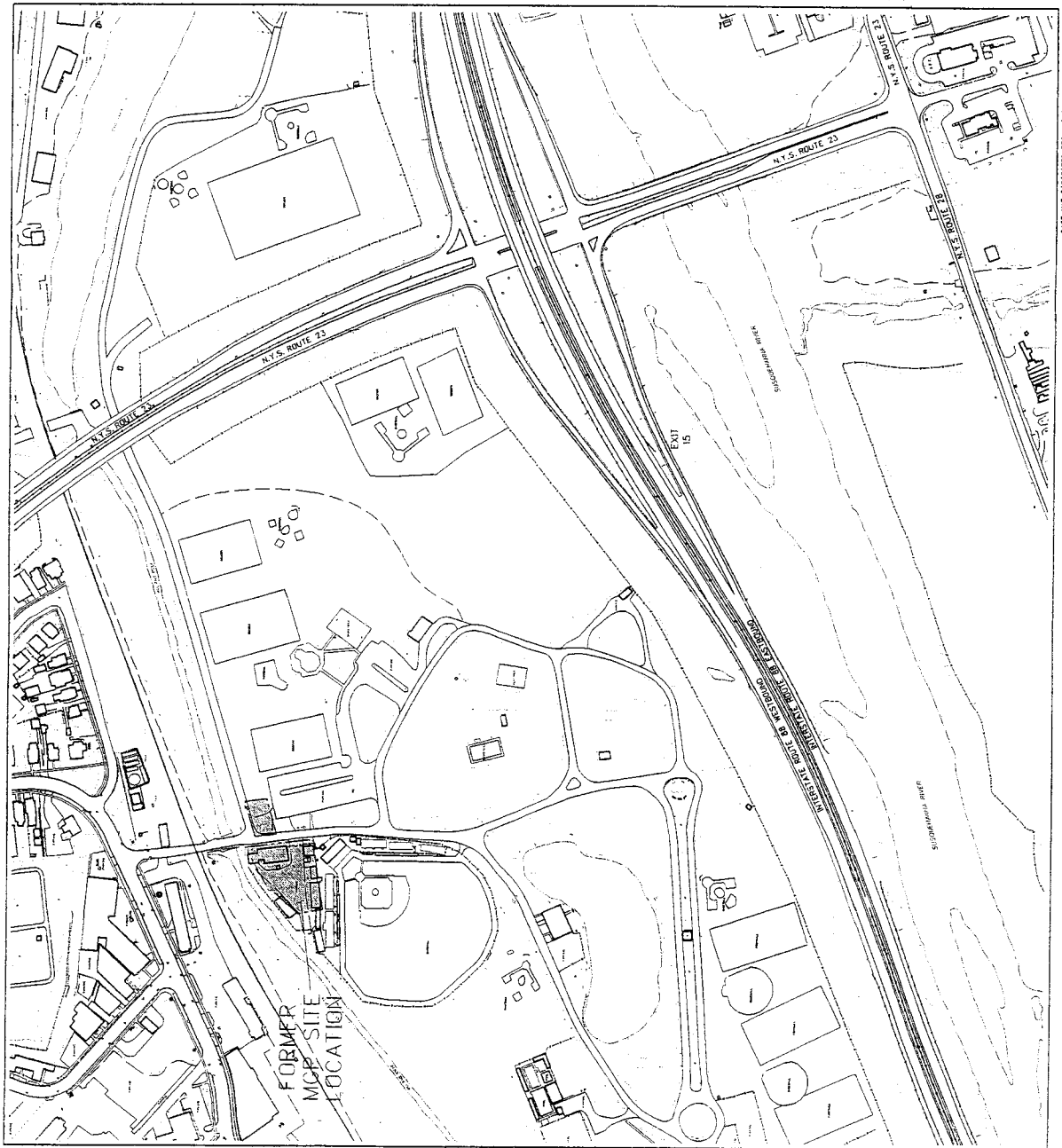
518.402.9662

**Questions about environmental investigations?** Call Bernard Franklin, DEC's project manager, at 518.402.9662. E-mail: [bcfrankl@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:bcfrankl@gw.dec.state.ny.us).

**Health-related questions?** Call Charlotte Bethoney, DOH's public health specialist, at 518.408.7860 or 1.800.452.1153, extension 27860.

You may also call James Salmon, NYSEG's community outreach and development manager, at 518.664.9534, extension 353. E-mail: [jssalmon@nyseg.com](mailto:jssalmon@nyseg.com).

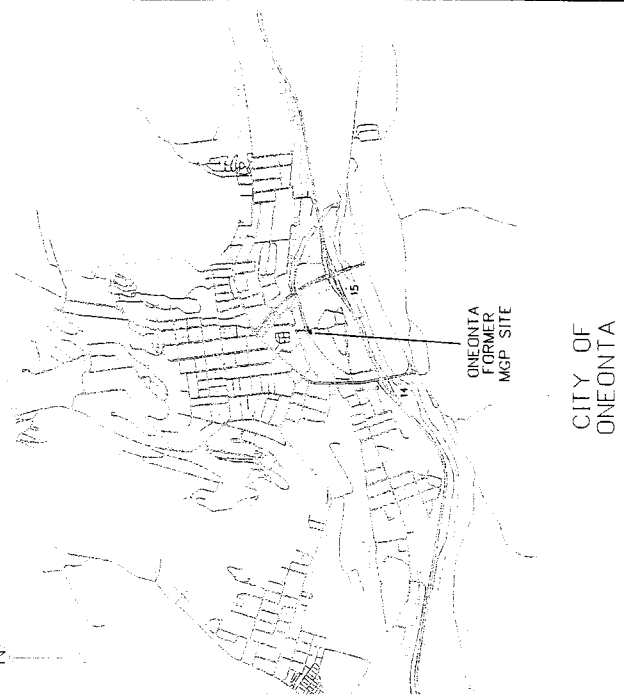
A mailing list has been developed for individuals or groups that may be interested in the James Georgeson Avenue MGP project. You may use the attached form to change your status on the mailing list or to add names to the mailing list.



BASE MAP DIGITIZED FROM AERIAL PHOTOS DATED  
 1988 BY PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICE, INC.  
 GAITHERSBURG, MD.

0 150 300 450  
 Feet  
 Scale SCALE OF DETAIL

DATE: 02/28/01



<b>NYSEG</b>		<b>ENGINEERING SERVICES</b>	
BINGHAMTON, N.Y.		LOCATION MAP	
TITLE		CITY OF ONEONTA	
ONEONTA JAMES GEDDESOR AVENUE FORMER MGP SITE		CITY OF ONEONTA	
DATE: 02/28/01		SCALE: AS SHOWN	
FIGS NO		FIGURE 1	