



# FACT SHEET

## State Superfund Program

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

**NIMO Troy – Water Street MGP Site**  
**Site Number 443029, Area 2**  
**Troy, NY**

**January 2011**

### Public Comment Sought for Proposed Environmental Cleanup in Troy

#### Public Comment Period and Public Meeting Announced

The public is invited to comment on a remedy modification proposed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to address contamination related to the Troy Water Street Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site. The site is located on Main Street in the City of Troy, Rensselaer County, and may be remembered as the location of the former King Fuels petroleum distribution facility.

#### Public Meeting

**February 7, 2011**  
**6:00 pm**

**Troy Public Library**  
**100 2<sup>nd</sup> Street**  
**Troy, New York**

NYSDEC invites you to a public meeting to discuss the proposed clean-up modification for the site. You are encouraged to provide comments at the meeting, and during the comment period described in this fact sheet.

#### The Proposed Remedy Modification

In 2003, the NYSDEC selected an environmental clean-up plan for the Troy Water Street MGP Site. The main elements of the remedy are the excavation and off-site disposal of an estimated 17,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil, and the treatment of approximately 23,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil by a chemical oxidation process. The proposed modification would require the excavation of approximately 27,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and the solidification of approximately 69,000 cubic yards of soil. The modification would eliminate the chemical oxidation treatment requirement.

#### Why NYSDEC is Recommending the Modification

Since 2003, further investigations at the site have revealed that the volume of soil requiring excavation or treatment is approximately three times the initial soil estimate. Also, a small-scale pilot study demonstrated that the chemical oxidation treatment method would be unlikely to achieve the cleanup goals at this particular site. A feasibility study was undertaken by National Grid, a successor company to the MGP, to evaluate different alternatives to address these findings. The NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health agree with the recommendations provided in the study.

## **How to Comment**

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed remedy from January 25, 2011 through February 25, 2011. Submit written comments to:

John Spellman  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
625 Broadway  
Albany, New York 12233-7014  
jtsPELLM@gw.dec.state.ny.us

## **Remedy Highlights**

The proposed remedy along with the retained items of the 2003 clean-up plan include:

- The excavation and removal of tar contaminated soil and soil that contains greater than 500 parts per million total polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). PAHs are a chemical class of compounds that are associated with the manufactured gas plant process and petroleum. The excavation would extend to about 10 feet in depth.
- The solidification of tar contaminated soil generally ranging from 8 to 32 feet in depth. Solidification is the mixing of soil with cement, usually with a large auger, to form a low-permeability mass. This eliminates further contribution of contaminated materials to groundwater.
- A one-foot thick cover of soil suitable for commercial, industrial or passive recreational uses.
- Restricting the site to commercial and industrial uses which include passive recreational uses. This is consistent with the site's current commercial zoning.
- Development of a site management plan to address residual contamination that will remain in the subsurface after excavation. The plan will include maintenance of the soil cover, monitoring of groundwater and the proper procedures for any future soil excavations.

The estimated cost of the proposed remedy is \$35 million. Through a legal agreement with NYSDEC, National Grid will bear the cost of the cleanup. To view the full proposal, inquire at the following locations:

Troy Public Library  
100 Second Street  
Troy, NY 12180  
(518) 274-7071  
[www.thetroylibrary.org](http://www.thetroylibrary.org)

NYSDEC  
625 Broadway  
Albany, New York 12233-7014  
Contact: John Spellman (518) 402-9662

## **Next Steps**

NYSDEC will consider public comments as it finalizes the remedy modification for the site. The selected remedy will be described in a document called a “Record of Decision Amendment” that will explain why the remedy was modified and respond to public comments. This document will be made available to the public (see “Where to Find Information” below).

Following the Record of Decision Amendment detailed plans will be assembled in a design phase which will allow National Grid to hire a contractor to implement the amended remedy.

## **Background**

The Troy Water Street former MGP Site occupies approximately 16 acres and is owned by the Troy Local Development Corporation. It is located in a historically industrial area of South Troy. A residential area is located to the east. A predecessor company of National Grid owned and operated the manufactured gas plant from 1929 to 1957.

Manufactured gas plants were common in large villages and cities in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, before the development of natural gas distribution. Gas was produced from coal to provide fuel for lighting, heating and cooking. The NYSDEC has identified over 235 former MGPs in New York State.

Manufactured gas had to be cooled and its impurities removed before it could be used. A coal tar resulted from these processes, some of which was released into the site soil and groundwater. The coal tar contains a number of chemical contaminants, among them benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Some of these contaminants are cancer-causing or adversely affect animal life.

The surrounding area is served by public water, so exposure to MGP-impacted groundwater is not likely.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

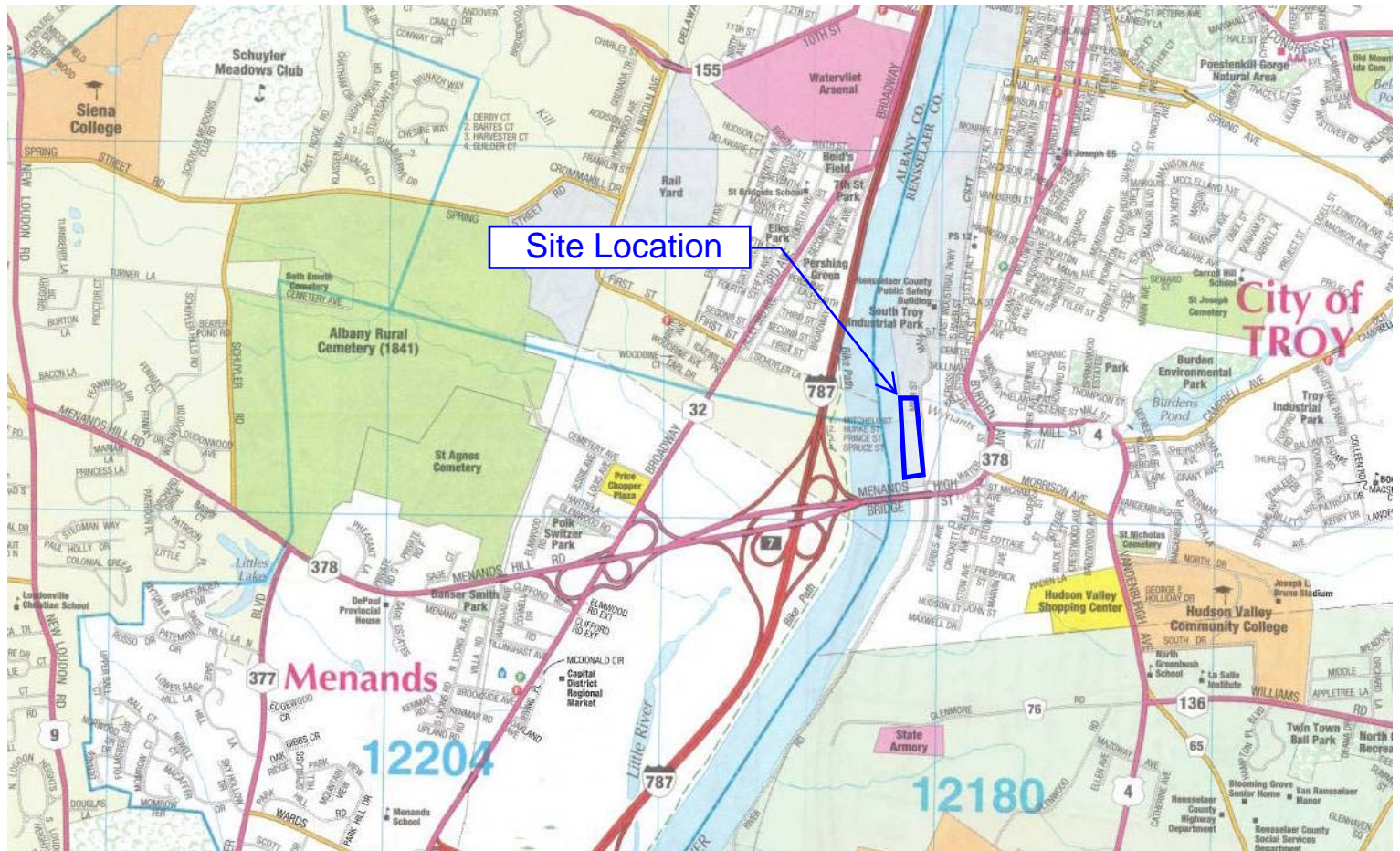
Key project documents are available at the Troy Public Library and at the NYSDEC. Questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

### Project-Related Questions

John Spellman  
NYSDEC  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7014  
(518) 402-9662  
Email: [jtspellm@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:jtspellm@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

### Site-Related Health Questions

Ms. Maureen Schuck  
New York State Department of Health  
Flanagan Square  
547 River Street  
Troy, NY 12180-2216  
(518) 402-7860  
Email: [mer10@health.state.ny.us](mailto:mer10@health.state.ny.us)



**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.**

### **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(ies) you select.

You may continue also to receive paper copies of site information for a time after you sign up with a county listserv, until the transition to electronic distribution is complete.