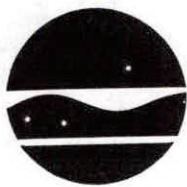


NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION

Dear Interested Citizen:

This fact sheet is to inform you about upcoming site work at the Former Manufactured Gas Plant Site on Bridge Street in Plattsburgh, New York. If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact:

Mr. John Helmeset  
Project Manager  
NYSDEC  
50 Wolf Road  
Albany, NY 12233  
(518) 457-4343, or  
1-800-342-9296

Mr. Bob Perkins  
NYSEG  
Community Outreach and  
Development Manager  
(518) 566-9846 ext. 874

For site-related health questions,  
please contact the New York  
State Department of Health  
representative:

Mr. Rich Fedigan  
Environmental Health Specialist  
NYSDOH  
Flanigan Square  
547 River Street  
Room 300  
Troy, NY 12180-2216  
1-(800)-402-7890

Room 16 Box 144  
510016  
**FACT SHEET**

New York State Electric and Gas's  
Former MGP Site  
Bridge Street, Plattsburgh, NY  
December 8, 2000

DEC 13 2000  
Regional Engineer - Region 5  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

## Notice of Upcoming Work at the Bridge Street Former Manufactured Gas Plant Site

In December, as a continuation of an environmental protection program, NYSEG will be performing work at the former manufactured gas plant (MGP) site at 140 Bridge Street in Plattsburgh.

The first step in the cleanup of the site is to demolish the apartment building at the site. It is anticipated that in the spring, following a public information meeting, NYSEG will, at a minimum, remove the remnants of an abandoned gas relief holder and any coal-tar that may have escaped from the gas holder. This work will also help determine whether additional work will be needed at the site.

All work will be done in accordance with a work plan to investigate the site which was developed by NYSEG and approved by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) with the benefit of input from the New York State Department of Health (DOH). The work plan includes a health and safety plan for the protection of worker and public health during work at the site.

The site location is shown on the attached figure.

### Site History

Gas was manufactured at the Bridge Street site from 1860 until 1896 when the gas works were moved to a site on Saranac Street. Manufactured gas was produced by heating coal and other petroleum products in the presence of steam. The gas was used by local businesses and residents for lighting, cooking, heating and other purposes.

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.

An initial evaluation of the Bridge Street site, including a historical literature search and some sampling of surface soils, was conducted by NYSEG in 1992. Although the evaluation showed no cause for immediate concern, the scope of work was limited and it did indicate the need for further investigation of the site.

In June 1999, NYSEG began a Preliminary Site Assessment of the site to determine if any byproducts from the manufactured gas operation remained at or near the site. That investigation included sampling of surface and sub-surface soils on and near the site, installing groundwater monitoring wells, and collecting air samples from inside the apartment building at the site.

Additional soil borings were conducted in October 1999 to confirm that a portion of the abandoned gas relief holder was located under the on-site apartment building, but in a slightly different location than originally believed. A sample collected from inside the gas holder indicated that at least some of the MGP byproducts in the gas holder were classified as hazardous waste. Air sampling indicated that the MGP byproducts were not affecting air quality in the apartment building. Even so, NYSEG was asked by the former owner to purchase the property, and chose to do so in order to clean up the site.

#### **Document Repositories:**

Public understanding and involvement are crucial to the success of New York's remedial program. To keep you updated, NYSDEC distributes fact sheets like this one, and periodically holds public meetings as necessary. We also place site documents in a repository in your community so you can read them. The NYSDEC has established document repositories for the Bridge Street Former MGP site at:

Plattsburgh Public Library  
19 Oak Street  
Plattsburgh, NY 12901  
(518) 563-0921  
Contact: Colleen Pellitier

New York Department  
Of Environmental Conservation  
Region 5 Office  
P.O. Box 296  
Ray Brook, NY 12977  
(518) 897-1241  
Contact: Dan Steenberge

Any questions or concerns regarding the investigation or environmental aspects of the site can be addressed by contacting John Helmeset at the address or telephone number listed on the front of this sheet; or by calling, toll free, 1-800-342-9296 and leaving your name, address or telephone number, and request.

Bob Perkins, NYSEG's community outreach and development manager, is able to address any questions you might have. He can be reached at (518) 566-9846, extension 874.

For health-related questions, call Rich Fedigan, DOH research scientist, at 1-800-402-7890.

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



Please feel free to use this mailer for any of the following purposes (check appropriate box):

- \_\_\_\_ 1. You would like to be placed on our mailing list for the Bridge Street former manufactured gas plant Remedial Investigation.
- \_\_\_\_ 2. You would like to include the name and address of someone you know who may be interested in receiving future Fact Sheets.
- \_\_\_\_ 3. You would like to be taken off our mailing list for the Bridge Street former manufactured gas plant Remedial Investigation.
- \_\_\_\_ 4. You would like to provide us with a change of name or address.
- FOLD HERE -----

Please complete the form as indicated below, fold and mail directly to NYSEG.

Add the following name(s):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Delete the following name(s):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

----- FOLD HERE -----

Make the following changes:

(Old) _____	(New) _____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Comments or concerns:

Place  
Stamp  
Here

Tracy L. Blazicek  
Project Environmental Specialist  
New York State Electric & Gas Corporation  
P.O. Box 5224  
Binghamton, NY 13902-5224

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# **NYSEG**

## **PLATTSBURGH SARANAC STREET FORMER MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT SITE FACT SHEET**

### **INTRODUCTION**

In May, as a continuation of an environment protection program, NYSEG will remove the remnants of two gas holder foundations, piping containing coal tar, and purifier waste at the former manufactured gas plant site on Saranac Street in Plattsburgh. 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 **April 18, 2002 at 7 p.m. at the Plattsburgh City Hall Auditorium.**

### **SITE HISTORY**

Gas was manufactured at the Saranac Street site from 1896 until 1960. Manufactured gas was produced by heating coal and other petroleum products in the presence of steam. The gas was used by local businesses and residents for lighting, cooking, heating and other purposes.

Byproducts of the manufactured gas process often remained at former manufactured gas plant sites when plants were closed. These byproducts can include coal tar, purifier wastes and coal ash.

Starting in 1976 NYSEG has extensively investigated the site. Remedial work in the early 1980s included isolating old tar ponds with soil/bentonite slurry walls and an impermeable PVC cover, the removal of coal tar from river sediments, and the construction of a slurry wall adjacent to the Saranac River. In 1988, NYSEG installed a groundwater treatment facility.

### **PLANNED WORK**

Excavation will begin in early May and the work is expected to be completed in 10 weeks. Work will take place Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. All excavated 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 reviewed and approved by the DEC. A health and safety plan, which was reviewed by the DOH, has been developed to protect on-site workers and the community. Air monitoring for coal tar constituents and dust will be conducted during this project.

NYSEG will prepare a final report for review and approval by DEC and DOH. These agencies will decide if any further activities are warranted at this site.

## **TO LEARN MORE**

The DEC, in cooperation with NYSEG and the DOH, will distribute updates and hold public meetings as is necessary. In addition, documents about the Saranac Street site are available for your review at:

Plattsburgh Public Library  
19 Oak Street  
Plattsburgh, NY

DEC  
625 Broadway Road  
Albany, NY

NYSEG  
4125 Route 22  
Plattsburgh, NY

**Ask for:** Colleen Pellitier  
518.563.0921

**Ask for:** David Crosby  
518.402.9813  
1.800.342.9296

**Ask for:** Bob Perkins  
518.566.9846, ext. 874

**Questions about the environmental investigations?** Call David Crosby, DEC's project manager, at 518.402.9813 or 1.800.342.9296.

**Health-related questions?** Call Mike Rivara, DOH's Community H&S oversight, at 518.402-7890 or 1.800.452.1158.

**You may also call** Bob Perkins, NYSEG's community outreach and development manager, at 518.566.9846, extension 874.

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