



FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

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Site Name: NYSEG - Auburn McMaster St. MGP

DEC Site #: 706010

Address: 23 McMaster Street
Auburn, NY 13021

Have questions?
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"Who to Contact"
Below

Cleanup Action to Begin at Former Manufactured Gas Plant Site

Action is about to begin that will address the contamination related to the NYSEG - Auburn McMaster St. Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site ("site") located at 23 McMaster Street, Auburn, Cayuga County.

Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the locations identified below under "Where to Find Information." The cleanup activities will be performed by a contractor hired by New York State Electric and Gas Corporation (NYSEG), with oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities

The goal of the cleanup action for the site is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment. The cleanup action for the site includes:

- Excavation and off-site disposal of coal tar impacted soil to bedrock, which is at an approximate depth of 10 feet. Approximately 14,000 cubic yards of soil will be removed. Clean soil satisfying NYSDEC requirements for commercial use will be used to backfill the excavated areas to the original grade.
- Removal of coal tar impacted sediment in the Owasco Outlet. Approximately 3,000 cubic yards of sediment will be removed. Stream water will be temporarily diverted through pipes to accomplish the removal. The excavated sediment will be treated or disposed off-site at a NYSDEC-authorized facility.
- Installation of a 12-inch thick gravel surface cover. Soil and plants will be placed along the bank of the Owasco Outlet to create a riparian habitat zone.
- Installation of wells which will allow for the observation and collection of coal tar in the groundwater.
- Establishment of a Site Management Plan which will detail the soil handling procedure in the event of any future excavations and a long term groundwater monitoring program.

- Establishment of an environmental easement that will limit the use of the property to commercial and industrial uses consistent with local zoning, restrict the use of site groundwater and require compliance to the Site Management Plan.

Next Steps

The cleanup will be completed in 4 distinct phases:

- Phase 1: Soil removal
- Phase 2: Relocation of the electric transmission line tower
- Phase 3: Soil removal at the former tower
- Phase 4: Sediment removal

Phase 1 will begin in September 2015 and is expected to be complete by December 2015. Phase 2 is scheduled for early 2016. Phases 3 and 4 are anticipated in 2016 and 2017 respectively.

After completion of the cleanup activities, the responsible party will prepare a Final Engineering Report. The Final Engineering Report will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved.

Background

Location: The site is located in a commercial area of the City of Auburn, New York. The site is approximately one-tenth of a mile west of the intersection of State Street (State Route 38) and the Arterial (US Route 20).

Site Features: The one-acre triangular shaped site is flat and undeveloped. The site is bounded by the Owasco Outlet to the north, a railroad right-of-way to the south and a tank manufacturing company to the west.

Current Zoning: The site is currently inactive, and is zoned for commercial use. The surrounding parcels are currently used for a combination of commercial and transportation right-of-ways. The Auburn Correctional Facility lies across from the Owasco Outlet. The nearest residential area is 300 feet south of the site.

Past Use of the Site: The McMaster Street plant was operated by NYSEG and its predecessor companies from approximately 1869 to 1904. Gas was manufactured by heating coal, then the gas was distributed to local homes and businesses for lighting and cooking. Freshly-manufactured gas had to be cooled and its impurities removed before it could be used. A tar resulted from these processes, some of which was released to the environment. This tar contained chemical contaminants, primarily benzene, ethylbenzene, xylene and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. The extent of the contamination was determined by a series of investigations conducted by NYSEG. MGP impacts were found in soil and groundwater beneath the NYSEG property generally on the western side with impacts to the adjacent property. Some tar impacts were also found in the underlying bedrock beneath the site. MGP impacts were also found in certain Owasco Outlet sediments adjacent to the site and extending downstream approximately 500 feet.

An automotive repair shop existed on the site sometime after the MGP and prior to 2005.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: Site geology is comprised of fill and native soil layers overlying limestone bedrock. The overburden is approximately 8 to 20 feet thick and is composed of historic fill positioned above a discontinuous layer of native fine sands, silts and clays. A bedded and fractured limestone underlies the overburden. Groundwater flow in the overburden and bedrock discharges to the Owasco Outlet. The depth to groundwater is approximately 2 to 10 feet below the ground surface.

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=706010>

Where to Find Information

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

Seymour Library
176 Genesee St.
Auburn, NY 13201
(315) 252-2571
call for hours

NYSDEC
Attn: John Spellman
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7014
Phone: (518) 402-9662

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

John Spellman
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7014
518-402-9662
john.spellman@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions

Richard Jones
New York State Department of Health
217 S Salina St.
Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 477-8148
richard.jones@health.ny.gov

To direct questions to NYSEG please contact:

Robert Pass
Manager, Regional Outreach and Development
(607) 762-6298
rlpass@NYSEG.com

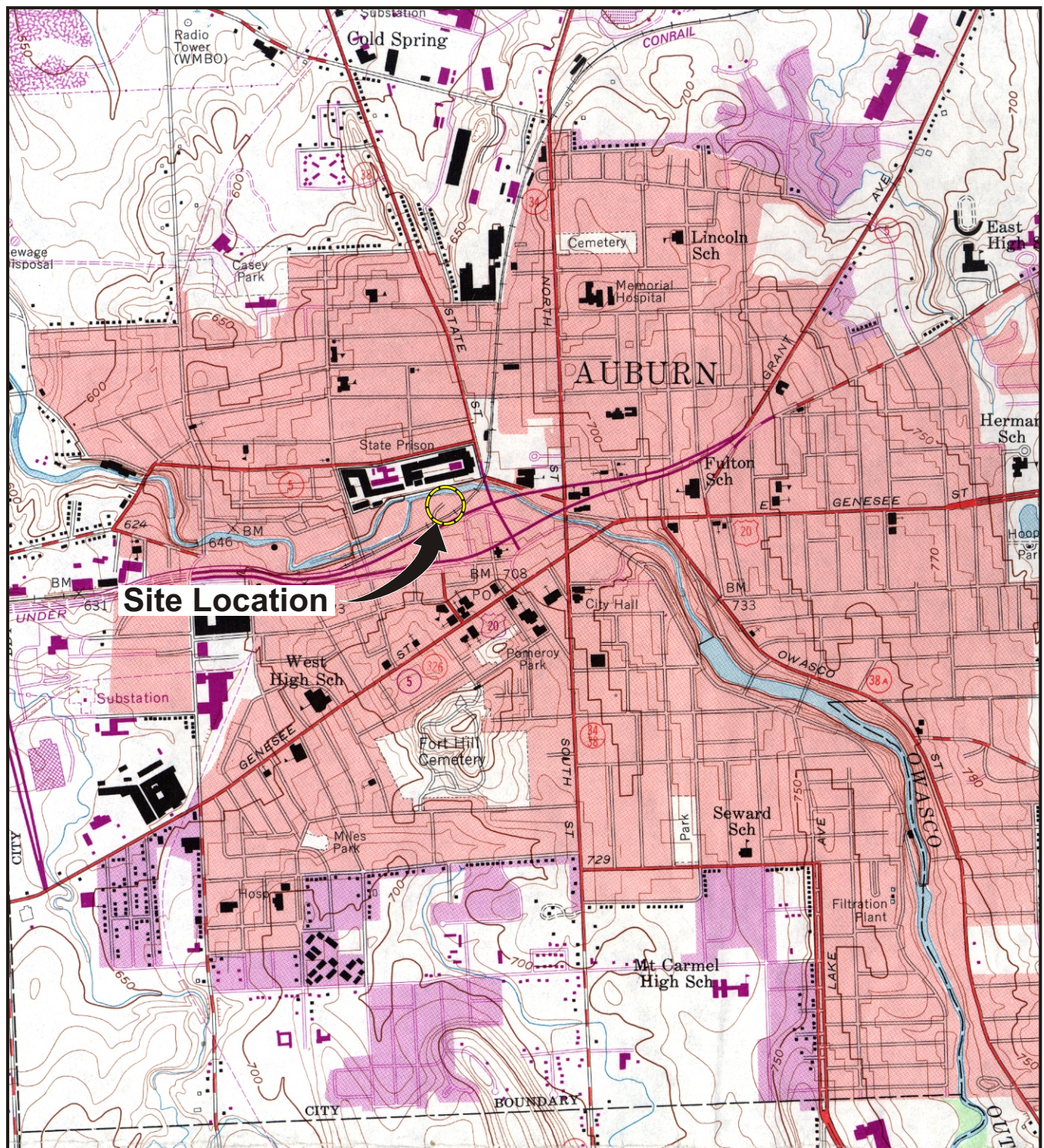
We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.

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.





REFERENCE: BASE MAP USGS 7.5 MIN. QUAD., AUBURN, NY, 1954, PHOTOREVISED 1980.

2000' 0 2000'
Approximate Scale: 1" = 2000'



NEW YORK STATE ELECTRIC & GAS
AUBURN (McMASTER STREET) FORMER MGP SITE
FEASIBILITY STUDY

SITE LOCATION MAP



FIGURE
1-1