From:	Burnham, Anne
To:	Spellman, John (DEC)
Cc:	tblazicek@nyseg.com; Philip, Heather; Molloy, James
Subject:	McMaster Street 2020 Maintenance Summary
Date:	Tuesday, January 19, 2021 8:21:34 AM
Attachments:	image001.png 2020 McMaster Street MGP Maintenance Summary_combined.pdf

John-

Attached is the summary of maintenance activities in 2020 for the McMaster Street Former MGP Site in Auburn. Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss.

Thanks,
Anne

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MEMORANDUM

January 19, 2021

To: John Spellman, NYSDEC

From: Heather Philip, Parsons

Subject: McMaster Street Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) 2020 Maintenance Summary

SUMMARY

The McMaster Street Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site located in Auburn, New York has been remediated to commercial-use criteria as per an Order on Consent entered into by the New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG) with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize the maintenance and monitoring activities performed in 2020 in accordance with New York State regulations and in support of ecological restoration at the McMaster Street Former MGP site.

ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN 2020

Monitoring activities performed include a comprehensive vegetation plot analysis, which revealed that McMaster Street Former MGP is currently meeting performance goals for perennial vegetative cover. Maintenance activities performed in 2020 include treatment of isolated patches of Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*), an invasive species. Specific efforts that were completed in 2020 include the summarized activities below and are represented in a photographic log provided in **Appendix A**.

- April 28th, 2020: Invasive species reconnaissance site visit. Several isolated patches of Japanese knotweed were identified.
- July 6th, 2020: First invasive species treatment. Triclopyr was applied at 3% concentration to isolated patches of Japanese knotweed (Figure 1). Triclopyr is a translocated, broad-leaf specific herbicide which is most effective during peak growth.
- September 18th, 2020: Comprehensive vegetation assessment.
- October 2nd, 2020: Second invasive species treatment. Aquaneat® was applied at 2.5% concentration to isolated patches of Japanese knotweed (Figure 1). Aquaneat's® active ingredient, glyphosate, is a non-selective herbicide which affects the site of direct application. This is more effective than Triclopyr in fall when plants are approaching senescence and translocating less.

VEGETATION ASSESSMENT

A comprehensive vegetation assessment was performed on September 18th, 2020 to determine whether seeded and planted areas at McMaster Street Former MGP site are on track to meet performance goals. Five 1m^2 plots were selected across the site to represent the plant community as accurately as possible (Figure 1). All plots surveyed were all dominated by the perennial native grass Canada wildrye (*Elymus canadensis*). Overall percent cover of seeded areas was 89 percent, exceeding the performance goal of 85 percent cover.

Planted trees and shrubs were also inventoried to determine survival rates. Overall, 51 percent of planted shrubs were found surviving on site. Based on site conditions and typical outcomes for small potted woody plantings, this rate of survival is consistent with expectations. Dogwoods (*Cornus* sp.) had the highest rate of survival at 67 percent and red chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia*) had the lowest rate of survival at 27 percent. Overall, 38 percent of planted trees were found surviving on site. Black willow (*Salix nigra*) had the highest rate of survival at 80 percent and silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*) and cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*) had the lowest rate of survival at 20 percent.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Vegetation will be monitored again in 2021 for percent cover of vegetation. As part of this assessment, any invasive species will be noted. In accordance with the May 22, 2020 Invasive Species Control Memorandum for the Site, the management of any invasive species will be discussed with NYSDEC and carried out accordingly.

NOTES:

1. SURFACE SHOWN PROVIDED BY THEW ASSOC. PHASE IV FINISH GRADE.

LEGEND:

- EDGE OF WATER
- EXISTING TOPOGRAPHIC CONTOUR
- SITE BOUNDARY
- UTILITY TOWER
- AREA OF INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT
- AREAS TREATED IN 2020
- VEGETATION PLOT
- BANK STONE
- BANK TOE PROTECTION
- VEGETATED BANK

40 20 0 40 80

SCALE: 1"=40'

FIGURE 1

NYSEG
McMASTER STREET FORMER MGP SITE
AUBURN, NEW YORK

VEGETATION PLOTS AND INVASIVE SPECIES TREATMENT AREAS

PARSONS
301 PLAINFIELD ROAD, SUITE 350, SYRACUSE, NY 13212 * 315-451-9560

FILE NAME: P:\IBERDROLA_AVANGRID\449526 AUBURN MCMASTER STREET 2018\07 CAD ASBUILT SURVEYS\CAD\VEG\MCMASTER-VEG-PLOT-2020-REV-1.DWG
PLOT DATE: 1/8/2021 9:50 AM PLOTTED BY: RUSSO, JILL

APPENDIX A
MCMASTER STREET MGP
2020 MAINTENANCE SUMMARY PHOTOGRAPHIC LOG

Observations:

Photographs 1 and 2 show the Isolated patches of Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*) at McMaster Street former MGP during the April reconnaissance site visit. Photos 3 and 4 show the July herbicide treatment of Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*). Photos 5 and 6 show a vegetation plot and a surviving silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*) from the September vegetatation survey. Photos 7 and 8 show the October herbicide treatment.

Photograph 1

Photograph 2

Photograph 3

Photograph 4

Photograph 5

Photograph 6

Photograph 7

Photograph 8