



FACT SHEET

Manufactured Gas Plant Program

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NYSEG – Cortland Homer Former Manufactured Gas Plant Site
Site # 712005
Route 11 (South Main Street)
Village of Homer, NY 13077

August 2012

Cleanup Action to Begin at Cortland Homer Former MGP Site

Action is about to begin that will address the contamination related to New York State Electric & Gas Company (NYSEG) - Cortland Homer Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) ("site") located at Route 11 (South Main Street), Village of Homer, Cortland County under New York State's State Superfund Program. Please see the map for the site location.

The site is listed as a Class "2" site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; action is required.

State Superfund Program: New York's State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

NYSDEC attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit:
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html>

Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." The cleanup activities will be performed by NYSEG with oversight provided by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities

The approved remedy entails excavation of former MGP structures and debris; removal of soil; performing solidification of contaminated soils; and containing contaminated soils under Route 11. Soil solidification is a process that mixes an additive into the soil particles in place resulting in a solidified mass which reduces or eliminates mobility of contamination and reduces or eliminates the solidified mass as a source of groundwater contamination.

Air monitoring will ensure that local residents are not exposed to dust and vapors from the excavation above New York State Department of Health established guidelines. These precautions will also minimize the potential for odors from the excavation. In addition Route 11 will be temporarily rerouted during the installation of a sheet pile wall to contain contaminated soils under the road.

Next Steps

After completion of all the cleanup activities, NYSEG will prepare a Construction Completion Report. The Construction Completion Report will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved.

The NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the cleanup of the site.

Background

In 1858, the NYSEG Cortland- Homer Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) was constructed and began supplying manufactured gas to the Village of Homer under the name, "Homer and Cortland Gas Light Company". Manufactured gas was produced at this site using the coal gasification and carburetted water gas processes. Coal gas was produced on site until 1921, and then carburetted water gas was produced from 1921 to 1932. The gas holder was used until early 1935 for storing natural gas.

In the 1940s, NYSEG partially decommissioned the plant. In 1944 the Brockway Motor Company purchased the subject property and razed the remaining structures. The building that presently stands on the site is presumed to have been built by Brockway Motors and modified by subsequent owners.

Operable Units: The site was divided into two operable units. An operable unit represents a portion of the site that for technical or administrative reasons can be addressed separately to eliminate or mitigate a release, threat of release or exposure pathway resulting from the site contamination. Operable Unit (OU) No. 1 consists of the former manufactured gas plant (MGP) and adjacent off-site contaminated soils under NYS Route 11. OU 2 consists of the parcel of land between the river and NYS Route 11 and includes contaminated sediments in the West Branch of the Tioughnioga River.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=712005>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

Cortland Library
32 Church Street
Cortland, New York 13201
(607) 753-1042
Call for hours of operation

NYSDEC
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7014
By appointment, contact Mr. William Ports
(518) 402-9662

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

Mr. William T. Ports PE
Project Manager
NYSDEC
625 Broadway, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12233
(518) 402-9662
wfports@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions

Ms. Julia Kenney
NYSDOH
Bureau of Environmental Investigation
Empire State Plaza
Corning Tower Room 1787
Albany, NY 12237
1-800-458-1158 Ext 27860

To direct questions to NYSEG, please contact:

Mr. Robert Pass
Manager – Regional Outreach & Development
NYSEG
1387 Dryden Road
Ithaca, NY 14850
Phone: 607-347-2148

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.

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.

Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.



Figure 1:
Site Location Map
 NYSEG - Cortland /Homer MGP Site
 Site No. 7-12-005
 Village of Homer, Cortland County, New York
 Scale = 1:4,000

