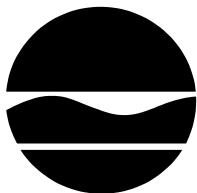


**NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF**



**ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION**

**PUBLIC AVAILABILITY SESSION
DATE AND LOCATION:**

June 25, 2009 5:30 – 7:30 PM

SUNY Cortland Beard Building
9 Main Street
Cortland, New York 13045

Project documents are available for review at the document repositories listed on the next page. If you have any questions related to this project, please contact:

Mr. William T. Ports, P.E.
Project Manager
NYSDEC

Division of Environmental
Remediation
625 Broadway, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7014
(518) 402-9662
e-mail:

wfports@gw.dec.state.ny.us

For site related health questions,
please contact:

Ms. Julia Kenney
NYS Department of Health
Flanigan Square
547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180
(800) 458-1158 ext. 27860

Mr. Tracy Blazicek
New York State Electric and Gas
18 Link Drive
Binghamton, NY 13904

e-mail:
tlblazicek@nyseg.com

FACT SHEET

Project Update and Public Availability Session

Charles Street Remote Holder Site

City of Cortland, Cortland County
Site Number 7-12-012

REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION COMPLETED

New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG), working cooperatively with the New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Health (DOH), completed a comprehensive study of environmental conditions associated with the Charles Street Remote Holder located in the City of Cortland. The site location is shown on the attached figure. The focus of the study was to identify the nature and extent of impacts to soil, groundwater and soil vapor at the site. This fact sheet summarizes results of the study and what next steps are needed to evaluate and select cleanup options for the site. A public availability session will be held on June 25, 2009 to present the findings of this investigation to the community.

SITE BACKGROUND

In 1858 the Homer & Cortland Gas Light Company constructed and operated a manufactured gas plant (MGP) at 216 South Main Street, in the Village of Homer, New York just north of the City of Cortland. The plant made combustible gas from coal and operated from approximately 1858 until 1935. The gas was provided to homes, businesses and industries in much the same way natural gas is used today. In 1867 the Homer & Cortland Gas Light Company acquired property to construct a 22,000 cubic foot gas holder at the Charles Street site as part of the distribution network. The former tank was called a remote holder. Between 1915 and 1926 the gasholder was removed, and houses located at 43 and 45 Charles Street were constructed. In 2007 NYSEG acquired the properties located at 43 and 45 Charles Street from the previous owners.

Additional information on Manufactured Gas Plants can be found at the DEC's web site: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8430.html>
...

REMEDIAL INVESTIGATIONS

This site was the subject of several environmental investigations beginning in November 2005 and continuing into 2008. The purpose of these investigations was to determine if remnants of the former gas holder remain on site and to establish the nature and extent of any contamination resulting from the operation of the former gas holder. Twenty- eight soil borings were drilled, four monitoring wells were installed, three test pits were excavated, and over 200 samples of environmental media (soil and groundwater) were analyzed.

The investigations found that a thin layer of stained silt was observed in the soil borings at depths ranging from 9.5 to 12 feet below ground surface. Based on historic maps, these borings appear to be in the footprint of the former gas holder tank. Groundwater samples did not contain detectable levels of volatile or semi-volatile organic compounds commonly found at manufactured gas plant sites. In addition, five foundation stones in the basement of one of the homes were identified as discolored and sampled at the request of the homeowner. The hardened surface coating was scraped from these stones and analyzed. The results indicate that the coating contains a coal tar material. This may have been applied as a waterproofing compound, or may be present because the foundation stones were re-used from the remote holder structure. Soil vapor and indoor air samples taken demonstrated volatile organic compounds were present in the indoor air of both homes at levels consistent with homes not affected by environmental contamination. The Remedial Investigation Report can be found in the document repositories listed on this fact sheet or NYSEG's web site at:

<http://www.nyseg.com/OurCompany/mgp/CortlandRemoteHolderLocationSite/CortlandRemoteHolderLocationSite.html>.

EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT

Exposure to groundwater is not a concern since no contaminants were detected in samples and the area is served by public water. Exposure to contaminated soils is un-likely since contaminated soils are not at the surface although contaminated soils beneath the ground surface do have the potential to be brought to the surface during any future deeper excavations. The DOH and DEC evaluated the potential for exposures related to soil vapor intrusion in the two residences over the site and determined that no actions need to be taken to address this exposure pathway.

NEXT STEPS

The next step will be to develop and evaluate a range of alternatives to remediate the limited contamination that was found. The remedial goals will evaluate the future land use and soil cleanup objectives for these properties. In general the range of potential alternatives for this site will include no action to complete removal of contamination. The DEC and DOH will solicit input from the public on the remedial alternatives and the proposed remedy.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Copies of the Remedial Investigation Report, together with other site-related documents, are available for review at the document repositories listed below or at NYSEG's website located at <http://www.nyseg.com/OurCompany/mgp/CortlandRemoteHolderLocationSite/CortlandRemoteHolderLocationSite.html>. Your comments and suggestions about the Citizen Participation program and remedial work for the Charles Street Remote Holder are always welcome. There will be a public availability session on June 25, 2009 starting at 5:30 PM with a short presentation at 6:00 PM in the St. Mary's School Cafeteria at 61 N. Main Street to provide the interested public with more detail about the current status of the site investigation and clean-up.

If you would like more information about this project, you are invited to visit the document repositories listed below. The repositories are located at:

Cortland Free Library
32 Church Street
Cortland, New York 13045
(845) 357-1237
Hours:
Monday - Thursday: 9:30 AM – 8:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM- 5:30 PM
Saturday: 9:30 AM– 4:30 PM

NYS Department of Environmental
Conservation
Region 7
615 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, NY 13204
315-426-7403
(call for an appointment)
Hours: Monday- Friday 8:30 am – 4:45 pm

If you know of someone who would like to be added to the mailing list for this site, have them contact the NYSDEC Project Manager listed on the first page of this Project Update.

The Cortland Remote Holder Site location and the sampling locations are shown on the attached figure.