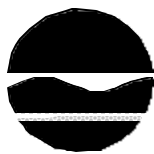


**NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF**



**ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION**

**Remedial Investigation
Meeting:**

**Thursday
October 15, 2001
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.**

at the Ithaca Elementary School
W. Court St.

The purpose of this meeting is to
present the NYSDEC's proposed
plan to investigate the Ithaca
Court Street MGP Site

If you have any questions or would
like further information, please
contact:

Mr. William Ottaway
Project Manager
NYSDEC
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7017
(518) 402-9662

For site related health questions,
contact the New York State
Department of Health (NYSDOH)
staff:

Mr. Gary Robinson
NYSDOH
(315) 426-7610

or

Mr. Mark VanDeusen
Outreach Program
NYSDOH
547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180
1 (800) 458-1158, Ext. 27890

FACT SHEET

Ithaca Court Street MGP Site
Site No. 7-55-008
September 2001

Public meeting to be held October 15, 2001

To Discuss

Remedial Investigation NYSEG Ithaca Court Street MGP Site

**Site No. 7-55-008
September 2001**

INTRODUCTION

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in cooperation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG) will hold a public meeting to present the proposed plan to investigate the Ithaca Court Street MGP site.

This site is located between Court Street and Esty Street, along North Plain Street, in the City of Ithaca. Past investigations identified coal tar on this site. Coal tar is a brownish to black substance with an odor similar to driveway sealer.

BACKGROUND

The site was previously the location of a manufactured gas plant (MGP). The plant made a combustible gas from coal which was provided to homes business and industry, much the way natural gas is used today. It is believed that the gas plant at this site operated from 1852 to 1927. In 1964 the property was sold by NYSEG to the Ithaca School District, the current owners of the site.

NYSEG conducted preliminary investigations of the site in the mid to late 1980's. The soil in the area of the historic MGP structures was found to be contaminated with coal tar and other MGP related chemicals. This contamination has impacted the groundwater, which appears to be moving off-site in a generally west to northwest direction. A layer of clay and silt appears underlies the contaminated groundwater, and appears to separate it from clean groundwater below.

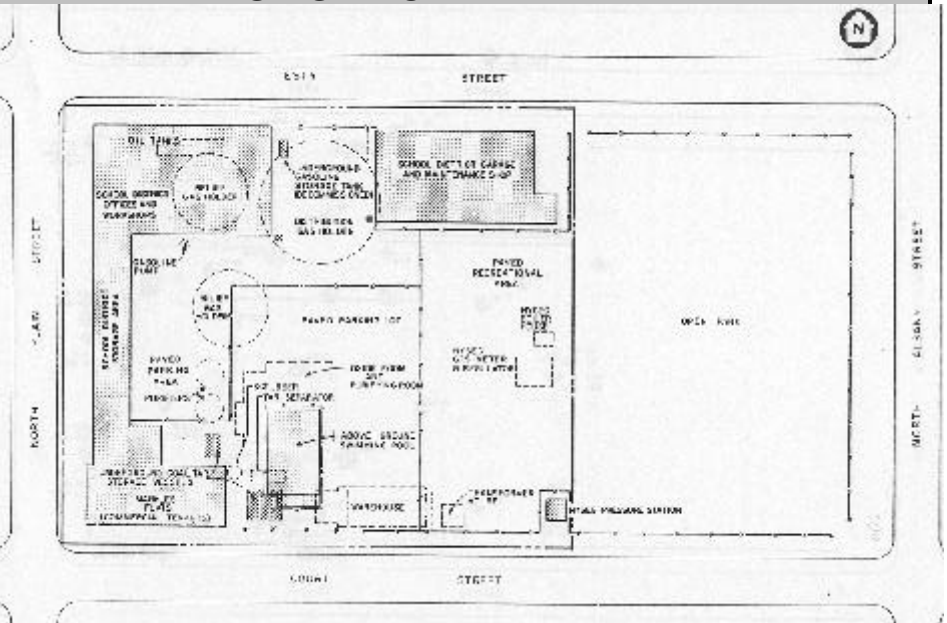
INTERIM REMEDIAL MEASURE

In 1994, NYSEG entered into an agreement with the NYSDEC to address contamination at MGP sites across the state. In February and March, 2000, NYSEG performed an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) involving the removal of coal tar, water, and contaminated soil and water from inside and around two tar wells.

REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION

1. **Intermediated Aquifer:** One round of samples will be collected from existing on-site wells installed in the groundwater below the contaminated soil to confirm that this is still clean.

2. **Down gradient contamination:** Additional wells are planned in the shallow, unconfined aquifer down-gradient from the site (toward route 13 and the Cayuga Inlet) to determine the extent of impacts from the site on this aquifer.
3. **Source investigation:** Borings will be used to accurately locate the underground structures remaining on site from the former MGP operation and to determine the vertical and horizontal extent of MGP related impacts.
4. **Preferential Pathways:** Subsurface piping and bedding often provide a path of least resistance for contamination. We will investigate all such piping, including a previously discovered wooden duct historically used to transport coal tar to Cayuga Inlet. The wooden duct will be located by ground penetrating radar. Borings will then be used to investigate the content of the duct and the bedding around it. Eight additional borings are expected to be used to investigate utility lines in Court, Plain, and Est Streets.
5. **Surface Soil:** Surface soil samples will be collected in the park immediately adjacent to and down wind from the Site. These samples will be analyzed for MGP related impacts.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Tompkins County Public Library
101 East Green Street
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 272-4557

NYSDEC Central Office

625 Broadway

Albany, NY 12233-7017

(518) 402-9686

Attn: William Ottaway

e-mail:wsottawa@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

NYSEG

Ithaca-Dryden Road

PO Box 3287

Ithaca, NY 14852-3287

(607) 347-2550

Attn: Richard Charsky

If you have any questions or concerns you may contact NYSDEC's project manager, Bill Ottaway at (518) 402-9686. You can also call the NYSDEC toll free at (800) 342-9296 and leave your name, address, and request. For health related questions, contact Gary Robinson at (315) 426-7610. Media inquiries should be directed to the appropriate agency's press office.

Reports on the results and findings from previous investigations of the site have been reproduced in electronic format, and are available as a CD-ROM from NYSEG. Contact Richard Charsky at (607) 347-2550 for further information.