

(Fact Sheet Begins Next)

## Act Now to Continue Receiving Information About This Site!

DEC's Division of Environmental Remediation (DER) now distributes information about contaminated sites *electronically by email*.

If you would like to continue to receive information about the contaminated site featured in this fact sheet:

**You must sign up for the DER email listserv:**

[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html)

DER cannot register your email address - only the email address owner can do so. If you already have signed up for the listserv for the county in which the site is located, you need do nothing.



### Why You Should Go “Paperless”:

- Get site information faster and share it easily;
- Receive information about all sites in a chosen county - read what you want, delete the rest;
- It helps the environment and stretches your tax dollars.

**If “paperless” is not an option for you**, call or write to the DER project manager identified in this fact sheet. Indicate that you need to receive paper copies of fact sheets through the Postal Service. Include the site name in your correspondence. The option to receive paper is available to individuals only. Groups, organizations, businesses, and government entities are assumed to have email access.



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

**Where to Find Information:**

Access project documents through the DECinfo Locator and at these location(s):

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/850008/>

**Geneva Public Library**

244 Main Street  
Geneva, NY 14456  
(315) 789-5303

If you cannot access the online repository, please contact the NYSDEC project manager listed below for assistance

**Who to Contact:**

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

**Project-Related Questions**

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Project Manager  
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Albany, NY 12233  
(518) 402-9684

[Douglas.MacNeal@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Douglas.MacNeal@dec.ny.gov)

**Health-Related Questions**

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ESP Corning Tower, RM 1787  
Albany, NY 12237  
(518) 402-7860  
[BEEI@health.ny.gov](mailto:BEEI@health.ny.gov)

For more information about New York's Manufactured Gas Plant Program, visit:

[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/24904.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/24904.html)

# FACT SHEET

**NYSEG – Border City  
Former Manufactured Gas  
Plant (MGP) Site –  
150 Border City Road**

**Manufactured Gas Plant  
Program**

**Waterloo, NY 14489**

**July 2022**

**SITE No. 850008**

**NYSDEC REGION 8**

## Cleanup Action to Begin at Former MGP Site

A cleanup action is about to begin to address contamination related to the New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG) – Border City Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site ("site") located at 150 Border City Road, Town of Waterloo, New York. The cleanup action is being conducted under a Multi-Site Order on Consent between NYSEG and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). NYSEG (the "remedial party") will perform the cleanup activities with oversight provided by the NYSDEC and New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). Documents related to the site cleanup are available at the location(s) identified to the left under "Where to Find Information." Remedial activities are expected to begin in July 2022, and last approximately one year.

**Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Action:** The remediation goal is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and/or the environment. The key remedy components are:

- Excavating onsite soil containing source material (defined as soil containing visible tars or oils, or stained or odorous soils with a total polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon [PAH] level over 1,000 parts per million) from 16 different areas to a maximum depth of 14 feet below ground surface (bgs). Excavated soil containing source material will be disposed offsite. Material not containing source material may be reused at the site under a clean soil cover.
- Removing the contents of an onsite subsurface vault and several intact purifier waste structures for offsite disposal.
- Excavating sediment from two perimeter drainageways and the former settling basin to a maximum depth of 2 feet bgs.
- Excavating purifier waste material from several areas in the Eastern Waste Disposal Area (EWDA) to a maximum depth of 8 feet bgs for offsite disposal.
- Installing a low permeability cap in one EWDA area where purifier waste will remain in-place.
- Backfilling excavation areas with clean imported fill material meeting the lower of commercial-use and protection of groundwater soil cleanup objectives (SCOs).
- Constructing a site cover consisting either of structures (buildings, pavement, sidewalk) or a soil cover consisting of the 1-foot of soil meeting commercial-use SCOs.
- Implementing institutional controls in the form of an environmental easement.
- Developing a Site Management Plan that describes the post-remedial action monitoring to be completed, including groundwater monitoring to assess remedy effectiveness.

# MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT PROGRAM

A site-specific health and safety plan (HASP) and a Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP) will be implemented during remediation activities. The HASP and CAMP establish procedures to protect onsite workers and surrounding residents and include required air monitoring as well as dust and odor suppression measures.

**Next Steps:** After cleanup activities are completed, NYSEG will prepare a Final Engineering Report (FER). The FER will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been or will be achieved. NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the site cleanup.

**Site Description:** The site occupies approximately 15 acres in the Town of Waterloo, approximately two miles east of the City of Geneva. The site is divided into three areas, the Service Center Area (within the site security fence), the Eastern Waste Disposal Area (located outside the site security fence east of the Meter Lab), and the sediment removal areas (eastern and western drainage ways and a settling basin in the southeast corner of the site). The site currently operates as a service center for electrical and gas operations and includes an electrical substation and natural gas main regulator station.

The site was operated as an MGP from 1901 through 1934 and was subsequently used as NYSEG's operations center for the Geneva, New York area. After MGP closure, some of the gas plant structures were demolished and the remaining structures were converted for use by NYSEG.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the Site ID, 850008) at:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/xtapps/derexternal/index.cfm?pageid=3>

**Summary of the Investigation:** Site surface and subsurface soil, groundwater, surface water, sediment, and soil vapor/sub-slab vapor/indoor air samples were collected and analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), metals, pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls, and/or cyanide. Based upon laboratory results, the primary contaminants of concern for the site are coal tar and dense non-aqueous phase liquid, VOCs (specifically benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes [BTEX]), select polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), sulfide, and cyanide.

Impacts were primarily identified in soil, groundwater, and sediment. The primary contaminants of concern to be addressed by the remedy are coal tar, PAHs, and purifier waste. Laboratory sample results were compared to the following:

- Soil – SCOs for commercial use and/or the 1,000 parts per million (ppm) total PAHs site-specific cleanup goal.
- Groundwater – New York State Ambient Water Quality Standards.
- Sediment – New York State sediment screening criteria.

**MGP Program Overview:** New York's MGP Program oversees the investigation and cleanup of former MGP sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

The gas manufacturing process involved the heating of coal and/or petroleum products to produce a gas mixture. Once cooled and purified, the gas was distributed through a local pipeline network. The gas was used for heating and cooking much like natural gas is used today. In the early years, the gas was also used for lighting in homes and in streetlights. A dense, oily liquid known as coal tar would condense out of the gas at various stages during its production, purification and distribution, and be discharged to the subsurface.

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

For more information about the MGPs, visit:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8430.html>

***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 at:

[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html)

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

### DECInfo Locator:

Interactive map to access DEC documents and public data about the environmental quality of specific sites:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/109457.html>

# MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT PROGRAM

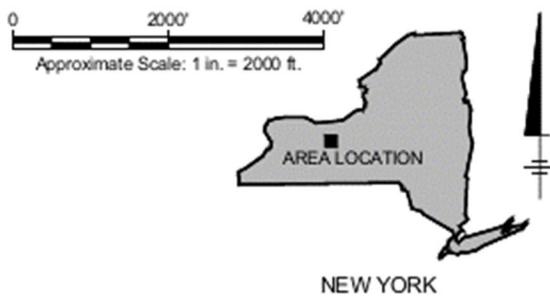
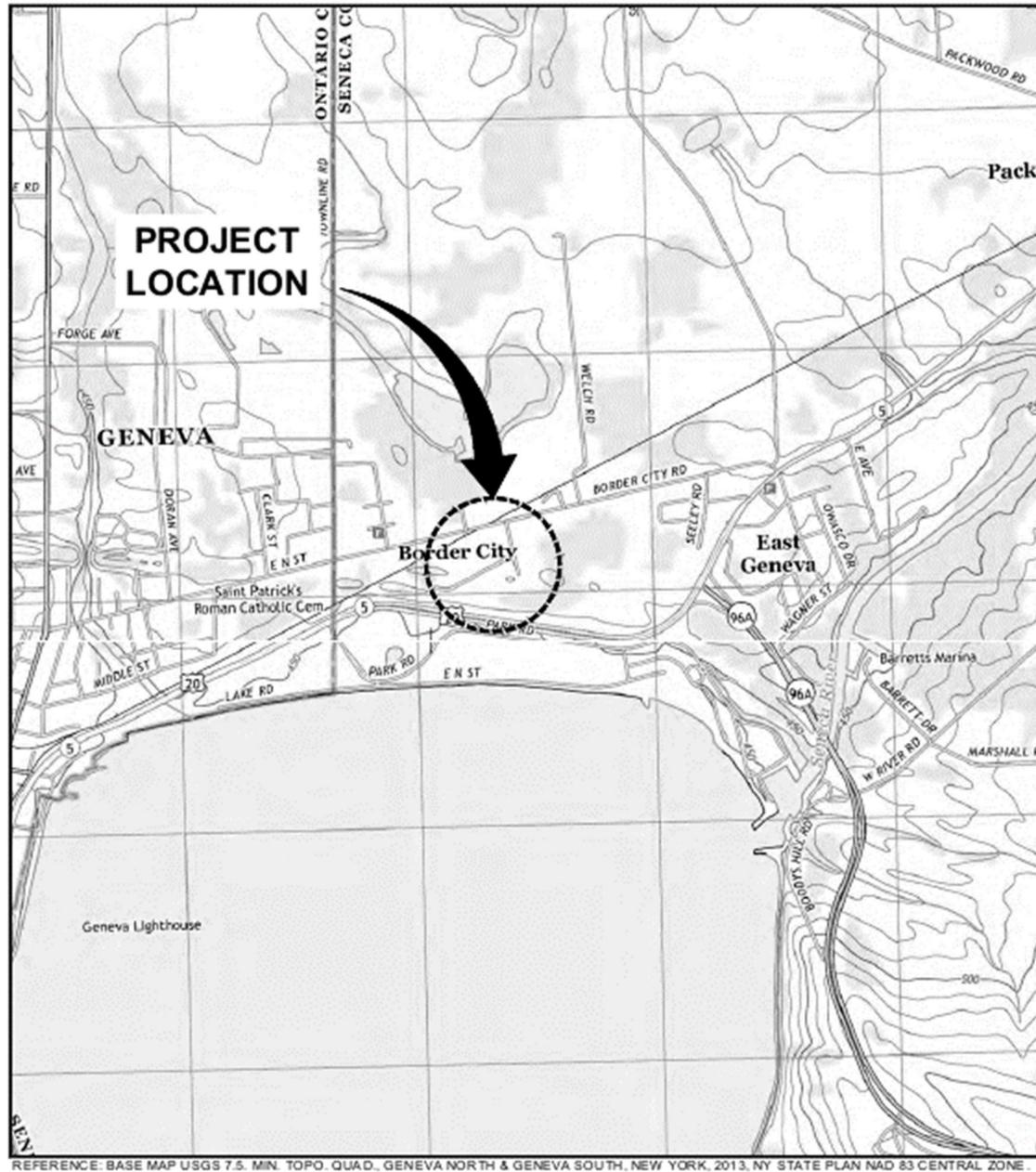


Figure 1 – Site Location Map

# MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT PROGRAM

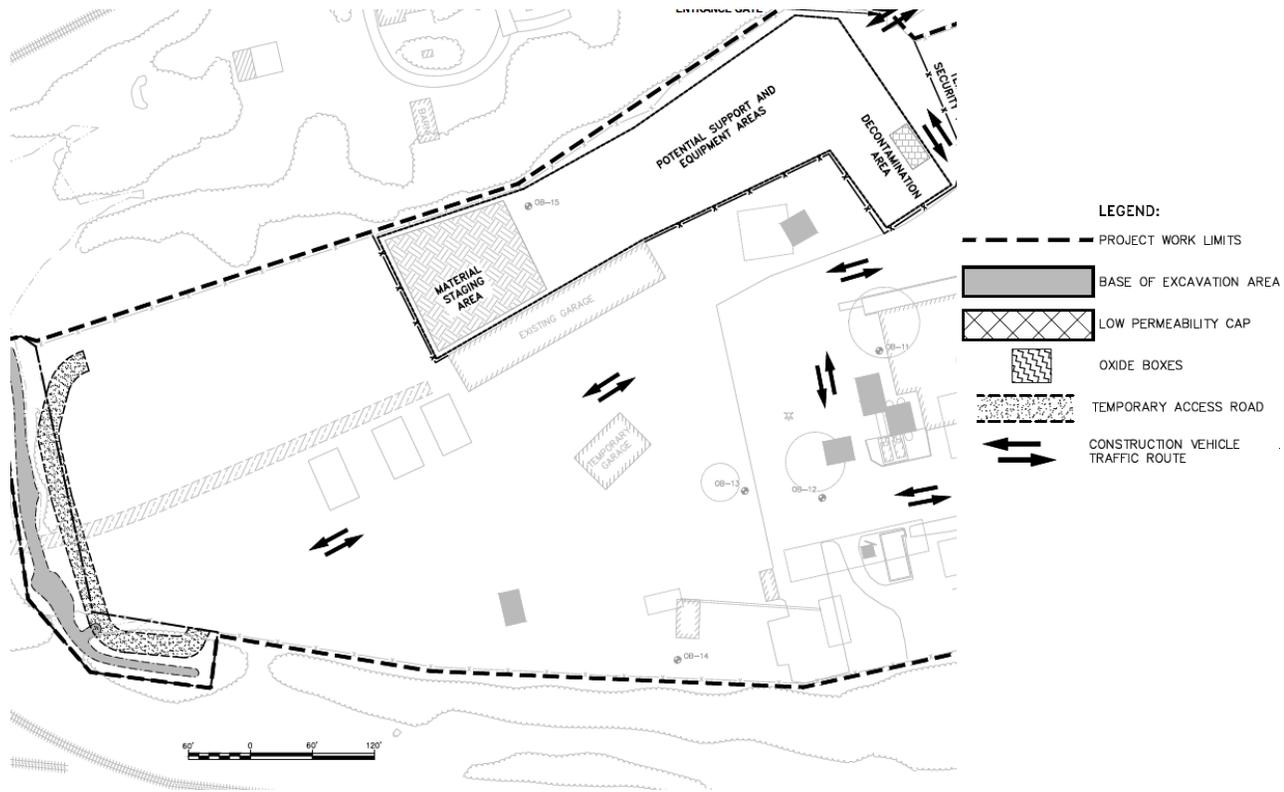


Figure 2 – General Excavation Plan (West)

# MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT PROGRAM

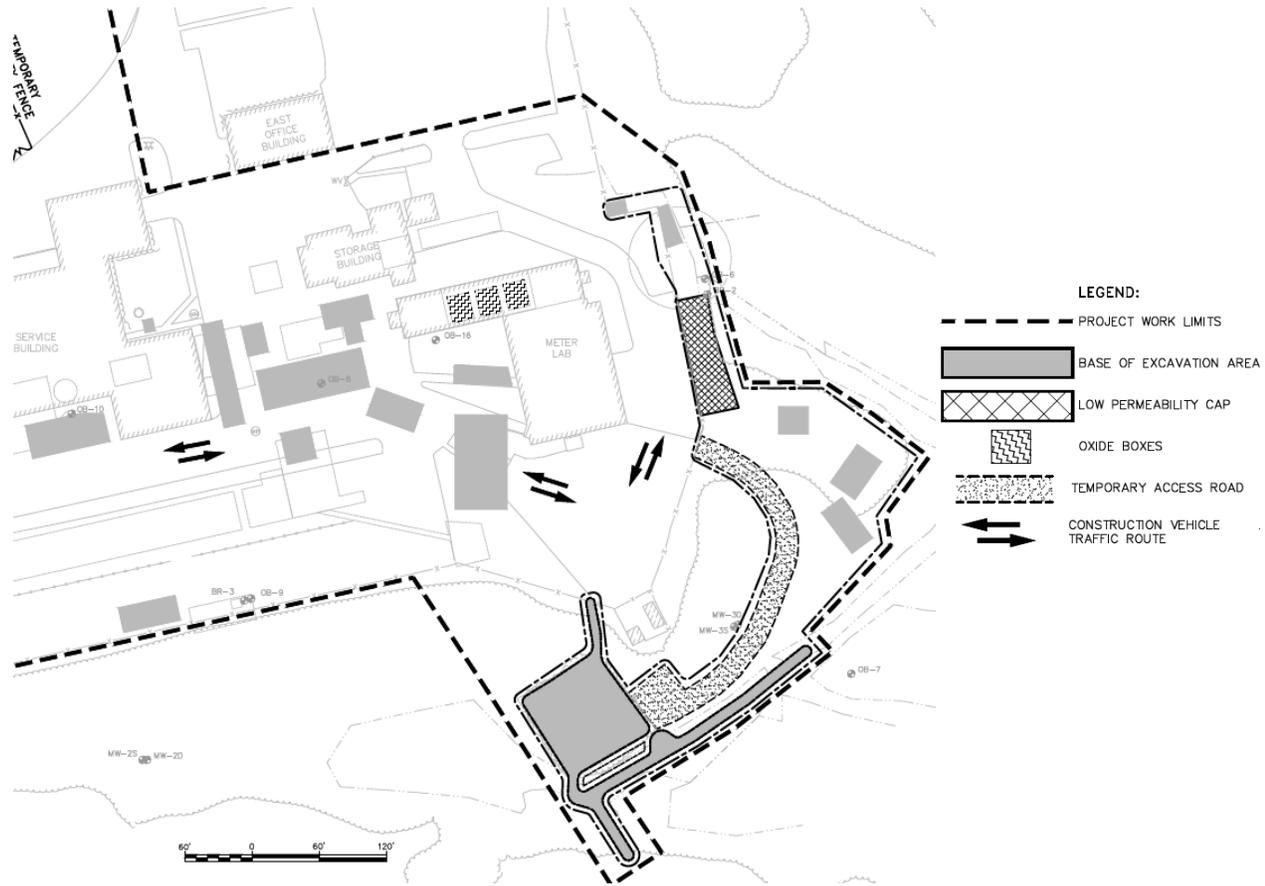


Figure 3 – General Excavation and Cap Installation Plan (East)