



FACT SHEET

Manufactured Gas Plant Program

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Lyons Manufactured Gas Plant Site
NYSDEC Site #8-59-020
Village of Lyons, NY

October 2011

Investigation Begins at Former Manufactured Gas Plant in Village of Lyons

In October, NYSEG will begin a detailed environmental study at the former manufactured gas plant (MGP) site at Geneva and Water Streets in the Village of Lyons, Wayne County (see map for site location). This study is being performed to determine the nature and extent of MGP-related impacts at the site and in the surrounding area. NYSEG, the property owner, will investigate the site with oversight from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) as part of a multi-site Order on Consent with NYSDEC which covers several MGP sites in New York State.

Highlights of the Site Investigation

The study is called a “Remedial Investigation,” and it will be conducted under New York’s State Manufactured Gas Plant Program. The work will be done in accordance with a NYSDEC-approved Remedial Investigation Work Plan that is available for public review at the locations identified below under “Where to Find Information”. This document also is available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37556.html>.

The goals of the Remedial Investigation include:

- 1) Defining the nature and extent of MGP impacts in soil, surface water, groundwater and any other parts of the environment that may be affected.
- 2) Identifying the source(s) of the MGP impacts.
- 3) Assessing the effects that MGP impacts may have on public health and the environment.
- 4) Providing information to support the development of a proposed remedy to address the MGP impacts.

The Remedial Investigation will supplement previously-obtained information to build a better understanding of the extent of MGP-related impacts. This investigation will include eight surface soil samples, 25 soil borings, 10 monitoring wells, and five test pits. Sediment samples from the New York State Barge Canal may be collected depending on the results of samples collected on the site. The primary concern at many MGP sites is coal tar, which was a byproduct of the gas manufacturing process. Coal tar can contain many chemical constituents, some of which may be benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes (BTEX) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

Next Steps

The information collected during the Remedial Investigation (RI) will be summarized in a RI Report. NYSEG will then conduct a Feasibility Study (FS) to develop and evaluate possible ways to clean up the site. It is also possible that the information collected during the Remedial Investigation may support a conclusion that no action, or no further actions, are needed to address MGP impacts.

NYSDEC will then develop a draft cleanup plan for the site, called a Proposed Remedial Action Plan. This plan will indicate whether or not cleanup actions must be taken. It will detail the various clean up alternatives considered, present the reasons for choosing or rejecting each, and ultimately identify NYSDEC's preferred approach for a site cleanup, if such work is required. The goal of the plan will be to ensure the protection of public health and the environment. NYSDEC, in consultation with the NYSDOH, will present the draft cleanup plan to the public for its review and comment during a 30-day comment period and at a public meeting to be held near the site.

DEC will strive to keep the public informed throughout the investigation and any required clean-up work at the site. The entire RI/FS process is planned to take 24 months to complete.

Background

This commercially zoned, one-acre site is owned by NYSEG and is currently the location of a NYSEG natural gas regulator station. NYSEG currently leases the parcel to Wayne County for use as a municipal parking lot. Areas around the lot are grass-covered or landscaped.

The Lyons MGP was constructed in 1859 and produced gas from coal. The manufactured gas was supplied to the village and used in much the same way as natural gas is used today. The MGP was mostly dismantled in 1917. The gas holder for the MGP was later used by NYSEG to store natural gas and it was demolished in 1976. A preliminary screening consisting of surface soil sampling in four locations was performed at the site in November 1990. A site investigation was performed in 1992. The results of the investigation were summarized in a report entitled "Task II – Site Investigation for the Lyons MGP Site, Lyons, New York," dated February 1993. The report indicated the presence of MGP coal tar impacts in subsurface soils within and/or beneath the former MGP structures. Coal tar was a byproduct of the gas manufacturing process.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed. These documents include the Remedial Investigation Work Plan.

Lyons Public Library
Director: Theresa Streb
122 Broad Street
Lyons, NY 14489
Phone: 315-946-9262
Fax: 315-946-3320

LyonsLibraryDirector@owwl.org

NYSDEC
Division of Environmental
Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233
(518) 402-9662

Hours: Monday and Wednesday,
10am to 5pm and 7pm to 9pm
Tuesday and Thursday, Noon to 9pm
Friday, 10am to 5pm
Saturday, 9am to 1pm

Who to Contact

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

Project-Related Questions

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625 Broadway, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7014
(518) 402-9662
kabecker@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions

Katherine Fish
NYSDOH
335 East Main Street
Rochester, NY 14604
(585) 423-8156
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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: 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.

LYONS MGP SITE LOCATION FIGURE

