

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

FACT SHEET

Brownfield Cleanup Program

Washington Street Former MGP Site ID No. C704046 Binghamton, NY February 2006

# Draft Remedial Investigation Work Plan Available for Public Comment

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) requests public comments as it reviews a draft work plan to investigate the Washington Street Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site located at 24 Water Street in Binghamton, Broome County. See map for the location of the site. The draft "Remedial Investigation Work Plan" was submitted by New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG) under New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP).

NYSDEC previously accepted an application submitted by NYSEG to participate in the BCP. The application proposes that the site will be used for commercial purposes.

**Brownfield Cleanup Program**: New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) encourages the voluntary cleanup of contaminated properties known as "brownfields" so that they can be reused and redeveloped. These uses include recreation, housing and business.

A **brownfield** is any real property that is difficult to reuse or redevelop because of the presence or potential presence of contamination.

For more information about the BCP, visit: www.dec.state.ny.us/website/der/bcp

## Background

The site is located in the City of Binghamton, Broome County, New York (Figure 1). The former MGP site occupies approximately 1.4 acres of land within a city block bounded by Washington Street to the east, Water Street to the west, Susquehanna Street to the north, and Riverside Drive to the south. The site currently contains two 2-story commercial buildings, associated parking lots, and a residential apartment building. One of the commercial buildings is used by Rexel Electric Supply as an electrical supply warehouse and showroom. The other commercial building is used by the Southern New York Auto Club as an office/travel planning center. Subsequent to the MGP site and prior to the current uses, the site was occupied by a lumber yard and carpentry shop, and a truck sales/repair dealership. No previous investigations of the MGP site have been conducted.

## Highlights of the Proposed Remedial Investigation

The remedial investigation has several goals:

1) identify the source(s) of the contamination;

2) define the nature and extent of contamination in soil, surface water, groundwater and any other impacted media;

3) assess the impact of the contamination on public health and/or the environment; and

4) provide information to support the development of a Remedial Work Plan to address the contamination.

The investigation will be performed by NYSEG with oversight by NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). The objectives of this remedial investigation are to:

- evaluate the presence and extent of MGP or other impacts in soil;
- evaluate the presence and extent of MGP or other impacts in groundwater;
- evaluate the presence and extent of MGP or other impacts in the Chenango River adjacent to the site and;
- evaluate potential human exposure pathways for both current and anticipated future site conditions.

### Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments when it completes its review, has any necessary revisions made, and approves the RI Work Plan. NYSDOH must concur in the approval of the RI Work Plan. The approved RI Work Plan will be placed in the document repository (see below). After the RI Work Plan is approved, NYSEG may proceed with the remedial investigation of the site. It is estimated that the remedial investigation will take about ten months. The applicant will develop a Remedial Investigation Report that summarizes the results of the remedial investigation.

### Public Comments About the Draft Remedial Investigation Work Plan

NYSDEC is accepting written public comments about the draft Remedial Investigation (RI) Work Plan for 30 days, from **February 22, 2006** through **March 24, 2006**. The draft RI Work Plan is available for public review at the document repository identified in this fact sheet.

Written comments should be submitted to:

Kiera Becker New York State Department of Environmental Conservation 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233-7014

NYSDEC will keep the public informed during the investigation and remediation of the Washington Street former MGP site.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### **Document Repository**

A local document repository has been established at the following location to help the public to review important project documents. These documents include the draft RI Work Plan and the application to participate in the BCP which was accepted by NYSDEC:

Broome County Public Library 185 Court Street Binghamton, NY 607-778-6407 (Lisa Wise) Monday - Thursday: 9 AM - 8 PM Friday & Saturday: 9 AM - 5 PM Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions Kiera Becker New York State Department of Environmental Conservation 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233-7014 518-402-9662 kabecker@gw.dec.state.ny.us Health Related Questions Julia Guastella New York State Department of Health 547 River Street Troy, New York 12180-2216 518-402-7860 jmg07@health.state.ny.us

If you know someone who would like to be added to the project mailing list, have them contact the NYSDEC project manager above. 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.

