LITTLE FALLS (MILL ST.) NON-OWNED FORMER MGP SITE

LITTLE FALLS, NEW YORK

Site-Specific Work Plan
for
Site Characterization

October 2001

Prepared for:

Niagara Mohawk®

Niagara Mohawk
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, New York

Prepared by:

FOSTER WHEELER

Foster Wheeler Environmental Corporation
One Park Place
300 South Street, Suite 620
Syracuse, New York

TABLE OF CONTENTS

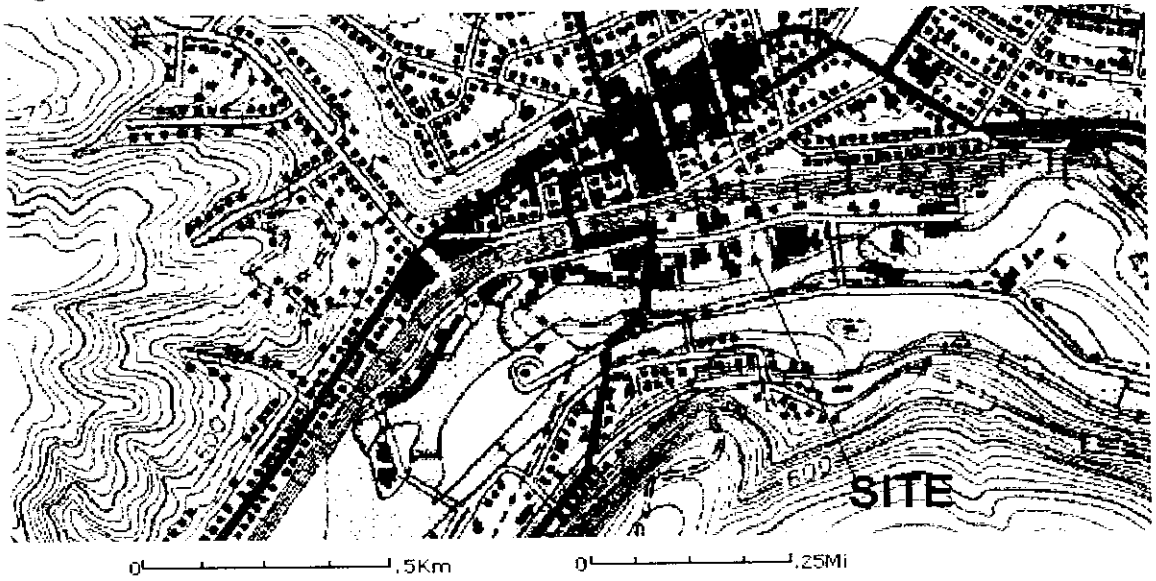
1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Work Plan presents the Site-specific scope of investigation activities and health and safety considerations for the Little Falls (Mill Street) Non-owned Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site. The purpose and objectives of the investigation, rationale for the investigation approach, data quality objectives, field investigation procedures, quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) requirements, and generic health and safety requirements are presented in the Generic Work Plan for Non-owned Former MGP Sites (Volume II).

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The Little Falls (Mill Street) is a former MGP Site located at 545 E. Mill Street Herkimer County, Little Falls, New York and comprises approximately 0.56 acres. Figure 1 illustrates the location of the property on the USGS 7.5 minute Little Falls Quadrangle map.

Figure 1. Site Location Map



2.1 Site History

Foster Wheeler Environmental performed a review of 10 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps (1884, 1891, 1897, 1900, 1906, 1911, 1918, 1928, 1948, and 1959), illustrating the property on Mill Street. The Sanborn maps and other third party documentation are provided for informational purposes only, and Niagara Mohawk (NM) does not warrant the accuracy of such information. The results of the review are presented, by year, below.

1884 The facility is located on Lot 22 between Mill Street and the Mohawk River. Further south of the Mohawk River is an elongated island and the Erie Canal. The facility consists of a coal shed, gas warehouse, gasometer, storage, and a few unnamed buildings. The gasometer

(approximately 40 feet in diameter) is located immediately adjacent to the Mohawk River. In addition, a tailrace is shown on the property parallel and adjacent to Mill Street. The properties along the waterfront are industrial in the vicinity of the Site.

1891 The facility is the same as shown in the 1884 Sanborn map, except the coal shed appears to have been reduced in size. On an adjacent property (approximately 180 ft. to the west) along the Mohawk River, a gasometer (approximately 35 feet in diameter) is shown; however, it is not associated with the Site.

1897 The facility is named the Little Falls Gas Light Co. The gasometer is illustrated on the map with an additional outer shell. The building on-site details the location of the retorts, purifier house, shops, coal house, etc. (see Figure 2).

1900 The facility is the same as noted in the 1897 Sanborn map.

1906 The facility appears to be the same as noted in the 1900 Sanborn map. However, the name has changed to the Herkimer Co. Light & Power Company's Gas Plant.

1911 The facility is now named the Utica Gas & Electric Co. On the map, it is noted that the plant is only used in an emergency. The tailrace has been extended onto the adjacent property (Little Falls Fibre Co.) to the east. On further review of the map, the land along the common eastern boundary with the Little Falls Fibre Co. has been extended out into the Mohawk River.

1918 The facility is noted to be vacant and the coal shed is no longer shown on the map. The gasometer is labeled as a gasometer pit. The Erie Canal is now named the Barge Canal.

1928 The facility is now labeled as a service station. The gasometer is no longer shown on the map (see Figure 3).

1948 The facility is no longer labeled as Utica Gas & Electric Co. on the map. The facility is now an auto repair shop. A building located adjacent to the river is labeled vacant. The tailrace has been filled in on the property. The fibre company (to the east) is no longer present and an industrial corporation occupies a small portion of the property. The remaining area east of the Site is a parking lot.

1959 The Site is now a parking lot. The industrial corporation has expanded on the property to the east.

Figure 2. 1897 Sanborn Map

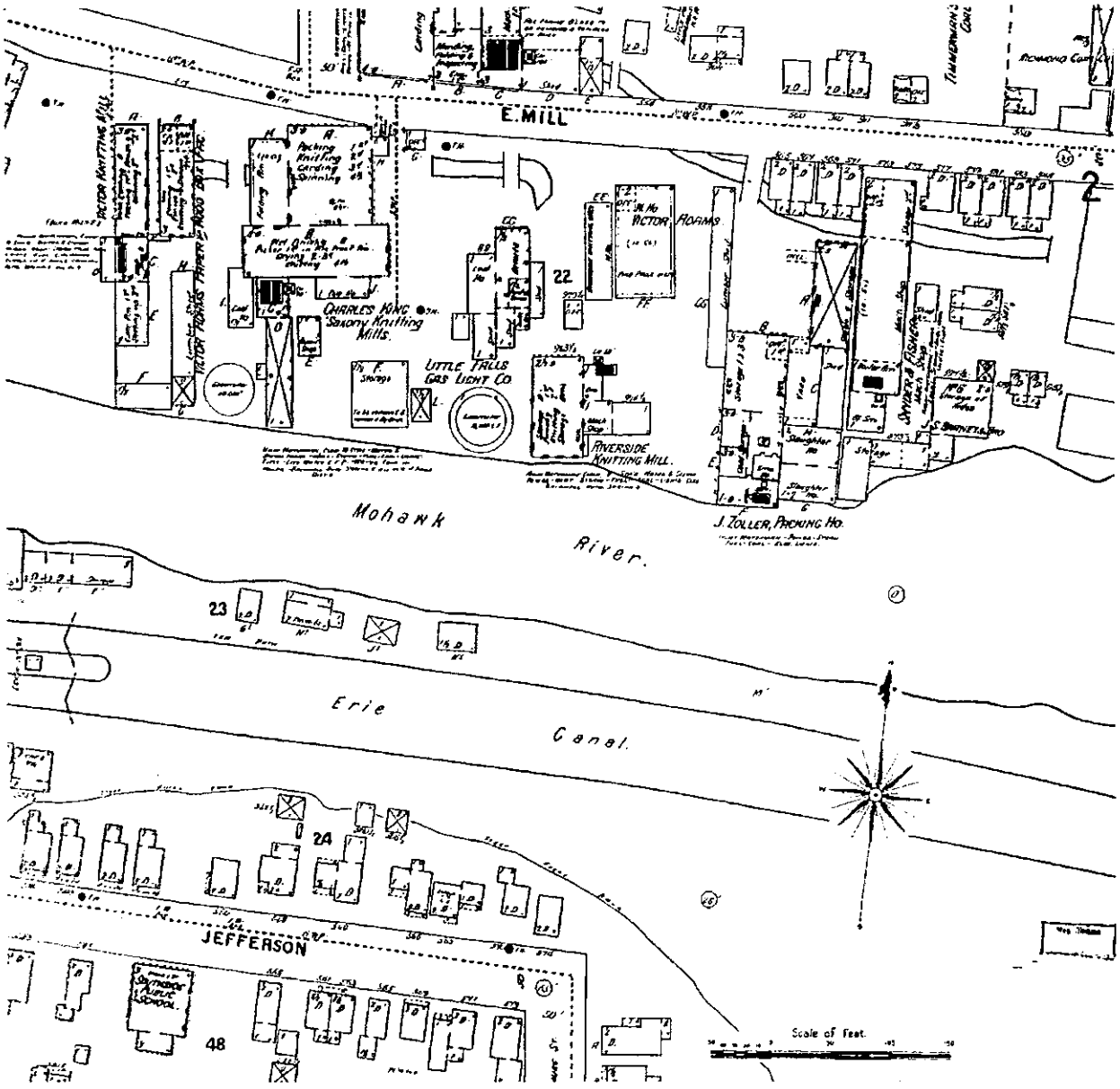
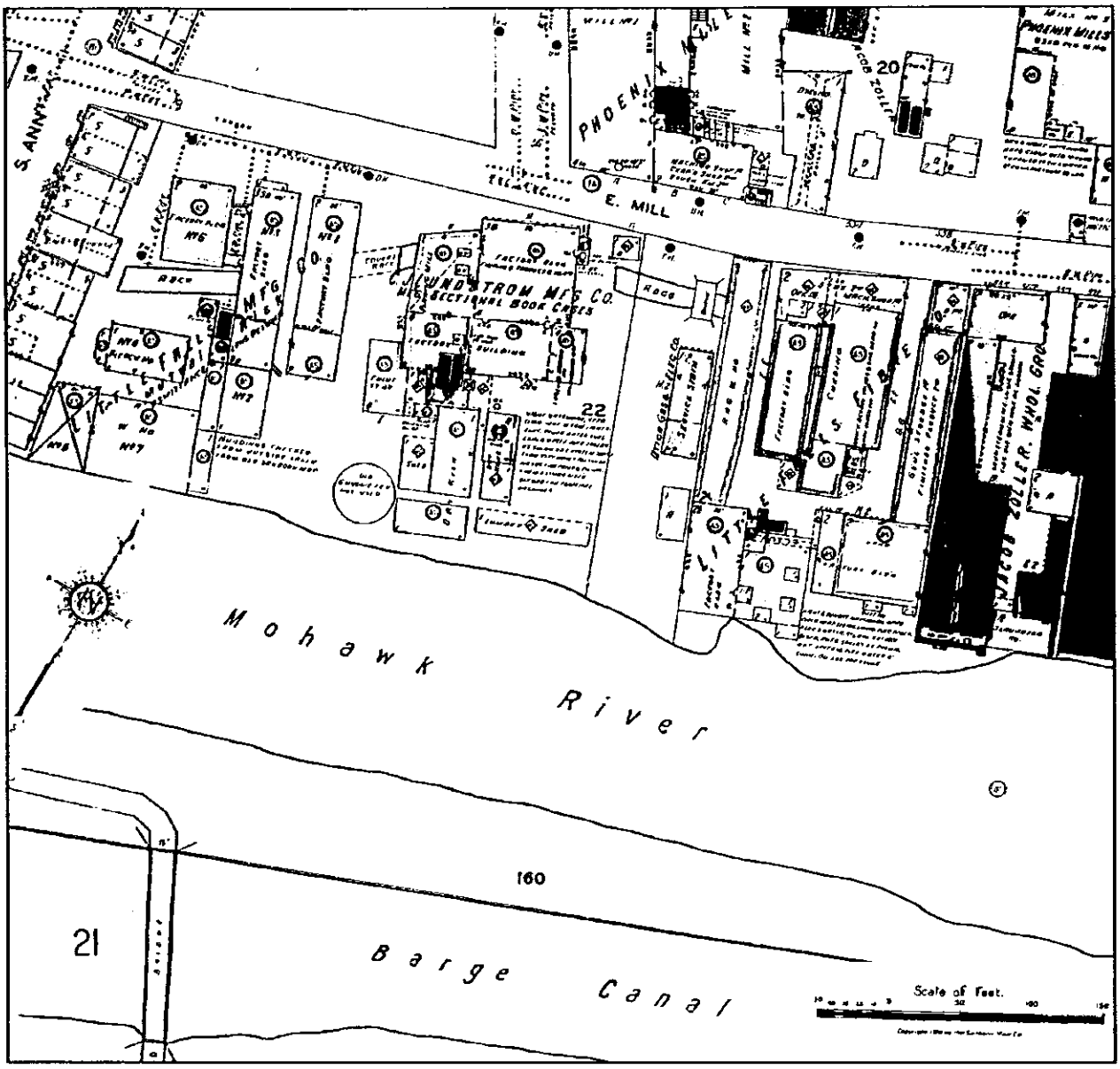


Figure 3. 1928 Sanborn Map



Based on a review of the "Survey of Town Gas and By-product Production and Locations in the U.S. (1880-1950)," limited information is available for the Little Falls (Mill Street) Site. Coal gas was manufactured in 1890, which is confirmed by the MGP structures on the Sanborn map; however, no data were reported for 1900. According to the survey, the facility was consolidated with the Illion MGP, a NM owned site, in 1900.

2.2 Current Conditions

The Little Falls (Mill Street) Non-owned Former MGP Site is currently a parking lot, which is owned by the Feldmeier Manufacturing Company. A portion of the property is a part of the Feldmeier manufacturing facility. The parking area is paved with asphalt. As per the NM Site visit on November 5, 1999, a 5-foot diameter concrete storm sewer traverses the Site (west of the former retorts) and discharges into the adjacent Mohawk River. The sewer is approximately 8 feet below the ground surface. A gabion wall extends both east and west from the storm sewer outlet.

3.0 SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION

The scope of the Site Characterization of the Little Falls Non-owned Former MGP Site is described below. Preliminary sample locations are shown on Figure 4. Field activities will be performed in accordance with the Generic Plans (Volume II).

The Site Characterization at the Little Falls Site will include the following:

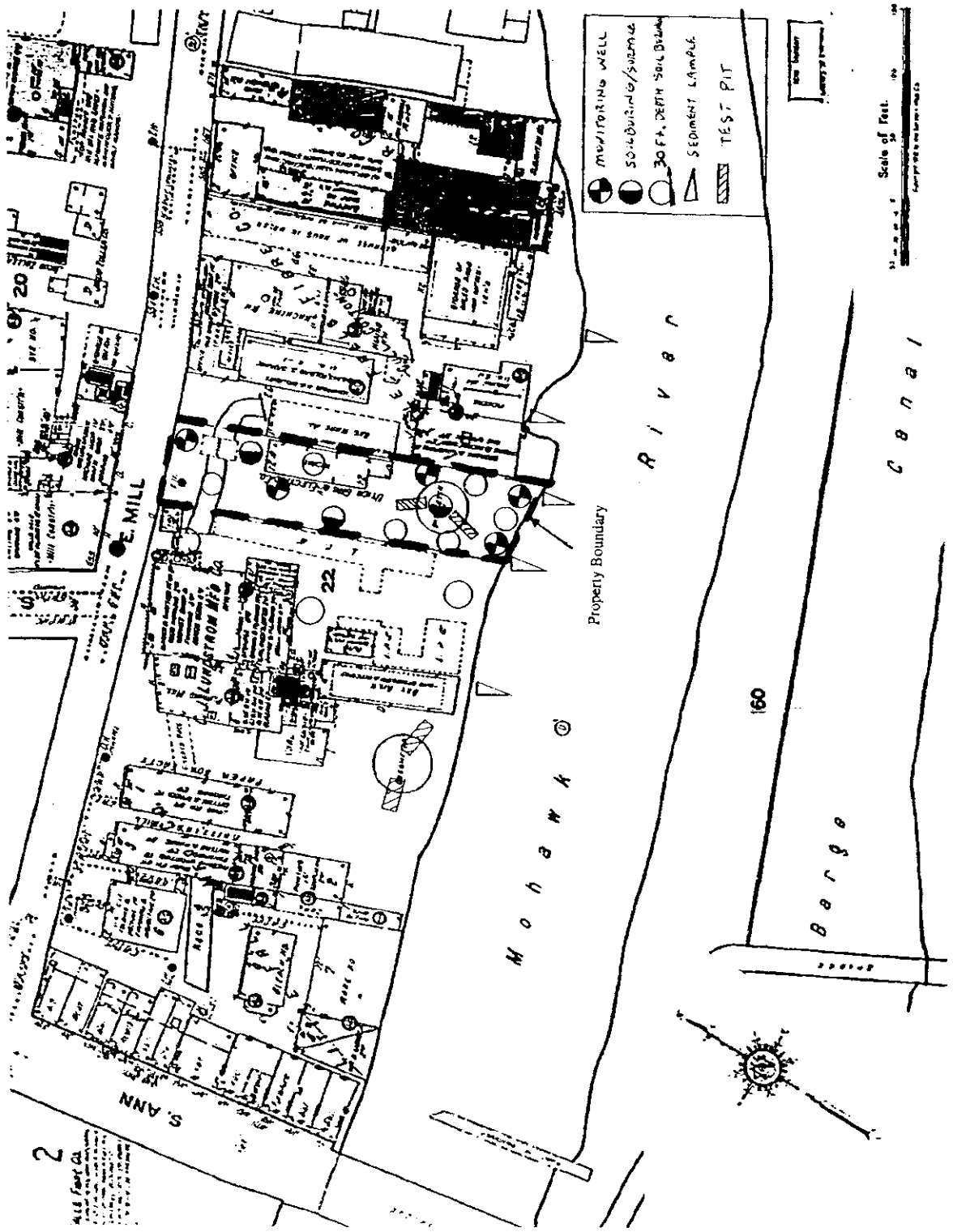
1. Advancement of twelve (12) soil borings to a target depth of 30 feet to assess subsurface conditions. If soil samples indicate the presence of MGP impacts, the soil borings will be advanced deeper until there is reasonable assurance we are beyond the zone of impact. The locations of the borings, arranged in a grid pattern, will be biased (tighter grid spacing) toward the purifier and holder areas, including borings inside the holders (center and perimeter) to determine the presence of DNAPL or impacted material in the holder and the configuration/construction material of the holder foundation (e.g., sloped, cone, etc.) Three (3) borings will be installed on the adjacent property to delineate possible off-site migration and/or MGP-related activities.

2. Five (5) additional borings will be converted to monitoring wells. The location of these borings will include one (1) upgradient (background) and four (4) downgradient of the holder and purifier area to detect impacts in groundwater, if any, from these former structures and on-site operations. The wells will be oriented for the collection of water level measurements to ascertain groundwater flow direction and to obtain representative groundwater samples. The wells will be constructed of 2-inch PVC Schedule 40 screen and riser, with a target depth of 30 feet.

3. Excavation of two (2) on-site test pits and two (2) off-site test pits, two (2) located across opposite walls of each of the two gas holders (one on-site and one on the adjacent property), to determine the location, dimensions, construction, and whether MGP impacts are still present in each of the holders.

4. Collection of five (5) sediment samples, located to assess whether Site impacts have occurred to the river flowing just south of the Site. One (1) sediment sample location will be upstream of the Site, one (1) sediment sample location will be downstream of the Site, and three (3) locations will be sampled along the length of the Site. A surface sediment sample (0.0 to 0.5 feet bgs) will be collected at each location. Sediment samples will be collected within 10 feet

Figure 4. Site Characterization Sampling and Test Pit Locations



of the shore and analyzed for TCL/TAL and TOC parameters. Use of a boat is not anticipated.

5. Analytical samples will be collected from specific sample locations/intervals based on field observations at the following frequency: 1) up to six (6) soil samples from each soil boring and monitoring well location will be analyzed for BTEX, PAHs and CN; 2) one soil sample will be collected from each borehole and analyzed for TOC; 3) two (2) rounds of groundwater samples from each of the wells will be analyzed for full TCL/TAL and natural attenuation parameters; 4) sediment samples will be analyzed for full TCL/TAL parameters and TOC; 5) based on field observations, samples collected adjacent to the holder and others may be designated for GC fingerprint analysis, particularly if non-MGP impacts are suspected (a holder sample will then serve as a "background" for fingerprint comparison); and 6) two (2) Shelby tube samples will be analyzed for geotechnical parameters (i.e., porosity, permeability, bulk density, grain size, Atterberg limits, % moisture, and specific gravity). See Table 1 for analytical testing details.

6. A Phase IA Cultural Resources Survey will also be conducted at the Site after the completion of the Site Characterization. The Stage IA Survey will include the results of background investigations on the history and prehistory of the project area, report of the results of file searches at both the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the New York State Museum, provide an evaluation of the effects of proposed Site Characterization activities on potentially significant historic properties, and if necessary, make recommendation regarding the need for additional work. It is assumed that NM will provide and/or arrange: 1) a copy of any historical information available for the Site; 2) all cultural resources information available, if any; and 3) access to the project area for a Site visit.

7. A Fish and Wildlife Impact Analysis (FWIA) will also be performed at the Site. The analysis will be conducted in accordance with the NYSDEC guidance document "Fish and Wildlife Impact Analysis for Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites" revised October 1994. The overall objectives of the FWIA are to evaluate ecological impacts in areas contaminated with hazardous waste and to assist in planning the scope of work required for Site Characterization and remediation. The currently planned scope of the FWIA is to complete Steps I through IIB. Subsequent steps will be undertaken if required based on the results of Steps I through IIB.

8. A baseline ground survey of the Site will be performed to develop a base map of the Site for development of the Site GIS and for presentation of data. This baseline survey will encompass surveying surface features, elevations (2-foot contours), underground utilities, structures, materials of construction, easements, property lines, and other relevant information located within the survey limits identified by Foster Wheeler Environmental for the Site. The second phase, Post Investigation Survey, will be conducted after Foster Wheeler Environmental conducts Site Characterization. Upon completion of the field investigation activities, a Post Investigation Survey will be performed and will include the

TABLE 1
Summary of Laboratory Analyses for Site Characterization
Little Falls (Mill Street) Non-owned Former MGP Site

Subtask	Sample Matrix	Laboratory Analysis	Field QC Samples			Laboratory QC Samples			
			No. of Samples	Trip Blanks[3]	Field Duplicates	Equipment/ Field Blanks	MS/MSD[1]	MSB/LCS[2]	Total
Sediment	Soil	TCL VOCs, SVOCs, TAL metals, TOC	5	0	1	1	1/1	1/1	11
Subsurface Soil	Soil	BTEX, PAHs, CN^-	102	0	6	6	6/6	6/6	138
		TOC	17	0	0	0	0	0	17
		GC Fingerprint	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
		Geotechnical parameters[4]	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Groundwater	Water	TCL VOCs, SVOCs, TAL metals, NA[5].	10[6]	4	2	2	2/2	2/2	26

NOTES:

1 MS/MSD: matrix spike/matrix spike duplicate.
2 MSB/LCS: matrix spike blank/laboratory control sample.
3 Trip blanks will be analyzed for TCL VOC parameters only.
4 Porosity, permeability, bulk density, grain size, Atterberg Limits, % moisture and specific gravity.
5 NA: Natural attenuation parameters consist of ferrous iron, dissolved methane, TDS, chloride, COD, BOD, dissolved CO_2, total and diffuse cyanide, standard plate count, alkalinity, orthophosphate, ammonia, sulfate, nitrate, TOC and ferric iron.
6 Based on two rounds of groundwater sampling.

survey of wells installed, soil borings drilled, test pit excavated, and sediment sampling locations.

9. Analytical data from the Site Characterization will be obtained from the laboratories in GIS-compatible format and imported into GIS\Key™ for data tracking, analysis and presentation. Within the GIS, data will be compared to regulatory limits (e.g., TAGM 4046 for soils, etc.). Maps depicting the groundwater flow direction and the soil and groundwater analytical data will be developed in the GIS for incorporation into the Site Characterization Report; the figures will provide a summary of the data as well as highlighting regulatory exceedances. Boring logs and cross sections will also be developed in the GIS based on the field data for presentation in the Site Characterization Report. In the event upon review of the data generated, additional investigation is needed at the Site, we will negotiate with the NM PM a reduced deliverable (Data Deliverable) to the NYSDEC.

10. The analytical data generated from the field activities will undergo data validation. A Data Usability Summary Report (DUSR) will be prepared following completion of the data validation task.

4.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION

Health and safety requirements for Site Characterization activities are provided in the Generic Health and Safety Plan (Volume II). The Site-specific Hospital Route Map and Emergency and Site Contacts are provided as Attachments A and B, respectively, to this Work Plan.

5.0 PROJECT SCHEDULE

The schedule for implementation of the Little Falls (Mill Street) Non-owned Former MGP Site Characterization activities is provided in Figure 5. This conceptual schedule identifies major milestones for the overall Site Characterizations for the Little Falls (Mill Street) Non-owned Former MGP Site. Under the Voluntary Cleanup Order, NM is concurrently performing Site Characterizations activities at a number of Sites. In order to complete these investigations as efficiently as possible, NM may adjust the schedule of the intermediate activities (e.g., field investigation, survey, etc.) at the Little Falls (Mill Street) Non-owned Former MGP Site to allow these activities to be performed sequentially with other Sites in the proximity to the Little Falls (Mill Street) Non-owned Former MGP Site.

6.0 REFERENCES

Radian, 1985: Survey of Town Gas and By-Product Production and Locations in the U.S. (1880-1950), Robert Eng, Radian Corporation for USEPA (EPA/600/7-85/004), February 1985.

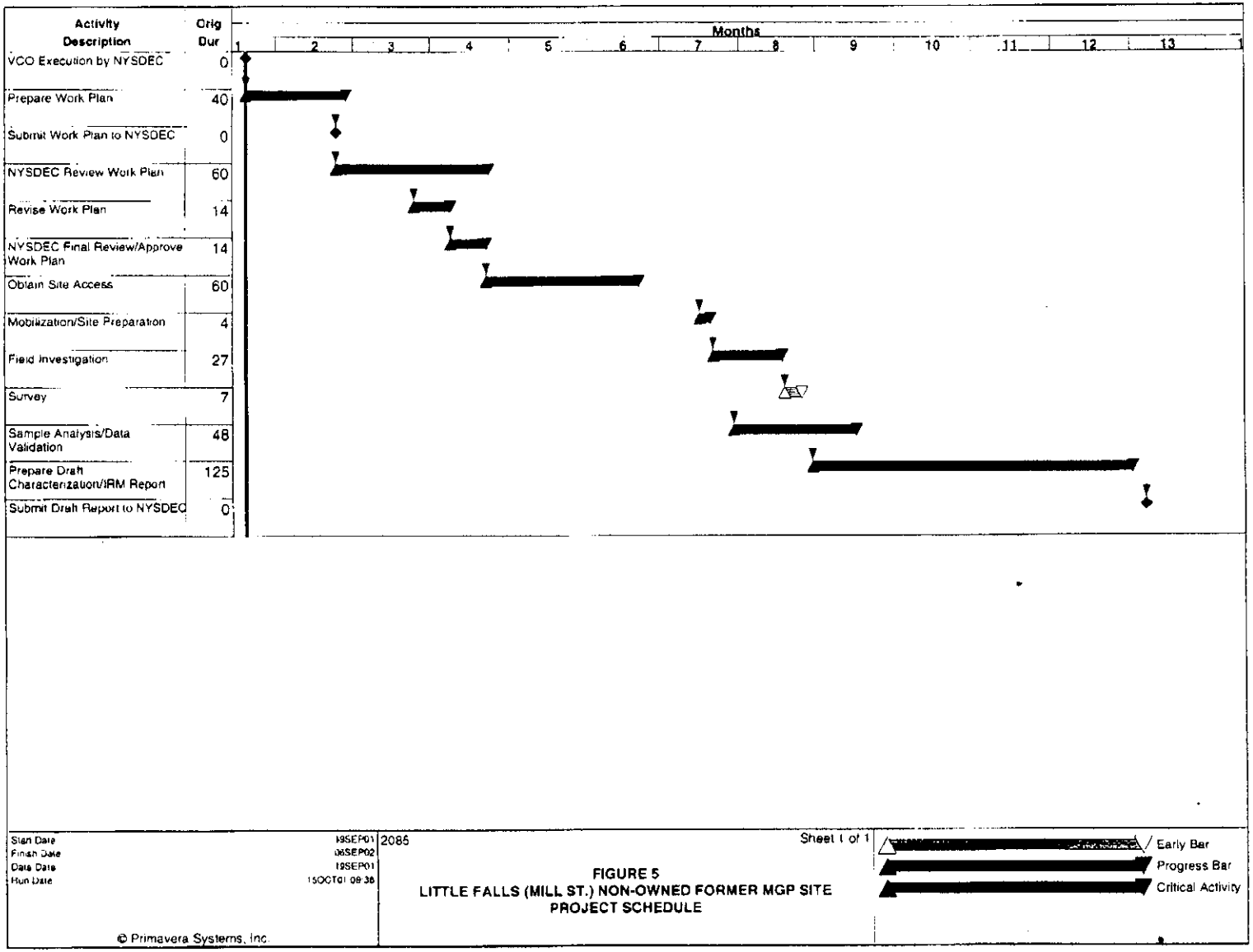
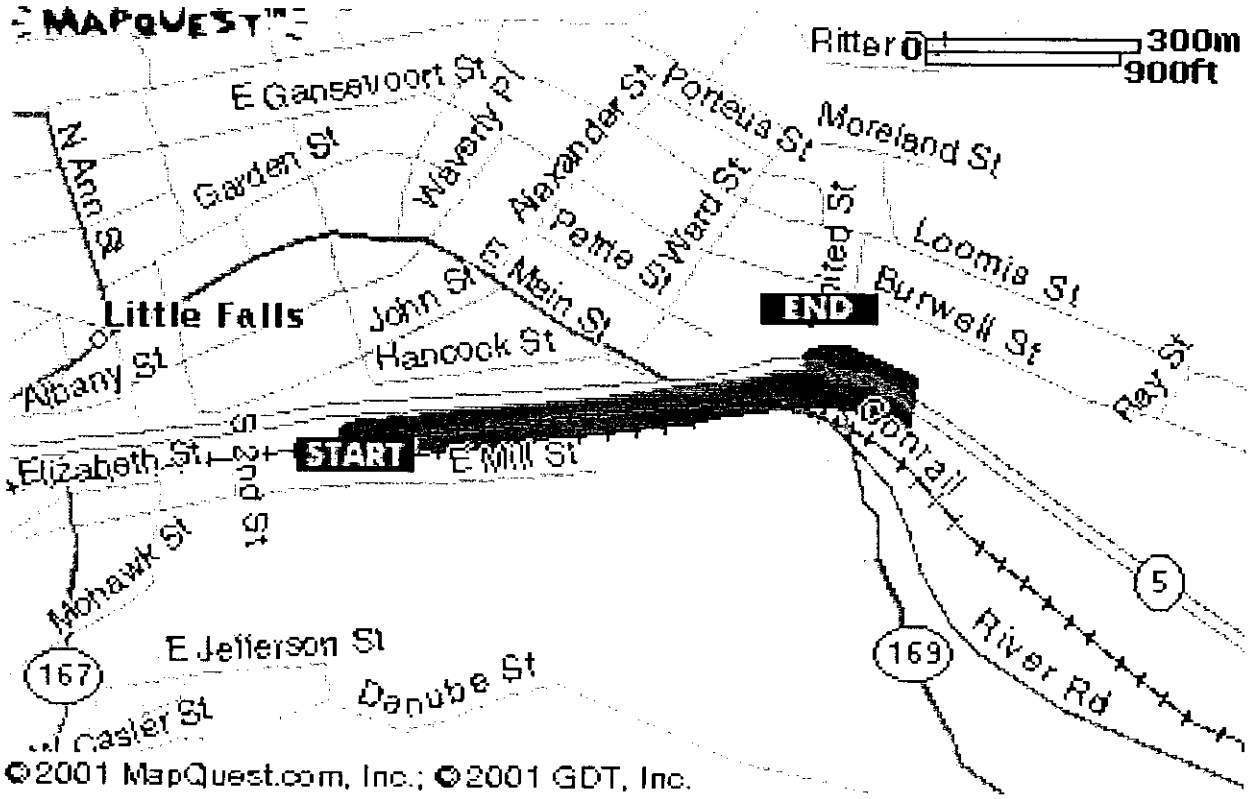


FIGURE 5
LITTLE FALLS (MILL ST.) NON-OWNED FORMER MGP SITE
PROJECT SCHEDULE

ATTACHMENT A

HOSPITAL ROUTE MAP

LITTLE FALLS HOSPITAL
140 BURWELL AVENUE
LITTLE FALLS, NEW YORK 13365
315-823-1000



DIRECTIONS:
1: Start out going East on NY-167 E towards RIVER RD by turning right. - 0.5 miles
2: Turn LEFT onto NY-169. 0.1 miles

ATTACHMENT B

EMERGENCY AND SITE CONTACTS

EMERGENCY AND SITE CONTACTS

CONTACT	FIRM OR AGENCY	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Police		911
Fire		911
Hospital	Little Falls Hospital 140 Burwell Avenue Little Falls, NY 13365	315-823-1000
Ambulance		911
NM Project Manager Steve Stucker	Niagara Mohawk	315-428-5652
NM Safety Department William Todeschini	Niagara Mohawk	315-460-1303
Foster Wheeler Environmental Project Manager Tom Wollen	Foster Wheeler Environmental Corp.	315-472-5962
Foster Wheeler Environmental Project Environmental and Safety Manager Grey Coppi	Foster Wheeler Environmental Corp.	215-702-4079
Foster Wheeler Environmental FOL TBD *	Foster Wheeler Environmental Corp.	973-452-4279 (Field Cell Phone)
Chemtrec		800-424-9300
National Response Center		800-424-8802
NYSDEC Spill Hotline	NYSDEC	800-457-7362 518 457-7362
Poison Control Center		800-336-6997
Underground Facility Protective Organization	UFPO	800-962-7962
Utility Emergencies (Electric & Gas)	Niagara Mohawk	800-932-0301

The Emergency Phone Numbers listed are preliminary. Upon mobilization, the FOL will verify all numbers, and document the changes in the Site Logbook. Any changes will also be documented with a field change request form and appended to this Site-Specific Work Plan.

* TBD – To Be Determined – The FOL has not been selected for this project at this time.