



FACT SHEET

October 2008

Cohoes MGP
SITE No. V00468
Cohoes, NY

Cohoes Former Manufactured Gas Plant Site Remedial Investigation Update Public Availability Session

Cohoes Senior Citizens Center, 10 Cayuga Plaza, Cohoes
November 5, 2008, 7 – 9 PM

National Grid has been conducting a detailed Remedial Investigation (RI) at a former manufactured gas plant (MGP) property in the City of Cohoes. National Grid has been working in accordance with the provisions of a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement signed with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). This fact sheet announces an upcoming Public Availability Session, to be held on November 5, 2008, where results from the first two phases of the investigation will be presented to the public.

Site Location and Description: The Cohoes MGP is located on the Linden Street Extension in the area between NYS Route 787 and the Mohawk River, Cohoes (see attached figure). Until recently, the site was occupied by the St. Michael's Community Center, which was demolished in the early 2008. The site currently consists of an open field with a wooded area to the south.

Site Background: The property was used by the Cohoes Gas Company from 1880 until 1926, and the Cohoes Power and Light Corporation from 1926 until approximately 1930. The plant heated coal and produced a "manufactured" gas which was utilized for lighting, heating and cooking by Cohoes homes and businesses. Manufactured gas was stored in above and below ground tanks on this site until approximately 1949. The property was transferred to Niagara Mohawk in 1950 as part of its incorporation from many smaller companies, including Cohoes Power and Light Corporation. Niagara Mohawk was subsequently acquired by National Grid.

National Grid is currently undertaking this investigation to evaluate the nature and extent of contamination from the past operations as a manufactured gas plant, and to identify potential threats to public health and the environment. The initial phase of investigation included the collection of subsurface soil and groundwater samples. Analysis of the samples revealed the presence of MGP-related contamination in both the soil and groundwater.

As a result of the findings, a second phase of investigation was planned and completed in 2007. This included the collection and analysis of additional soil and groundwater samples. Based on the data obtained, it was determined that additional on- and off-site investigations are needed to more fully delineate the extent of contamination.

Next Steps: The third phase of the investigation is scheduled to begin in late Fall of 2008, and will include the collection of subsurface and surface soil samples. Also, the existing underground sewer piping will be investigated to determine if the piping or pipe bedding is serving as a migration pathway for the contamination. Additional groundwater wells will also be installed on- and off-site, and groundwater samples will be collected and for analysis.

Community Outreach and Future Activities: DEC will host a Public Availability Session on November 5, 2008 from 7-9 PM. at the Cohoes Senior Citizens Center, 10 Cayuga Plaza, Cohoes. This will include a brief presentation and an informal question and answer session. Project personnel will discuss the findings to date and the upcoming remedial activities.

Following the completion of the investigation, an Investigation Report will be prepared. Subsequently, a Remedial Alternatives Report will be prepared to evaluate potential remedies based on the results of the investigation. DEC, in consultation with the New York State Department of Health, will then develop a Proposed Remedial Action Plan. The Plan, which will detail a proposed remedy, will be made available for public review and comment.

Document Repositories: The investigation work plan and other site related documents are available for public review at the locations listed below. As additional documents are created, they will be placed in the document repositories.

Cohoes Public Library
 169 Mohawk Street.
 Cohoes, NY 12047
 Attn: Deborah Canzano
 Phone: (518) 235-2570
 Hours: M/W - 10am - 8pm
 Tu/Th/Fr – 10 am – 5pm
 Sa – 10am – 4pm

NYSDEC Central Office
 625 Broadway, 11th floor
 Albany, New York 12233
 Attn: Mr. John B. Miller
 Phone: (518) 402-9564
 By Appointment

DEC encourages your participation in the project. Your understanding and involvement help ensure a cleanup program that effectively protects public health and the environment.

For More Information:

Site Investigation:	Citizen Participation:	Health Related Information
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Figure 1

