



FACT SHEET

Voluntary Cleanup Program

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Cohoes (Linden St.) MGP Site
V00468
City of Cohoes, NY

April 2011

Investigation to Continue at Cohoes Linden Street Voluntary Cleanup Program Site

National Grid (“volunteer”), with oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), will soon continue field activities at the Cohoes Linden Street Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site (“site”) located on the Linden Street Extension in the area between NYS Route 787 and the Mohawk River in the City of Cohoes, Albany County. See [Figure 1](#) for site location.

The volunteer will be completing field activities to obtain the information necessary to finalize the ongoing Remedial Investigation (RI) at the site. A Pre-Alternatives Analysis Field Investigation (PAAFI) work plan has been approved by NYSDEC under New York’s Voluntary Cleanup Program. The investigation work plan is available at the locations identified below under “Where to Find Information”.

Highlights of the Site Investigation

An RI is required when contamination has been documented at a site. Previous site activities have documented contamination in the form of coal tar, which is a contaminant often associated with MGP activity. Coal tar is characterized by a petroleum type odor and often contains various

compounds such as benzene and toluene. Earlier phases of the site’s RI have documented contamination in both soil and groundwater. Contamination has also migrated into the bedrock beneath the site. National Grid’s PAAFI work plan summarizes the scope of the upcoming investigation activities which will help fill data gaps that currently exist in the site’s RI. The PAAFI will also obtain information that will be used for the process of selecting the site remedy. Investigation activities are scheduled to begin sometime in the second quarter of

Voluntary Cleanup Program: New York’s Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) was developed to encourage private sector volunteers to investigate and clean up contaminated properties and return these sites to productive use. Once cleaned up, the properties may be redeveloped for commercial, industrial, residential or public use.

For more information about the VCP, visit:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8442.html

2011 and are expected to take several weeks to complete.

Specific site activities to be completed during the PAAFI and additional RI work include:

- installation of soil and bedrock borings
- installation of overburden and bedrock groundwater monitoring wells
- collection of soil and groundwater samples to fully delineate the nature and extent of site contamination
- excavation of test pits
- collection of bedrock cores to obtain data that will help in evaluation of potential remedial alternatives
- collection of surface soil samples for comparison to both human health and ecological guidelines with the goal of evaluating a potential cover system at the site

Next Steps

When the investigation is completed, the volunteer will prepare and submit a PAAFI Report that will present the results of the investigation. The data generated will be submitted as an addendum to the existing draft RI report.

Following the RI, the volunteer will evaluate cleanup options to select the best overall remedy for site cleanup. The proposed remedy will be made public in a draft Decision Document. This plan will go out to the public for review and comment. The final decisions will be memorialized in a final Decision Document.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the site.

Background and Site History

NYSDEC has an agreement with National Grid to investigate and remediate contaminated sites for which they are responsible, including the Cohoes Linden Street Former MGP site. The property was used for producing and storing manufactured gas from around 1880 to 1949, during which time the gas was used for heating and lighting by the residents of Cohoes. The property was subsequently obtained by Niagara Mohawk, which was in turn acquired by National Grid. The state's Voluntary Cleanup Agreement with National Grid calls for the volunteer to evaluate and, where necessary, remediate MGP by-products that may remain at a site.

The site is located in a residential and light commercial area of the City of Cohoes. It was the location of the former St. Michael's Community Center. Previous site investigations include a Site Characterization (SC) that is summarized in the January 2004 SC report. An RI has been underway at the site since 2005.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the location(s) listed on page three to help the public stay informed. Additional documents will be placed in the repositories as they are approved.

1. Cohoes City Public Library
169 Mohawk St.
Cohoes, NY 12047
Ph: 518-235-2570
Hours: Mon/Wed - 10AM - 8PM
Tu/Th/Fri - 10AM - 5PM
Sa. - 10AM - 4PM; Su - Closed

2. NYSDEC
625 Broadway, Albany
11th floor
Attn: Mr. John Miller
Ph: 518-402-9564
Mon – Fri 8AM – 4PM

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

John B. Miller
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway, Albany NY
518.402.9564
jymiller@gw.dec.state.ny.us
Call for an appointment

Site-Related Health Questions

Maureen Schuck
New York State Department of Health
547 River Street, Troy, NY
518.402.7860
mer10@health.state.ny.us

Questions for National Grid

Steven Stucker
National Grid Company
300 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, NY 13202
Phone: 315.428.5652 or
steven.stucker@us.ngrid.com

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.

Figure 1

