

facsimile

TRANSMITTAL

to: Richard Gardineer, P.E./John O'Connell
fax #: (718)482-4954
re: Brooklyn Union Public Meeting Fact Sheet
date: November 20, 1997
pages: 3, including this cover sheet.

From the desk of...

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One MetroTech Center
Brooklyn, New York 11201-3850

November 20, 1997


Mr. Dave Crosby, P.E.
Project Manager
NYSDEC
Central Field Construction Section
Division of Environmental Remediation
50 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12233-7010

Dear Mr. Crosby:

Attached please find the DRAFT Fact Sheet announcing the Public Meeting which will be held on December 10, 1997. This Fact Sheet outlines the scope of the proposed Public Meeting and provides the necessary contacts at Brooklyn Union, NYSDEC, and NYSDOH in the event interested parties have any questions or comments regarding this meeting.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (718)403-2331.

Respectfully,


Agnes Antonian
Environmental Engineer

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Nigel Crawford/Mr. Sean Bollers, NYSDEC, Region 2
Mr. Richard Gardiner, P.E./ Mr. John O'Connell, NYSDEC, Region 2
Mr. Bill Gilday, NYSDOH
Mr. Bill Hewitt, NYSDEC, Region 2
Ms. Nina Knapp, NYSDOH
Dennis Harkawik, Jaeckle, Fleishmann & Muegel

Fact Sheet 2

November 20, 1997

Public Meeting on Coney Island Site to be Held on December 10

Brooklyn Union's Coney Island Hotlines

Brooklyn Union has opened two "hotlines" for Coney Island neighbors with questions about the clean-up at the Brooklyn Borough Gas Works.

Telephone Hotline:

Cathy Sevos
718.403.2900

E-Mail Hotline:

Cathy Sevos
CSevos@bug.com

NYSDEC and NYSDOH Contacts

NYSDEC:

Bureau of Construction
Services
Dave Crosby 518.457.9285

NYSDOH (Dept. of Health)

Health Liaison:
Nina Knapp
1.800.458.1158 ext. 402

Exposure Investigation:

Bill Gilday
1.800.458.1158 ext. 6305

Meeting Part of Citizens Participation Plan

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and Brooklyn Union, the owners of the Brooklyn Borough Gas Works site that is bordered by the Shore Parkway and Coney Island Creek, will hold a Public Meeting on December 10 to present a summary of the Remedial Investigation Report about the site and to respond to questions from the public. The meeting will be held between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. at P.S. 288 which is located on 2950 West 25th St., Brooklyn (between Surf Ave. and Mermaid Ave.). Brooklyn Union and NYSDEC agreed to an Order on Consent in 1995 through which the industrial wastes related to the site being used as a Manufactured Gas Plant from around 1890 through the mid-1950's have been investigated and will be cleaned up as required by the NYSDEC. The Remedial Investigation Report, which has been reviewed and approved by NYSDEC, identifies the contaminants on the site and describes the environmental conditions and their impact on and near the site. It is a required aspect of the Order on Consent, and is conducted to standards required by NYSDEC. The Public Meeting is part of the Citizen Participation Plan, which Brooklyn Union developed with NYSDEC and which is also required under the Order on Consent.

History

Brooklyn Union became the owners of this site in 1959, when it acquired the Brooklyn Borough Gas Company. At the time of the acquisition, production of gas on the site had already been discontinued. As information developed in the late 1970's and early 1980's about the environmental impacts of MGP sites, Brooklyn Union commissioned a series of studies on the site, conducted by independent expert consultants. Those studies, some of which were reviewed by New York City authorities and which included tests required by them, identified that there was underground contamination on the site, and that there was occasional seeping of contamination from the site into Coney Island Creek, but that exposure to these contaminants at the surface was below the level that would cause an imminent danger to human health or irreversible damages to environment. The Remedial Investigation Report was designed to incorporate these studies, and combined with new data from studies conducted in 1996 and 1997 under the jurisdiction of the NYSDEC, provide guidance as to how the site can best be cleaned up. The Remedial Investigation Report was placed in the Document Repositories on November 21, 1997, and is available for public inspection.

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Document Repositories on BBGW Clean-Up

Coney Island residents have access to a wide range of documents and reports about the BBGW site, including the complete text of the Remedial Investigation Report. The Document Repositories are at:

Community Board 13
2900 W. 8th Street
Brooklyn NY 11224
718.266.3001
Contact: Chuck
Reichenthal

NYSDEC Region 2
1 Hunters Point Plaza
47-40 21st Street
Long Island City 11101
718.482.4995

We recommend calling
ahead for an appointment.

Community Environmental Impact

Under the terms of the Order on Consent, Brooklyn Union, together with independent consultants, will next conduct a Risk Assessment which will present and evaluate the environmental and health impacts of the contamination at the BBGW site as it currently is and as potentially remediated. The Risk Assessment will be followed by a Focused Feasibility Study (FSS) which will identify remediation strategies at the site.

The Remedial Investigation Report shows all of the chemicals, metals and other materials expected to be found on a site formerly used for an MGP, and which has not yet been cleaned-up. It shows that the chemicals and other materials do not leave the site through airborne routes. It shows that while some of the chemicals enter the groundwater, this water was not used for any purpose that would expose people to those chemicals. Finally, it shows that some of the chemicals and metals have seeped into Coney Island Creek. However, the Creek is also subject to contamination from many other sources and remediation of the Creek will require additional studies and the cooperation of all of the parties whose properties contribute to the contamination.

Public Meeting Guidelines

The Public Meeting on December 10 is open to all community residents and organizations. It is being held under NYSDEC's jurisdiction and representatives of NYSDEC and New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) will moderate the meeting and make an opening statement. Representatives of Brooklyn Union will then make a brief presentation summarizing the Remedial Investigation Report. A question period will be provided after the presentation is given. Persons with questions will be asked to identify themselves and the organization they represent before asking their questions. In the interest of giving as many persons as possible to participate, questions will be limited to no more several minutes in length.

BU, State Reps Available to Answer Questions

If you or your organization have questions about the remediation of the BBGW site, or participation in the Public Meeting, please contact Cathy Sevos through the BBGW Hotline. The NYSDEC and NYSDOH representatives identified on Page 1 are also available to answer your questions.