



FACT SHEET

Flatbush Station Former Gas Holder, Brooklyn, NY 11203

Site #224061

December 2010

Site Characterization to Begin at Flatbush Station Former Gas Holder

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and National Grid (formerly KeySpan) are announcing that the site characterization of a former manufactured gas holder station ("Site"), located between Winthrop Street and Clarkson Avenue and bisected by Parkside Avenue in Brooklyn, New York, will begin in Winter 2010.

Site Description:

The former holder station is located between Winthrop Street and Clarkson Avenue and bisected by Parkside Avenue in Brooklyn, New York. A map showing its location appears on the next page.

Gas distribution structures were present from 1905 to 1979. The construction of the gas holder facility appears to have been completed between 1900 and 1905, and was operated by the Flatbush Gas Co. The facility was comprised of a gas holder to the north of Parkside Avenue, a gas holder located to the south of Parkside Avenue, along with a coal shed, brick oil tank, boiler house, generators, dynamos, carpenter shop, cement storage, lamp house, meter house, and an office building. Based on the layout of these early structures, the Site may have been operated by the Flatbush Gas Co. for the production of manufactured gas. The gas was provided to homes, businesses and industries and used in much the same way natural gas is used today. Additional information on manufactured gas plants can be found at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8430.html>.

Site Characterization:

The principal contamination targeted by the site characterization is coal tar, which is the primary by-product associated with manufactured gas sites. Coal tar is a brownish to black liquid with an odor similar to driveway sealer. It contains a variety of environmental contaminants including polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (BTEX).

Background:

In 2007, National Grid (then KeySpan) entered into a consent order with the NYSDEC that requires National Grid to investigate and where necessary, remediate former gas manufacturing and storage sites. The former Flatbush Station A&B site is one of the sites that was included in the consent order.

In December, 2010, National Grid will begin a site characterization to determine whether any contamination related to the former gas storage operation exists in the soil or groundwater beneath the Site. Site characterization activities will include drilling of soil borings, installation of groundwater monitoring wells, and collection of soil and water samples for chemical analysis. All work will be done under the oversight of NYSDEC and the NYSDOH.

(Over Please)

For More Information:

NYSDEC, NYSDOH and National Grid will keep you informed throughout the remedial program. If you have any questions or if you would like to be added to the site contact list, contact the NYSDEC Project Manager listed below. If you would like more information about this project you are welcome to review site-related documents that are available to the public at the following locations. We recommend you call ahead for an appointment.

Document Repositories:

Brooklyn Public Library
Crown Heights Branch
560 New York Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11225
Tel: (718)773-1180

NYSDEC Central Office,
625 Broadway, 11th Floor
Albany, New York 12233-7014
Attn: Robin Hackett
Tel: (518) 402-9662

Brooklyn Community Board 9
890 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11225
Tel: (718)778-9279
District Manager:
Pearl Miles

Who to Contact:

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

Project-related Questions

Robin Hackett
Project Manager
NYSDEC Div. of Environmental
Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7017
Tel: (518) 402-9662
Email: rlhackett@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-related Health Questions

Stephanie Selmer
NYSDOH
Bureau of Environmental
Exposure Investigation
547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180-2216
Tel: (518) 402-7860, or
1-(800) 458-1158 ext. 27860
bei@health.state.ny.us

Telephone Hotline

National Grid has a Hotline for neighbors of the Site^s. The Hotline provides an opportunity to ask questions or leave comments.

Tel: (718) 403 2070

If you know someone who would like to be added to the site contact 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.

