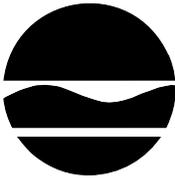


NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION

Dear Interested Citizen:

This Fact Sheet provides an update on activities at this site. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact:

Mr. Douglas MacNeal
Project Manager
NYSDEC
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7017
(518) 402-9662

or

For information on site related activities, you can contact Keyspan:

Ms. Jo-Anne Taormina
Rockaway Park Site Hotline
(718) 403-3400

For site related health questions, contact the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) staff:

Ms. Stephanie Haskins
NYSDOH
547 River St. Rm 300
Troy, NY 12180-2216
1-800-458-1158 ext.27880

minimal contamination present in that Northwest parcel. In October 2000, the NYSDEC redefined the site, excluding the Northwest corner. While a limited amount of contamination was found, it did not represent a

FACT SHEET

Remedial Investigation and Interim Remedial Measures: LILCO Rockaway Park MGP Site

Site No: 2-41-029

September 2001

INTRODUCTION

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in cooperation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), is providing this update of the current status of the LILCO Rockaway Park Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) site. The site, located at the corner of Beach Channel Drive and Beach 108th Street in Rockaway Park, was historically identified as the location of a MGP. Past investigations have identified contaminants related to the production of coal gas at the site. These contaminants include coal tar and purifier waste.

BACKGROUND

Gas production began at the site in the 1880's and continued there until the mid-1950's. During its life, the plant expanded several times to increase its production and storage capacities. Most of these expansions were onto adjacent properties which were reclaimed with fill dredged from Jamaica Bay. During the life of the plant, it was owned by three companies. The final owner of the MGP, while it was still producing gas, was the Long Island Lighting Company (LILCO). The property remained LILCO's until they merged with Brooklyn Union Gas Company in 1998 to form Keyspan.

REMEDIAL HISTORY

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) performed an initial study to determine the site's level of contamination in the late 1980's. The EPA found little evidence of contamination and placed the site low on their priority list for further evaluation. In 1995, work at the adjacent Mobil Gas Station uncovered a large volume of purifier waste. This material is characterized by a strong sulfur smell and a particular blue color. Mobil Oil, under a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement with the NYSDEC, removed this purifier waste from the Mobil site in 1997. In 1995, LILCO initiated a Phase 1 Site Investigation of the MGP site. The findings were published in January of 1997 and, based on those findings, the NYSDEC added the site to the State's Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites (Registry) as a class 2 site. A class 2 site "poses a significant threat to the public health or environment and requires remedial action." As a result of this classification, Keyspan entered into an Order on Consent with the NYSDEC, in 1999, to perform a remedial investigation/feasibility study and remediation of the site.

In August of 2000, Keyspan Energy petitioned the NYSDEC, to redefine the boundaries of the class 2 site. Keyspan proposed to have an approximate one acre parcel in the Northwest corner of the site removed from the Registry, because there was no evidence of use of the parcel by the old MGP operations nor was there evidence of significant disposal or discharge. After a comprehensive review of historical data and the results of sampling submitted by Keyspan, the NYSDEC concurred that there was minimal contamination present in that Northwest parcel. In October 2000, the NYSDEC redefined the site, excluding the Northwest corner. While a limited amount of contamination was found, it did not represent a

significant threat to public health and the environment and could be removed and disposed. Subsequent to the redefinition of the site and the removal of the parcel in the Northwest corner, Keyspan began work on a new substation on that parcel under contract to the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA), for whose electric system the substation would operate. The new substation would replace a substation that had operated in the site since the 1920's.

CURRENT CONDITIONS

After completing the removal of a tar layer deposited in the proposed substation area, believed to have originated from past road construction activities, Keyspan began to perform the land clearing and excavation for the foundation of the new substation. During substation construction activities, some additional areas of subsurface contamination were noted on the site. This contamination consisted of a layer of asphalt and a small area of coal fines. The NYSDEC investigated the area and outlined a cleanup of the coal residuals and of a small area of MGP related contamination right at the demarcation line between the site and the new substation parcel. This work was progressing until the last week of August 2001 when, due to community concerns, Keyspan suspended all work at the site until further notice.

The remaining area of the site continues to be listed as a Class 2 site on the Registry, as significant amounts of coal tar and other associated contaminants have been found. The site is the subject of a remedial investigation to determine the exact extent and nature of the contamination. The report of this investigation is due to be submitted to the NYSDEC by mid-November and will be available for public review shortly thereafter.

UPCOMING WORK RELATING TO THE CLASS 2 ROCKAWAY PARK MGP SITE

The report for the remedial investigation is to be received by the NYSDEC by mid-November. Also, once access to the bulkhead area across the street is granted by the City of New York, Keyspan will be performing additional investigation activities and an IRM in the area on the North side of Beach Channel Drive (the Bulkhead). The purpose of the IRM is to remove a limited area of contamination found at or near the surface. This work will include borings to find the depth of the contamination to determine the extent of remedial measures. As part of the IRM, contamination will be removed, or stabilized in place. Some historic MGP-related piping in the vicinity will also be removed. Any piping that can't be removed will be capped. Additional remedial investigation activities will also occur at or near the Bulkhead area. These will include five soil borings each to 60 feet, eight surface soil samples, five groundwater probes.

DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES

The NYSDEC and the NYSDOH will keep you informed throughout the remedial program. Your understanding and involvement in this project will help to ensure an effective remediation. If you would like more information about this project, you are urged to review site related documents at the following repositories:

Queens Borough Public Library
Peninsula Branch
92-25 Rockaway Beach Blvd
Rockaway Beach, NY 11693
(718) 634-1110

Community Board 14
1931 Mott Avenue
Far Rockaway, NY 11694
(718) 471-7300
(by appointment)

New York State DEC
Region 2 Headquarters
1 Hunters Point Plaza
47-40 21st Street
Long Island City, NY 11101-5407
(718) 482-4900
(by appointment)

The following documents are available at each of these repositories:

1. Investigation Work Plan: Former Rockaway Park MGP Site
2. Consent Order Agreement
3. Citizen Participation Plan for Former Rockaway Park MGP Site
4. Substation Investigation report and Delisting Petition
5. Letter from T. Leissing to A. Omorogbe, Re: Bulkhead Investigation Program
6. Construction Support Activities for the New LIPA Rockaway Beach Substation.
7. Letter from M. O'Toole, to T. Leissing, Re: Petition to Modify LILCO Rockaway Park Site #241029
8. Letter from T. Leissing to A. Omorogbe, Re: Rockaway Park Remedial Investigation - Proposal for Soil Sampling and Analysis Support Construction of an Underground Feeder Cable
9. Work Plan for the Rockaway Park Former Manufactured Gas Plant Site IRM- Bulkhead Area
10. Interim Remedial Measure Study - Rockaway Park Former Manufactured Gas Plant: Substation Area, Rockaway Park, New York

11. Dear neighbor Letter, dated November 29, 1999 - distributed in the area around the site prior to the start of the remedial investigation

12. Phase I Site Investigation Report for the Rockaway Park Former Manufactured Gas Plant Site

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the remediation or other environmental aspects of the site, you may contact:

<p>Mr. Douglas MacNeal Project Manager NYSDEC 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233-7017 (518) 402-9662</p>	<p>Keyspan: Ms. Jo-Anne Taormina Rockaway Park Site Hotline (718) 403-3400</p>
<p>Mr. Dennis Wolterding New York State DEC Region 2 Headquarters 1 Hunters Point Plaza 47-40 21st Street Long Island City, NY 11101-5407 (718) 482-4602</p>	<p>Ms. Stephanie Haskins NYSDOH 547 River St. Rm 300 Troy, NY 12180-2216 1-800-458-1158 ext.27880 or Mr. Mark VanDeusen NYSDOH Outreach Unit 1-800-458-1158 ext. 27530</p>

*Media inquiries should be directed to the appropriate agency's press office.

