



# FACT SHEET

Central Hudson Newburgh MGP Site  
Site Number 3-36-042  
Newburgh, NY

August 2009

## "Remedial Design For Areas B&C Available for Public Review" Public Information Meeting Announced

Engineers have completed the design of the project that will address contamination related to the Central Hudson Newburgh Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site ("site") located at Water Street in Newburgh, Orange County. The Remedial Design Report is available to the public at the document repositories. See attached map for site location.

The cleanup action for the site includes the installation of a subsurface sheet-pile barrier wall, removal of Hudson River sediments that are contaminated with MGP-related coal tars, and site restoration. Central Hudson (the "responsible party") will hire a qualified contractor to perform the cleanup activities with oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

### Highlights of the Remedial Design and Upcoming Cleanup Activities

The goal of the cleanup action for the site is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment.

Cleanup activities are anticipated to begin in October 2009. The cleanup activities will be typical of what would be seen at a large construction site, with excavators, dump trucks and similar construction-type vehicles. Because contaminated soil and sediment will be transported from the site to licensed disposal facilities, additional tractor-trailer traffic will be present to and from the site. Due to this additional traffic, a Traffic Control Plan was developed for this project and it is not anticipated that the soil and sediment transport will have adverse impacts to local traffic. Significant components of the cleanup activities include:

#### Public Information Meeting & Availability Session September 10, 2009

Availability Session: 6:00 pm  
Public Information Meeting: 7:00 pm

Activity Center  
Delano Hitch Recreation Park  
401 Washington Street  
Newburgh, New York 12550

NYSDEC invites you to this discussion about cleanup activities about to begin at the site. You are encouraged during the session to ask questions and discuss the upcoming site activities.

- Mobilization and Site Setup: The contractor will be mobilizing heavy equipment and supplies to the Site beginning in October. During this time, the contractor will set up construction access roads within the site, equipment and material storage and staging areas, a temporary enclosed structure for handling contaminated soil and sediment, , a portable water treatment plant, air monitoring equipment and office trailers. Additional activities that will be conducted include removing loose stone (a.k.a. rip rap) from along the Hudson River shoreline (it will be stored for re-use at the site) and removing known obstructions from the river before dredging.
- Barrier Wall Installation: The contractor will install a sheet pile wall into the ground along the Hudson River. The purpose of the wall is to prevent coal-tar from flowing into the sediments under the Hudson River. The wall will be cut off below the ground surface to allow groundwater to flow over it. A trench will be installed behind the upland side of the wall to collect any coal-tar that flows toward the wall. The accumulated coal tar will be periodically pumped out and transported to a licensed disposal facility.
- Sediment Dredging and Handling: The contractor will dredge contaminated Hudson River sediments from two separate areas. The dredge area closest to the shore will be surrounded by temporary sheet piling and dredging will be conducted within the closed off area. Approximately 1.8 acres of sediment will be dredged between 2 and 21 feet below the sediment surface. Sediment within the second dredge area will be dredged to 2 feet. The second dredge area will be surrounded by underwater silt curtains and absorbent booms. Water quality monitoring and sampling will be conducted. All of the dredged sediment will be transported within the site to an enclosed structure for handling. The sediment will need to be stabilized for transportation to a licensed disposal facility.
- Site Restoration and Demobilization: At the conclusion of the cleanup, all disturbed areas will be restored. Equipment used during the cleanup will be decontaminated prior to removal from the site. The shoreline will be restored with plantings typical of this area of New York.
- Health and Safety: Public safety and the safety of the site workers are of utmost importance. A Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP) has been developed to protect the public from exposure to particulate matter (dust), vapors, or odors that may be generated during the work. Furthermore, a site-specific Health and Safety Plan (HASP) has been developed to identify the potential hazards at the site and prescribe the minimum protective measures necessary to control those hazards. The HASP also defines emergency procedures that must be followed.

### **Next Steps**

Central Hudson, with NYSDEC oversight is expected to begin cleanup activities at the site in early October 2009. These activities are anticipated to be completed late in 2011.

After completing cleanup activities, Central Hudson will prepare a Construction Completion Report. The Construction Completion Report will describe the cleanup activities and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed during the cleanup of the site.

## **Background**

In 1995, Central Hudson entered into an Order on Consent with the NYSDEC. The order requires Central Hudson to investigate and remediate contamination associated with the Newburgh MGP. The City of Newburgh is a party to this order, and has remained active in the investigation and remedial design of the site. Between 1996 and 2008, a number of geotechnical and environmental investigations were conducted at the site. These investigations have documented that coal tar, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes (BTEX), which are MGP-related compounds, are the primary constituents of concern (COCs) at the site. Based on a Feasibility Study completed for the former MGP site, NYSDEC issued its Record of Decision (ROD) for the site in December 2005. The ROD describes the selected remedy, including what cleanup work will be done in each of the three areas: Area A, Area B, and Area C (see map). An environmental cleanup was conducted at Area A, the site of the original gas plant, in 2007.

**Brief History of the Former Newburgh MGP:** The MGP operation began in 1876 under the name Consumers Gas Company. After a series of consolidations and mergers in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the plant came under the control of Central Hudson. The MGP expanded several times, reaching its maximum size and production capacity in approximately 1910. It was placed on standby status in 1929 and demolished in 1951. The actual MGP was located up gradient from the area where this cleanup is taking place. During MGP operation, an oily liquid byproduct, common known as coal tar, was generated. The coal tar is believed to have leaked from the MGP structures and migrated into the subsurface. Over time, the coal tar has migrated easterly beneath the ground surface toward the Hudson River. Coal tar was also believed to have been discharged directly into the Hudson River via a sewer outfall, during the historical operation of the MGP.

The property where the cleanup is taking place was formerly occupied by several industries (e.g. sawmills; shipyards and shipbuilders; lumber dealers; and manufacturers of engines, boilers and general machinery), railroads, and roads. In 1926, the City of Newburgh purchased the northernmost portion of the property from the West Shore Railroad and New York Central Railroad Company. In 1963, an incinerator was built by the City of Newburgh and was operated until approximately 1976. Construction of the current City of Newburgh Sewage Treatment Plant began in the late 1960s.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location to help the public to stay informed. These documents include the decision document describing the selected remedy for the site, called the “Record of Decision” and the Remedial Design Report for Areas B & C.

Newburgh Free Library  
124 Grand Street  
Newburgh, NY 12550  
845-563-3601  
M/Th 9-9; T/W/Sat 9-5; Closed Sun

Michael J. Knipfing  
NYSDEC  
21 South Putt Corners Road  
New Paltz, New York 12561  
845-256-3154  
M-F 9 am – 4 pm  
By appointment only

### Who to Contact

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

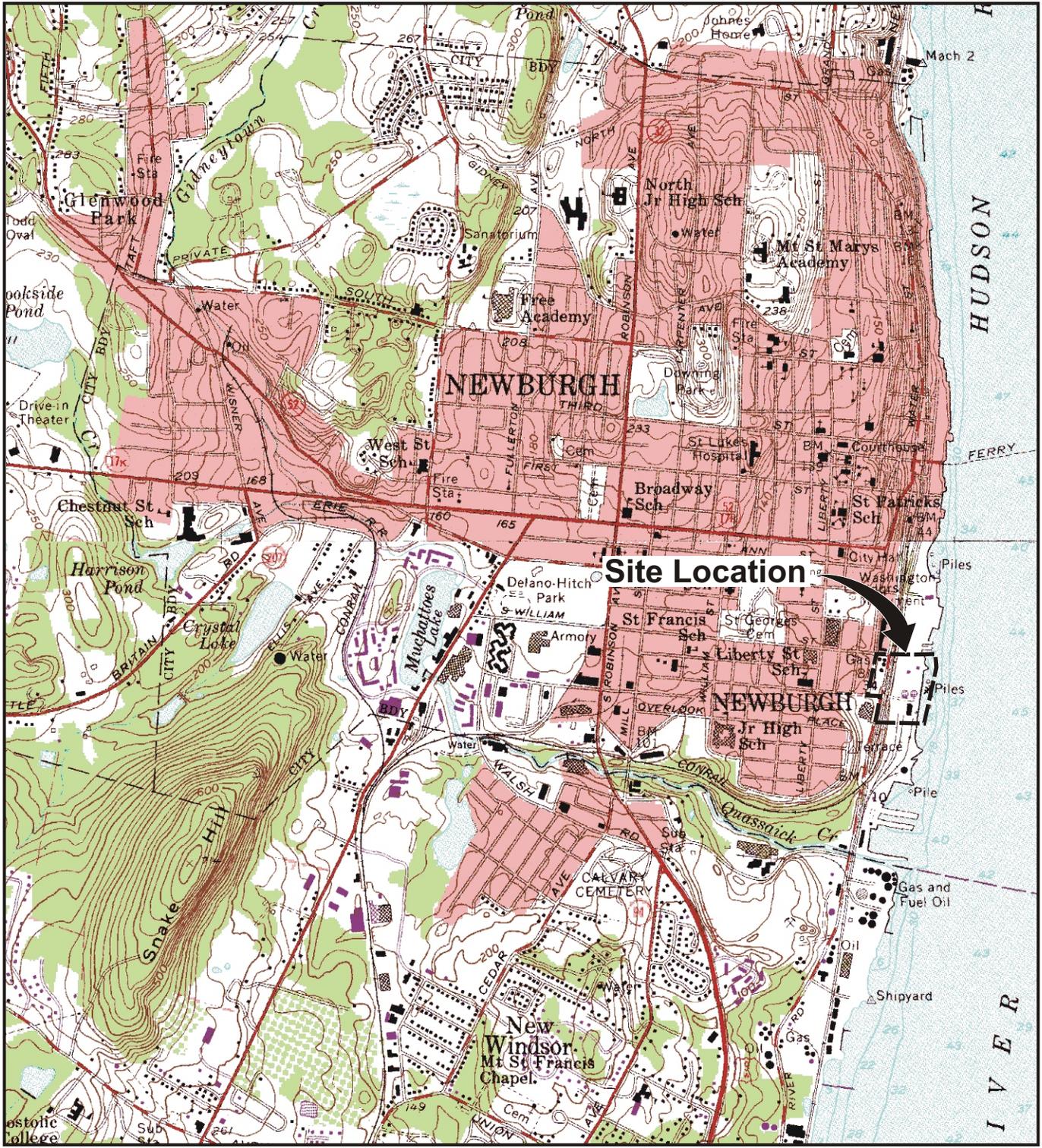
#### Project Related Questions

NYSDEC Project Manager  
Elizabeth Lukowski  
New York State Department of  
Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-7014  
(866) 520-2334  
eblukows@gw.dec.state.ny.us

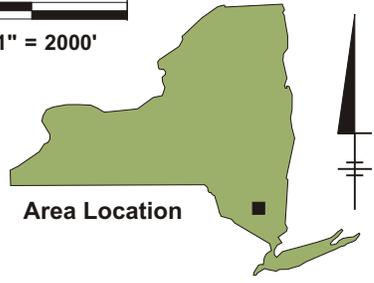
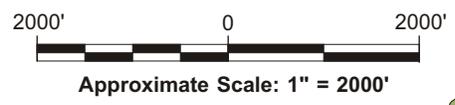
#### Site-Related Health Questions

NYSDOH Project Manager  
Kristin Kulow  
New York State Department of Health  
28 Hill Street, Suite 201  
Oneonta, NY 13820  
607-432-3911  
kxk07@health.state.ny.us

**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.**



REFERENCE: BASE MAP USGS 7.5 MIN. QUADS., CORNWALL, NY, 1957, AND NEWBURGH, NY, 1957.



CENTRAL HUDSON GAS & ELECTRIC CORPORATION  
 NEWBURGH, NEW YORK  
**AREAS B AND C**  
**FINAL REMEDIAL DESIGN REPORT**

**SITE LOCATION MAP**

05/18/09 SYRACUSE, NY, DIV. ENV./CAD-DHOWES B0020531/0000/00001/CDR/AREASB&C/FINAL-RDR/20531N01.CDR