



FACT SHEET

Notice of Availability Proposed Remedial Action Plan for the NYSEG Oneonta MGP Site

Public Meeting to be held March 10, 2005

NYSEG Oneonta MGP Site

**Proposed Remedial Action
Plan Meeting
Thursday
March 10 2005**

**Time 7:00 p.m.
Oneonta City Hall
Common Council Chamber
258 Main Street
Oneonta, NY**

The purpose of this meeting is
to present the NYSDEC's
Proposed Remedial Action Plan
(PRAP) for the NYSEG
Oneonta MGP Site, and solicit
comments from the public.
**Comments will be accepted
through
March 30, 2005**

The PRAP and other site
related documents can be
reviewed at the document
repositories listed at the end of
this fact sheet

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in conjunction with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), will hold a public meeting to present the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) for the NYSEG Oneonta Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) site and solicit formal comments from the public (see box at left). At the meeting, the NYSDEC will discuss the results of environmental investigations at the site and describe the remedial actions proposed by the State. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions relating to the site and the proposed remedy. A summary of the information presented in the PRAP is included below.

New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG) will be conducting this remediation under the terms of a 1994 consent order. No public funds are to be used for this project.

Comment Period: The public is invited to submit comments on the proposed plan until March 30, 2005. In addition to any comments received at the public meeting, written comments may be submitted until the end of the comment period to Mr. Gardiner Cross, Project Manager, at the address shown at the end of this fact sheet.

Site Description and Background: The site is located in Neahwa Park along James Georgeson Avenue in the City of Oneonta, in Otsego County. The location is shown on the attached map.

The NYSEG Oneonta MGP site was used as a manufactured gas plant from the 1880s to the early 1950s. The MGP used coal and petroleum products to produce gas which was piped throughout the City of Oneonta and used in much the same way that natural gas is used today for heating and cooking purposes. In addition, prior to the widespread availability of electricity, the gas was also used for lighting homes and businesses.

The gas manufacturing process produced an oily liquid waste material known as MGP tar. Significant quantities of the tar escaped from tanks and piping on the plant site into soils beneath the site.

NYSEG entered into a consent order with NYSDEC in 1994, which calls for NYSEG to investigate and remediate contamination at several dozen MGP sites in NYSEG's historic service area, and on neighboring properties where the tar-derived contamination has moved.

Site Investigation: NYSEG conducted a Remedial Investigation (RI) to define the nature and extent of any contamination resulting from previous activities at the site. This was a large scale environmental investigation, including 76 soil borings, installation and sampling of 23 monitoring wells, and collection of 59 sediment samples from the bottom of Mill Race Creek.

The MGP tar contains high levels of benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (known collectively as BTEX compounds) and high levels of semi-volatile compounds known as PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons). BTEX and PAH contamination was found throughout the MGP site, beneath adjacent portions of Damaschke Field and adjacent city park land, and in sediments beneath adjacent portions of Mill Race Creek. In some cases, this contamination is in the form of liquid tar, and in some cases it is in the form of contaminated groundwater, soil or sediment.

The escaped tar subsequently migrated through the subsurface to the south and southwest, beneath what is now Damaschke Field (a city-owned baseball stadium) and adjacent city-owned park land. The tar also moved a short distance to the north, discharging slowly into Mill Race Creek.

Remedial Alternatives: Potential remedial alternatives for the NYSEG Oneonta MGP site were identified to determine the most effective way to address the contamination. These remedial alternatives for the site were evaluated in a Feasibility Study Report (FS) which was completed in 2004. The FS is available for review at the document repositories listed on the next page.

Proposed Remedy: Based upon the results of the RI/FS, the NYSDEC is proposing a remedy with several components to address contamination in different portions of the contaminated area. The estimated total cost to implement the remedy is \$11,786,000.

- On-site soils containing tar or elevated concentrations of PAHs at the former MGP site would be excavated and removed from the targeted areas and properly disposed off-site.
- Tar-contaminated sediments in Mill Race Creek would be removed, along with sediments with lower levels of PAH contamination attributable to the MGP.
- All vegetated areas would be covered with a two foot layer of clean soil and all non-vegetated areas would be covered with with either concrete or a paving system. A geotextile fabric layer would be placed over any site soils which are returned to the excavation as backfill, to serve as a demarcation layer.
- A series of tar collection wells would be drilled in the areas where tar is still present in the subsurface outside the MGP excavation.
- An air sparging system would be pilot tested and constructed, based on the results of the pilot test, outside the limits of the MGP site excavation to accelerate the degradation of MGP related contaminants in groundwater.

- A site management plan (SMP) would be developed and implemented, along with an institutional control in form of an environmental easement. The SMP would require the property owner to provide an IC/EC certification

Document Repositories: The PRAP, RI, FS and other site-related documents are available for public review at the following locations:

Oneonta Free Library 124 Grand Street Oneonta, NY 12550 (845) 563-3601	NYSDEC Central Office 11th Floor, 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233 Attn: Mr. Gardiner Cross (518) 402-9662 Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. By Appointment	NYSDEC Region 4 Office Hours: M-F, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. By Appointment	City of Oneonta Planning Office City Hall 83 Broadway Oneonta, NY 12550
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For More Information: Please contact the following if you have any questions:

Site Investigation and PRAP

Gardiner Cross
NYSDEC Central Office
625 Broadway, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7017
(518) 402-9662

Site Related Health Concerns

Dan Geraghty,
NYSDOH Regional Toxics Coordinator
Capital District Regional Office
Frear Building,
One Fulton Street, Troy, NY 12180-3281
(518) 408-5423

PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN

NYSEG - Oneonta MGP

City of Oneonta, Otsego County, New York

Site No. 4-39-001

February 2005

