

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Environmental Remediation

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Alexander B. Grannis
Commissioner

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY RECORD OF DECISION

**Troy - Smith Avenue Former MGP Site
Operable Unit 1, Former Plant Area
City of Troy, Rensselaer County
DEC Site #442030
July 17, 2007**

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Troy Smith Avenue Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site located in the City of Troy, Rensselaer County. The ROD presents the approved remedial action (environmental clean-up plan) chosen for the site, and documents the information and rationale used to arrive at the decision. The site is the location of the former plant.

The Troy Smith Avenue Former MGP Site consists of the National Grid Service Center property at the western terminus of Smith Avenue and the adjacent United States Army Corps of Engineers property at 1 Bond Street. Manufactured Gas Plants produced gas for lighting, cooking and other uses from coal prior to the widespread availability of natural gas beginning in the 1950's. In 1997, the DEC determined that action is required to address contamination from the former MGP.

On March 12, 2007, the DEC and the New York State Department of Health (DOH) held a public meeting to discuss the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP). The comments received at this meeting and during the public comment period (February 20, 2007 to April 23, 2007) were considered, along with the technical data for the site, in preparing the final ROD. Included in the ROD is a Responsiveness Summary that addresses the public comments received.

The remedy selected in the ROD is similar to the remedy that was proposed in the PRAP. Added to the ROD is a requirement to conduct much of the excavation work within an enclosed temporary structure, if site conditions can accommodate a structure. The remedy includes:

- Removal of contaminated soil from an underground gas holder foundation.
- Construction of a subsurface containment wall to fully enclose the area in the vicinity of two former gas holders. A portion of the containment wall will be adjacent to the existing southern approach wall to the federal lock at the Troy dam. A low-permeability cap will be constructed to cover the containment area to prevent exposure to remaining contaminants within the area, control potential odors and minimize infiltration.
- Installation of a system of wells to collect coal tar by gravity.
- Evaluation of the potential for soil vapor intrusion into occupied buildings.
- Placement of an institutional control that restricts the use of the site to industrial/commercial, restricts the use of site groundwater, requires compliance with a site management plan, and requires periodic certification of the effectiveness of the remedy. The site management plan will detail the necessary maintenance and monitoring of the site.

Niagara Mohawk, a subsidiary of National Grid, has agreed to implement the remedy. Niagara Mohawk will be preparing detailed plans over the next two years, with construction expected to start in 2010.

The Record of Decision can be reviewed at the following locations:

Troy Public Library
100 2nd St.
Troy, NY
(518) 274-7071

NYSDEC
625 Broadway
Albany, NY
Attn: John Spellman, Project Manager
(518) 402-9662
(by appointment)

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