



FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

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NM Troy, Smith Ave. MGP Site, 02, 03
Troy, New York
Site No. 442030

February 2011

Cleanup Proposed for State Superfund Site in Troy Public Comment Period and Public Meeting Announced

The public is invited to comment on a cleanup plan proposed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to address contamination related to the Troy Smith Avenue former Manufactured Gas Plant Site. The site is located at the National Grid Service Center on Smith Avenue in the City of Troy.

The Proposed Remedy

The proposed cleanup plan is intended to rectify contamination in two areas near the site. Specifically, the plan calls for the removal of Hudson River sediment in the southern approach to the Troy Lock. In addition, manufactured gas plant (MGP) waste would be removed in an area near Ingalls Avenue. A cleanup plan is already being implemented at the site itself.

Public Meeting

Wednesday March 16, 2011 7:00pm-8:30pm

National Grid Service Center
Smith Avenue
Troy, New York

NYSDEC invites you to a public meeting to discuss the remedy proposed for the site. You are encouraged to provide comments at the meeting, and during the 30-day comment period described in this fact sheet.

State Superfund Program: New York's State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

NYSDEC generally attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html

The proposed remedy is described in NYSDEC's "Proposed Remedial Action Plan" developed under New York's State Superfund Program. The document is available for public review at the locations identified below under "Where to Find Information".

How to Comment

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed remedy for 30 days, from February 24, 2011 through March 25, 2011.

Submit written comments to:

John Spellman
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7014
email: jtspellm@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Summary of the Proposed Remedy

The proposed remedy was chosen following a detailed investigation of the site and an evaluation of alternatives to address contamination, in a process called a “Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study”. The proposed remedy represents the alternative preferred by NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health.

For MGP-contaminated Hudson River sediments:

- Approximately 5,300 cubic yards of contaminated sediment would be removed in the area of the lock approach. The removal would extend a minimum of 300 feet south from the southern lock gate and extend approximately 80 feet west from the approach wall. The sediment would be transported off-site for appropriate treatment or disposal.

For MGP-contamination at Ingalls Avenue:

- Approximately 5,400 cubic yards of purifier waste (a type of MGP waste) and soil would be removed and treated or disposed off-site. The area would be backfilled to its pre-removal grade with soil meeting NYSDEC’s restricted-residential use requirements.
- Additional testing of the soil near the excavation would be conducted and, if necessary, a plan for the management of future excavations would be put in place.

The public is encouraged to read the complete proposal. The estimated cost of the proposed remedy is \$3.7 million. National Grid is a successor company to the MGP and will bear the cost of the cleanup through a legal agreement with the NYSDEC.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments as it finalizes the remedy for the site. The selected remedy will be described in a document called a “Record of Decision” that will explain why the remedy was selected and respond to public comments. This document will be made available to the public.

Following the Record of Decision detailed plans will be assembled in a design phase which will allow National Grid to hire a contractor to implement the amended remedy.

Background

The Troy Smith Avenue MGP Site occupies approximately five acres on two separate properties. One property is owned by National Grid and the other property is owned by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. The site is adjacent to the Troy Lock and Dam. The site is surrounded by a mix of residential and commercial uses. A predecessor company of National Grid owned and operated the manufactured gas plant from 1886 to 1928.

Manufactured gas plants were common in large villages and cities in the early 20th century, before the development of natural gas distribution. Gas was produced from coal to provide fuel for lighting, heating and cooking. The NYSDEC has identified over 235 former MGPs in New York State.

Manufactured gas had to be cooled and its impurities removed before it could be used. A coal tar resulted from these processes, some of which was released into the site soil, groundwater and adjacent Hudson River sediment. The coal tar contains a number of chemical contaminants, among them benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Some of these contaminants are cancer-causing to humans or adversely affect animal life.

The cleanup plan being implemented for the site proper includes the removal of tar from a former gas holder and construction of a subsurface containment wall.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public to stay informed. These documents include the “Proposed Remedial Action Plan”.

Troy Public Library
100 Second Street
Troy, New York
(518) 274-7071

NYSDEC
625 Broadway
Albany, New York

Contact: John Spellman, (518) 402-9662
Email: jtspellm@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Who to Contact

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

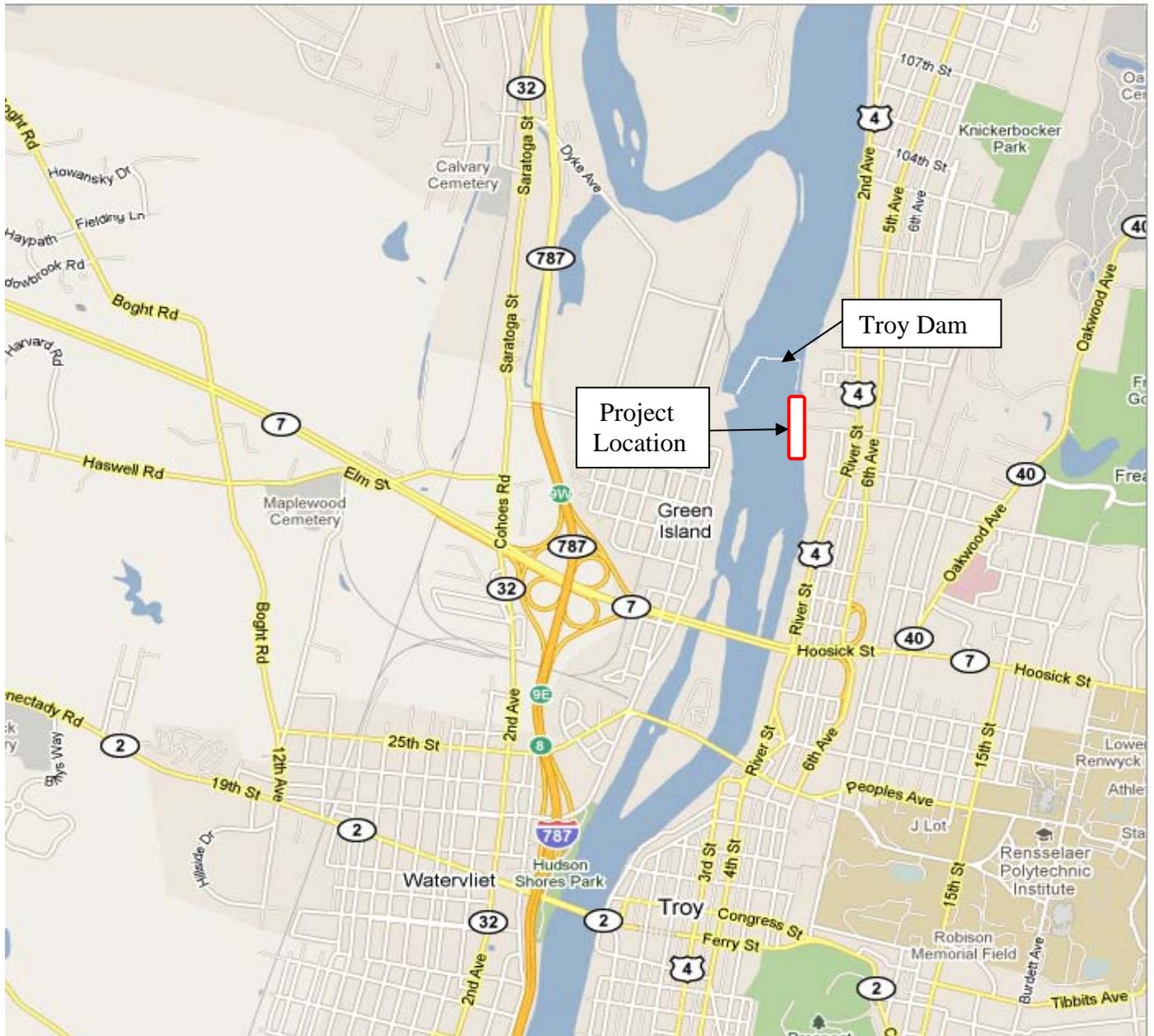
Project Related Questions

John Spellman
New York State Department of Environmental
Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7014
(518) 402-9662

Site-Related Health Questions

Maureen Schuck
New York State Department of Health
Flanagan Square
547 River St.
Troy NY 12180-2216

Tel: (518) 402-7860
Email: mer10@health.state.ny.us



Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page: www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html . It's *quick*, it's *free*, and it will help keep you *better informed*.



As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

You may continue also to receive paper copies of site information for a time after you sign up with a county listserv, until the transition to electronic distribution is complete.

Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.