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Cleanup of Contamination to Begin at Former Manufactured Gas Plant Site on Smith Ave., Troy

This link opens a fact sheet that describes cleanup action that is about to begin regarding contamination related to a portion of the **NM – Troy Smith Avenue MGP Site #442030 (Troy, Rensselaer Co.)**, within New York's State Superfund Program:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/data/der/factsheet/442030cubegins.pdf>

The fact sheet is in PDF format. You can save, open, and read the fact sheet by using Adobe Acrobat Reader. If you do not have Adobe Acrobat Reader, you can go to the following web page on the NYSDEC web site to download the program: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/590.html>

Please do not respond to this email. Replies go to an untended mailbox. If you have questions about the contaminated site identified above, please use the contact information provided in the fact sheet.

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Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor * Basil Seggos, Commissioner



FACT SHEET

State Superfund Program

Receive Site Fact Sheets by *Email*. See "For More Information" to Learn How.

Site Name: NM - Troy Smith Ave. MGP
DEC Site #: 442030 Operable Unit 02
Address: Smith Avenue
Troy, NY 12180

Have questions?
See
"Who to Contact"
Below

Cleanup Action to Begin at State Superfund Site

Action is about to begin that will address the contamination related to the Troy Smith Avenue Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site located at Smith Avenue, Troy, Rensselaer County under New York's State Superfund Program. The cleanup will occur at the western end of Ingalls Avenue, approximately 500 feet south of the site. Ingalls Avenue is identified as Operable Unit 2 of the site. Please see the map for the site location.

The site is listed as a Class "2" site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; action is required.

Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the locations below under "Where to Find Information." The cleanup activities will be performed and paid for by National Grid with oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). The work is anticipated to start in March 2018 and be complete in three weeks.

Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities

The goal of the cleanup action for the site is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment. The cleanup action for the Ingalls Avenue Operable Unit (OU2) includes:

- The excavation and removal of approximately 270 cubic yards (about 15 truckloads) of contaminated soil. The soil will be disposed of at a NYSDEC-authorized facility.
- The excavated area will be backfilled to the original grade with soil meeting the requirements for restricted-residential use.
- The cleanup is expected to remove the previously-identified former manufactured gas plant (see Background, below) impacts to the area. However, a soil analysis and handling program will be established as part of a site management plan for potential future soil removals.

Next Steps

The cleanup of OU2 will complete the physical remediation of the NM – Troy Smith Avenue MGP Site. The site proper (Operable Unit 1) and Hudson River sediments (Operable Unit 3) were both remediated in 2016. When the work at OU2 is completed, National Grid will prepare a Final Engineering Report which will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved. The report will allow NYSDEC to reassess the Class 2 status of the site.

Background

Prior to the interstate piping of natural gas, many towns and cities produced gas for local consumption from coal. The Troy Smith Avenue manufactured gas plant (MGP) was one of 235 MGPs in New York State, and operated from 1888 to 1928 by a National Grid predecessor company. Two principle wastes were generated from typical gas production: tar and purifier waste. Purifier media consisted of iron-impregnated wood chips which removed cyanide from the gas prior to distribution. As the media became used and no longer functional, it was often disposed of at the MGP. Although some cyanide compounds are highly toxic, there is evidence that cyanide compounds typically leached from purifier waste are significantly less toxic.

A canal existed during MGP operations near the current west end of Ingalls Avenue and was subsequently filled-in around 1915. Investigation of the area revealed that certain soil samples contained elevated cyanide concentrations and exhibited odor and visual characteristics typical of purifier waste. Significant amounts of tar were not found. Based on the historic land use and the observed presence of non-MGP-related fill materials, there appears to be multiple sources of historic fill placed at OU2.

Location: OU2 is located at the western end of Ingalls Avenue, between President Street and the Hudson River, in the City of Troy.

Site Features: The one-half acre Ingalls Avenue Operable Unit is a vacant lot with sparse vegetation. There is a slope down to the Hudson River, with evidence of vehicle use to access the shore.

Site Zoning and Use: The Ingalls Avenue Operable Unit is zoned for two-family residential. OU2 reputedly was used by a paper company and clothing manufacturer. An automobile salvage business existed adjacent to OU2.

Operable Units: During the investigation of the site it was discovered that contamination existed beyond the limits of the former MGP property. To facilitate further investigation and remediation of MGP contamination, operable units were developed. An operable unit represents a portion of the site remedy that for technical or administrative reasons can be addressed separately to eliminate or mitigate a release, threat of release or exposure pathway resulting from the site contamination. The operable units are defined as follows:

Operable Unit No. 1 (OU1): The former MGP area.

Operable Unit No. 2 (OU2): The western end of Ingalls Avenue.

Operable Unit No. 3 (OU3): Hudson River sediments adjacent to and downstream of the site.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: At OU2, shale bedrock is present approximately 25 feet below the ground surface. Overlying the shale is a sand, silt and gravel layer (alluvium) ranging about 10 to 15 feet thick. Fill material overlies the alluvium, consisting of sand and gravel with varying amounts of whole and broken brick, glass, metal, concrete, ash, coal and other debris. The fill is present at the surface of OU2 to a depth of 10 to 15 feet. Groundwater is present in the alluvium at a depth of approximately 16 feet. Groundwater flows toward the Hudson River.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following locations to help the public stay informed.

Troy Public Library
100 2nd Street
Troy, NY 12180
phone: 518-274-7071

NYSDEC
Attn: John Spellman
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233
phone: 518-402-9662

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=442030>

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

John Spellman
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7014
518-402-9662
john.spellman@dec.ny.gov

Site-Related Health Questions

Mark Sergott
New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation
Empire State Plaza - Corning Tower Rm 1787
Albany, NY 12237
(518) 402-7860
BEEI@health.ny.gov

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/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

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

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

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.

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: <http://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.



SOURCES:

1. Aerial Photograph From Bing Maps, Accessed Via ArcGIS Online © 2010 Microsoft Corporation and its Data Suppliers, Accessed on 8/16/2016.
2. Figure 2: Site Plan from OU-3 Basis of Design Report, Troy - Smith Avenue Former MGP Site, Prepared by GEI Consultants, Date: May 2013.



Remedial Action Work Plan
 Ingalls Avenue Area - OU2
 Troy Smith Avenue Former MGP Site
 Troy, New York

nationalgrid



Project 116830

SITE LAYOUT AND
 OPERABLE UNITS

January 2018

Fig. 2