



May 13, 2009

**Subject: Fact Sheet  
Albion Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site  
Village of Albion, New York**

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please find enclosed a Fact Sheet for the Albion Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site located in the Village of Albion. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and National Grid have made significant progress toward developing a Site remedy. A Public Availability Session at which the public can view information about the Site and ask questions of the NYSDEC, NYSDOH, and National Grid will be held from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM on May 26, 2009 at the Albion Fire Department, Inc. 108 North Platt St. in Albion.

[Attachment]

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# FACT SHEET

National Grid Albion Former MGP Site

Site No. 8-37-012

April 2009

## Remedial Investigation Completed Next Step is a Proposed Remedial Action Plan

### Dear Interested Citizen:

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact:

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### For site related health questions:

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### For public participation questions:

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\*View to South

*With the oversight of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), National Grid has completed a Remedial Investigation (RI) at the former manufactured gas plant (MGP) property located between the Erie Barge Canal and East Bank Street immediately west of Ingersoll Street in the Village of Albion, New York. The purpose of the investigation was to determine the extent of soil and groundwater impacts from past operations on the property.*

*Results of the study are used to identify and evaluate potential cleanup options for the property, which will be summarized in a Feasibility Study Report, and in a proposed remedial action plan (PRAP) that will be developed by NYSDEC. This fact sheet provides an overview of the investigation and the next steps that are planned for the site.*

### **History of the Albion Former MGP:**

The property was used to manufacture gas from burning coal during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Coal and manufactured gas storage occurred on the western parcel (see photo above) and site investigations conducted from the late 1990's through 2008 found no environmental conditions requiring remediation. The eastern parcel included a retort, two gas holders, and gas purification building. Aboveground MGP structures were removed before 1940. Land use north

and east of the property during MGP operations was generally commercial and industrial and included a foundry, auto repair facilities, welding shops, and machine shops.

Currently, the western parcel is utilized by National Grid as a substation for transmission and distribution of electrical power. The eastern parcel is currently undeveloped. The remnants of the foundations of two former gas holders (used to store the gas that was produced) exist below the ground surface. The site contains utility poles with elevated transformers associated with the substation for the continued transmission/distribution of electrical power.

**Site Related Contamination:**

The primary source of site impacts at this site are chemicals contained in ash-like and cinder-like material (ACL/CLM) encountered in a layer of soil beneath the Site and occasional coal tar, an oily, brownish to black liquid with an odor similar to driveway sealer. The ACL/CLM contains polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Coal tar contains PAHs, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (BTEX). These chemical constituents are the likely source of impacts to site soils and groundwater.

**Remedial Investigation:**

Working under a consent agreement with NYSDEC, National Grid has completed investigations of this site. The investigations have defined the nature and extent of MGP-related impacts, as well as described the physical geology and hydrogeology of the site. The investigations concluded that:

- No MGP-related direct exposures to the public exist, either on-site or off-site.
- The continuous, on-site layer of subsurface ACL/CLM was not identified in off-site boring locations.
- Immobile coal tar was found in subsurface soil in one on-site monitoring well. Staining and coal tar-like odors were observed in subsurface soils located in the western portion of the site.
- MGP-impacted groundwater is present only in two on-site wells located near coal tar stained soils. Most of the chemicals in coal tar do not readily dissolve or otherwise migrate in the groundwater. The chemicals that are most soluble are readily degraded by naturally occurring microorganisms.
- Investigations have shown that groundwater flows in an eastward direction toward Ingersoll Street. A deep sewer beneath Ingersoll Street acts as an effective barrier for eastward groundwater flow and has prevented the low concentrations of chemicals in groundwater from migrating beyond Ingersoll Street.
- Groundwater in this area of Albion is not utilized as a drinking water source.

A copy of the Comprehensive Remedial Investigation Report and other investigation reports are available for public review at the document repositories listed below.

**Next Steps Toward Cleanup:**

Now that the nature and extent of site impacts are understood, the next step leading to cleanup of the site under the Consent Order is completion of a feasibility study. The purpose of the feasibility study is to identify and evaluate remedial technologies that could potentially address MGP-related impacts to soil and groundwater. The results of this feasibility study will be presented in a Feasibility Study Report.

Based on the analysis presented in the Feasibility Study Report, NYSDEC will prepare a Proposed Remedial Action Plan, or PRAP, that describes which option or set of options NYSDEC recommends to most effectively continue to protect human health and the environment at and near the site. This recommendation will be presented to the public for review and comment. Once agreement is reached on how to proceed, a detailed remedial design will be developed by National Grid for approval by NYSDEC. Once the detailed remedial design is approved, the selected remedy is implemented. A long-term monitoring and maintenance program will then track the performance of the cleanup over time.

**Document Repository:**

Copies of supporting technical documents and correspondence are available for public review at:

<p>Swan Public Library North Main Street Albion, New York 14411 Telephone: (585) 589-4246 Hours of Operation: Monday through Thursday 11AM - 8PM Friday 11AM – 5PM, Saturday 10AM – 2PM, Sunday 11AM – 2PM</p>	<p>New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Region 8 Office 6274 E. Avon-Lima Road Avon, New York 14414 Telephone: (585) 226-2466 Open Monday through Friday, 8:30AM – 4:45PM Appointments required</p>
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