

## **FACT SHEET**

# Brownfield Cleanup Program

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Catskill Former Manufactured Gas Plant Site Site Number C420027 Catskill, NY February 2011

### Report Recommends Cleanup of Brownfield Site Contamination Public Information Meeting Announced

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has approved a report that recommends cleanup action at the Catskill Former Manufactured Gas Plant ("site"), located at Water Street in the Village of Catskill, NY under New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program. See attached map for site location.

The report, called a "Remedial Investigation Report," was submitted to the NYSDEC by Central Hudson Gas & Electric ("applicant") in May

Public Information Meeting & Availability Session February 24, 2011

Availability Session: 6:30 pm Public Information Meeting: 7:00 pm

> Catskill High School Cafeteria 341 West Main Street Catskill, New York 12414

NYSDEC invites you to this discussion about cleanup activities at the site. You are encouraged during the session to ask questions and discuss the site activities.

2010. The report describes the results of the site investigation and recommends clean up of the contamination.

#### **Highlights of the Remedial Investigation Report**

Brownfield Cleanup Program: New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) encourages the voluntary cleanup of contaminated properties known as brownfields so that they can be reused and redeveloped. These uses may include recreation, housing, business or other uses.

A **brownfield** is any real property that is difficult to reuse or redevelop because of the presence or potential presence of contamination.

For more information about the BCP, visit: www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html

The investigation report has several goals:

- 1. describe the investigation activities completed
- 2. describe the nature and extent of contamination at the site
- 3. provide information about off-site contamination issues
- 4. recommend whether cleanup of contamination is required.

Site investigation activities were conducted in September to December 2007, October 2008, October

2009 and in January 2010.

#### **Soil Investigation**

Soil samples were collected from Areas A, B and C of the site and the adjacent Union Mills property (see attached Site Map). Coal tar was observed in samples collected from both Area A and the Union Mills property. Coal tar is a reddish brown to black oily liquid by-product which formed as a condensate as the gas cooled during the manufacturing process. Laboratory results concluded that the soil in Area A and the Union Mills property exceeded the Restricted-Residential Soil Cleanup Objectives.

#### **Groundwater Investigation**

Groundwater samples were collected from monitoring wells located in Areas A and C. Contamination related to the historic site operations was detected in the groundwater, and exceeded the NYSDEC Class GA Groundwater Standards and Guidance Values.

#### **Soil Vapor Investigation**

Soil vapor samples, sub-slab vapor samples and indoor air samples were collected and analyzed for site related contaminants from Areas A, B and C and the Union Mills property. Based on the sample results, the inhalation of site-related contaminants due to soil vapor intrusion does not represent a current concern. The potential exists for soil vapor intrusion to occur in the future if buildings are redeveloped or if new buildings are constructed.

#### **Catskill Creek Sediment Investigation**

Sediment samples were collected adjacent to the site shoreline and in the upstream and downstream directions. Coal tar was identified in sediment samples collected adjacent to Area A and the Union Mills property.

#### **Next Steps**

Central Hudson recently submitted a Remedial Alternatives Analysis report to the NYSDEC. The purpose of the report was to carefully consider several cleanup options for the site contamination. The NYSDEC has issued a Decision Document that summarizes the contamination identified by the RI and details the components of the site remedy. Following public review of this document, the NYSDEC will complete its review, make any necessary revisions and, if appropriate, approve the selected remedy. The RI Report, RAA report and the Decision Document are all available to the public (see "Where to Find Information" below). The applicant may then develop a cleanup plan, called a "Remedial Work Plan". This plan describes how contamination will be addressed, with NYSDEC and NYSDOH overseeing the work. NYSDEC will present the draft cleanup plan to the public for its review and comment during a 45-day comment period.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the site.

#### **Background and Site History**

NYSDEC previously accepted an application from the applicant to participate in the Brownfield Cleanup Program. The application proposes that the site will be used for restricted residential

(Area A and Union Mills) and commercial (Areas B and C) purposes.

The site is approximately 3.7 acres in size and is comprised of three separate parcels upon which two gas manufacturing facilities operated between 1858 and 1958. During operation of the gas plant, an oily liquid byproduct, known as coal tar, was generated. The coal tar is believed to have leaked from the gas plant structures and migrated to the subsurface.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public to stay informed.

Catskill Public Library 1 Franklin Street Catskill, NY 12414-1496 (518) 943-4230 M/W 12-8; T 10-8; Th/F 10-5 Sat 10-2; Closed Sun Toni Galluzzo NYSDEC 1130 N. Westcott Road Schenectady, New York 12306-2014 (518) 357-2046 M-F 9 am – 4:30 pm By appointment only

#### **Who to Contact**

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

Project Related Questions
NYSDEC Project Manager
Amen Omorogbe
NYSDEC
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233
(518) 402-9662
amomorog@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions
NYSDOH Project Manager
Maureen Schuck
NYSDOH
Flanigan Square, 547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180
(518) 402-7860
mer10@health.state.ny.us

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: <a href="https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html">www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html</a> . It's *quick*, it's *free*, and it will help keep you *better informed*.

As a listsery 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 listsery, until the transition to electronic distribution is complete.

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



