

**Voluntary Cleanup Program
Notice of Availability for Comment
Little Falls Former Manufactured Gas Plant**

DEC Region 6, Herkimer County

Project Title:

Draft Decision Document and Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP)
National Grid Little Falls Former Manufactured Gas Plant
Mill St, Little Falls, New York

Site ID No: V-00470-6

Name of Volunteer: National Grid, 300 Erie Boulevard West, Syracuse, New York 13202

Project Location: The Little Falls former manufactured gas plant (MGP) site is located on the western portion of an approximately 6.5-acre property currently owned by Feldmeier Equipment, Inc. The site is located on the south side of East Mill Street, in the Village of Little Falls, Herkimer County. Adjacent and surrounding properties are used for industrial and commercial purposes.

Brief Project Description: The Remedial Investigation identified the presence of coal tar in the subsurface soil. Contaminants of concern in the tar include polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and the volatile compounds benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylene (BTEX). Coal tar is present in the subsurface near historic MGP structures. This contamination appears to have migrated south and vertically down from these structures.

MGP tar has migrated to the top of bedrock at a depth of approximately 26 feet below ground surface south of the former onsite gas holder, which is currently partially covered by the Feldmeier building. Overburden and bedrock groundwater is impacted by MGP contaminants in the vicinity of the former gas holder.

The Proposed Remedy for the Site:

Because most of the former gas holder is located beneath the Feldmeier building, and because there is limited space available between the Feldmeier building and the Mohawk River, excavation of MGP-contaminated soils is not feasible at this site. Only the former pipe gallery area is accessible for excavation. Therefore the Department proposes a remedy that relies on in-situ stabilization for soils that cannot be excavated, as outlined below:

1. Impacted subsurface soils located between the Feldmeier Building and the Mohawk river would be treated by in-situ soil stabilization (ISS). Portland cement and additional additives may be used during the in-situ mixing process, as determined by a bench scale test performed during the remedial design phase. Jet grouting, or other appropriate methods, would also be used to treat soil located immediately adjacent to subsurface structures and underground utilities. The approximate ISS treatment area would encompass approximately 600 cubic yards of soil at depths ranging from approximately 13 to 26.5 feet, including accessible areas inside the former gas holder structure. The solidified area would be covered by a minimum 12-inch layer of clean soil capable of supporting vegetation. The soil cover would be underlain by an indicator such as orange plastic snow fence to demarcate the cover soil from the solidified area.
2. The former MGP pipe gallery would be excavated, along with grossly contaminated soil, if any, in close proximity to these pipes. Excavated soil would be transported off-site and treated or disposed in accordance with applicable regulations.

3. Passive recovery wells would be installed upgradient and downgradient of the ISS treatment area to recover tar downgradient of the former onsite gas holder. The recovery wells would be constructed in the area south of the former onsite gas holder where tar was previously observed near the bedrock interface and in upper bedrock fractures. Tar would be periodically measured in and removed from these wells until recovery is no longer feasible.
4. An environmental easement would be implemented that would (a) limit the use and development of site property to commercial and industrial use; (b) require compliance with an approved site management plan; (c) restrict the use of groundwater as a source of drinking water or industrial supply without necessary water quality treatment as determined by the Herkimer County Health Department; (d) require National Grid to prepare and submit to the NYSDEC a periodic certification of institutional and engineering controls.
5. A site management plan would be developed which would include the following institutional and engineering controls: (a) management of the final cover system to restrict excavation below the soil cover, pavement, or buildings. Excavated soil would be tested, properly handled to protect the health and safety of workers and the nearby community, and would be properly managed in a manner acceptable to the Department; (b) continued evaluation of the potential for vapor intrusion for any buildings developed on the site, including provision for mitigation of any impacts identified; (c) NAPL recovery and groundwater monitoring; (d) identification of any use restrictions on the site; and (e) provisions for the continued proper operation and maintenance of the components of the remedy.

Comment Period: The Draft Decision Document and Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) for the Little Falls Former MGP Site are available for review at the locations identified below. Written comments on these plans must be received within 30 days following the date of this Notice. Written comments expressing objections or opposition to the RAWP must explain the basis of the opposition and identify the specific grounds which could justify the Department's imposing significant changes to the RAWP. No formal response is made to comments, but as a result of comments, the Department may re-evaluate and revise the Decision Document and RAWP.

For more information: Site documents, including the Remedial Investigation Reports, Remedial Action Work Plans, and related Fact Sheets can be reviewed at the Little Falls Public Library, 706 East Main Street, Little Falls, NY 13676, (315) 823-1542, Hrs. of Operation: M-Th 10-8, F-Sa 10-5

Questions or comments should be directed to: Bernard Franklin, NYSDEC, Division of Environmental Remediation, Remedial Bureau C, 625 Broadway, 11th Floor, Albany NY, 12233-7014. Phone: (518) 402-9662, Fax: (518) 402-9679, E-mail: bcfrankl@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

For individuals with health-related concerns, contact: Tamara Girard, Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation, NYSDOH, Flanigan Square, 547 River Street Room 300, Troy, New York 12180-2216, Phone : (518) 402-7870.