



Dear Interested Citizen:

This Fact Sheet contains information related to the Remedial Investigation of a former Manufactured Gas Plant site being undertaken in your community. The Remedial Investigation is being implemented under an Order on Consent entered into between KeySpan (now National Grid) and the NYSDEC in February 2007.

The NYSDEC, the New York State Department of Health and National Grid each have resources available to provide you with more information about the Remedial Investigation and the process for investigating and remediating former MGP sites.

Please see the listings on the page overleaf.

May 2009

FACT SHEET

**Former Williamsburg Manufactured Gas Plant Site
Brooklyn, NY
Index No. A2-0552-0606**

Remedial Investigation of Former MGP Site Begins

Background and Summary: National Grid (formerly KeySpan), is about to begin a Remedial Investigation of a former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) site located at Kent Avenue between North 11th and North 12th Streets in Brooklyn, Kings County, NY. The Remedial Investigation will also be conducted on adjoining properties. The purpose of a Remedial Investigation is to determine the nature and extent of the environmental impacts resulting from the previous operations, and to guide the development of plans to remediate the site to protect human health and the environment. The Remedial Investigation will be implemented under an Order on Consent with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) entered into between the NYSDEC and KeySpan in February 2007.

The site and adjoining properties are heavily industrialized and have been the subjects of previous spill reports and environmental assessments. The data from these reports and assessments, as available, will be incorporated into the Remedial Investigation.

National Grid is conducting this RI because a predecessor company, the Brooklyn Union Gas Company (BUG), operated the former MGP to produce manufactured gas for use in the surrounding community from 1850 to the 1930s. The Williamsburg MGP was dismantled prior to 1941, and the site was subsequently subdivided, sold to third parties and redeveloped for industrial uses. Currently the site is developed with warehouses, a vacant lot that was formerly a Department of Sanitation (DOS) service garage/gas station, and an industrial-factory building.

Site Location, Usage, and MGP Operating History: The Williamsburg former MGP site was subdivided and sold to third parties in the years following decommissioning and is now comprised of four properties that encompass approximately 5.7 acres in the Williamsburg neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York. Three of the four parcels are contiguous and bordered by the East River, North 11th and North 12th Streets and Kent Avenue. A holder was located on the fourth parcel, which is located on the southeast side of Kent Avenue between North 11th and North 12th Streets.

The Williamsburg Gas Light Company was incorporated in 1850 and is the first known operator of the Williamsburg MGP. The MGP gas production facilities were isolated to the portion of the site located to the northwest of Kent Avenue and consisted of coal gas production facilities including a retort house, an engine room, a meter house, and a condenser house. Gas storage and purification facilities included three gas holders, a governor house, a purifying house, two tar tanks, scrubbers and lime houses.

The gas manufacturing process involved heating coal and petroleum products to produce a flammable gas that was used in much the same way that natural gas is used today. Substantial amounts of coal tar were produced as a byproduct, and some of that tar leaked into subsurface soils, where it remains today. The tar, along with the associated groundwater and soil vapor impacts, is the principal source of concern at the site.

For More Information:

This Project is under the supervision of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York State Department of Health. For more information about the site, please contact:

Remedial Investigation:

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Environmental Engineer
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Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7014
(518) 402-9662

Health-Related Concerns:

Bridget Callaghan
Public Health Specialist
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation
New York State Department of Health
547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180
(800) 458-1158 ext. 27880
or (518) 402-7880

National Grid

Representative:

National Grid's Community Representative for the Site is April Dubison. The company's telephone hotline for neighbors in the vicinity of the site is (718) 403-3053.

Remedial Investigation Objectives and Scope of Work: The objectives of the Remedial Investigation are to complete the delineation of the horizontal and vertical extent of MGP impacts, determine the surface and subsurface characteristics of the site, identify sources of contamination, and identify any migration pathways and potential human and ecological receptors at the site and in surrounding off-site areas. The field work will include surface water and sediment sampling, surface soil sampling, soil borings for subsurface soil sampling, installation of monitoring wells, groundwater sampling, aquifer testing, and collection of sub-slab soil vapor and indoor air samples.

The field work will be completed during normal business hours, and is not expected to disrupt any activities on neighboring properties. Field work will be supervised by representatives of the NYSDEC and, as necessary, the New York State Department of Health. A Community Air Monitoring Plan will be in effect to detect any airborne contaminants that could be released during the field activities, and to require prompt protective measures if they are detected. All samples will be sent to independent NYSDOH-accredited (ELAP) laboratories for analysis.

Remedial Investigation Report: At the completion of the field work, a Remedial Investigation Report will be produced, which will include an Executive Summary, a description of the field activities, analytical results compared to NYSDEC guidance and standards, geological findings, Qualitative Human Health Exposure and Fish and Wildlife Impact Assessments. Appendices will include all of the pertinent data. Once the report is approved by NYSDEC and NYSDOH, the entire report and a summary Fact Sheet will be made available to the public.

Document Repositories: Document Repositories at which the Order on Consent, work plans and reports associated with the site can be found and accessed by the public are located at:

Brooklyn Public Library
Greenpoint Branch
Attn: Mel Gooch, Librarian
107 Norman Avenue at Leonard Street
Brooklyn, NY 11222
Telephone: (718) 349-8504

and

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