

Introduction

What is the Voluntary Cleanup Program?

The Voluntary Cleanup Program address the environmental, legal and financial barriers that often hinder the redevelopment and reuse of contaminated properties. Under the VCP, a volunteer can enter into an agreement with the NYSDEC to investigate a site, remediate a site, or investigate and remediate a site. The volunteer agrees to remediate the site to a level which is protective of public health and the environment for the present or intended use of the property. Investigation and remediation is carried out under the oversight of NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health. The volunteer pays a portion of the State's oversight costs. When the volunteer completes the remedial work, or if no remediation is necessary, the NYSDEC provides a release from liability for the work performed and the contaminants addressed, with standard reservations.

What is a Citizen Participation Plan?

This Citizen Participation Plan ("CPP") provides interested citizens with information on events that will occur during the investigation, testing and possible remediation process associated with the locations of former Manufactured Gas Plant and Gasholder sites. The plan is also used by state monitors to track public involvement and outreach that is required in accordance with state regulations, such as notifying residents when an Interim Remedial Measure ("IRM") has been proposed for a site.

Who creates the plan?

This CPP has been put together by Consolidated Edison Co. of New York ("Con Edison") in conjunction with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ("NYSDEC") and the New York State Department of Health ("NYSDOH"). Some sections of the CPP have also been prepared with the help of consultants hired to aide in the investigation, testing and potential remediation of sites associated with this program. This edition of the CPP, as well as every future edition, must be approved by the NYSDEC before it becomes official.

What documents are included in this Plan?

- Fact sheet providing general information on activities associated with this program;
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Brochure;
- Site specific fact sheets detailing the steps involved in the investigation, testing and cleanup process occurring on and around a specific site;
- Information on document repositories for each site and the documents available within them;
- The Citizen Participation Record for each site;
- A glossary of terms and acronyms you may encounter while learning about this program;
- A list of groups interested or involved with each site ("Mailing List").
- A communications decision tree and flow chart

The CPP will be periodically updated to include new fact sheets, additions to the mailing list, etc.

What is a Citizen Participation Record?

The Citizen Participation Record is a series of documents designed to help project managers ensure they perform all the citizen participation activities required by New York State regulations. The Record is included in the CPP to provide citizens with an overview of when public involvement activities should happen during the investigation and remediation process. It also serves as a record of completed citizen participation activities.

Your Involvement:

This plan describes activities that will occur at different stages of the site investigation and cleanup, including opportunities for public input. You can review the Citizen Participation Plan and other site-related documents at the "Document Repository" locations listed on site-specific fact sheets. If you have placed your name on a site mailing list then Con Edison will send you future updates to keep you informed and involved throughout the investigation and cleanup process.

We encourage you to contact representatives of Con Edison, the NYSDEC or the NYSDOH anytime with questions, comments or concerns. If you know someone who would like to be put on the mailing list, have them send in the attached mailer or contact one of the appropriate representatives listed below.

For Questions About:

Con Edison Project Management and Communications:

Eddy Louie
31-01 20th Avenue, Bldg. 138
Long Island City, NY 11105
Toll-free: (877) 602-6633

Site-related Environmental Questions:

Robert Schick, Project Manager
NYSDEC
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233
(518) 402- 9662

Site-Related Health Concerns:

Geoff Laccetti (NYC) / Mike Rivara (Westchester)
NYSDOH, Environmental Investigations
Flanigan Square, 547 River Street, Rm 300
Troy, NY 12180
Toll-free (800) 458-1158 Ext. 2-7880

Leave your name, number and a brief message and a representative will return your call.

Con Edison MGP Mailer

Please feel free to use this mailer for any of the following purposes:

- ___ 1. You would like to be placed **on** our _____ Site mailing list.
- ___ 2. You would like to receive future fact sheets.
- ___ 3. You would like to be taken **off** our _____ Site mailing list.
- ___ 4. You would like to provide us with a change of name or address.
- ___ 5. You would like to provide us with comments.

_____ **FOLD** _____

Please complete the form below, fold and mail to address indicated.

Add the following name(s):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Delete the following name(s):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Make the following changes:

(Old) _____	(New) _____
_____	_____
_____	_____

_____ **FOLD** _____

Comments or Concerns:

Eddy Louie
Con Edison
31-01 20th Avenue
Long Island City, NY 11105-2048

Glossary and Acronyms

GLOSSARY

This glossary defines terms associated with the citizen participation process of the New York State Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) and important elements of the VCP.

Availability Session	A meeting with the community with no formal agenda, which may or may not include staff from NYSDEC/NYSDOH. See public meeting.
Background	Refers to the concentrations of contaminants (compounds) existing in various media (soil, groundwater, sediment) that originated from either natural sources (non man-made) or resulting from normal off-site activities of the population and commercial/industrial activity in the vicinity of the site not specifically related to site process operations. Also included in this category are parent or breakdown constituents of these compounds.
Benzene	A common organic chemical compound made up of six carbon atoms arranged in a hexagonal ring, with hydrogen atoms attached to each corner. Benzene is a widely used chemical in industry, and is often found in gasoline.
BTEX	An abbreviation for a group of chemical compounds: Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, and Xylene. Commonly found in MGP wastes and are also used as antiknock compounds in gasoline.
Carbureted Water Gas	Refers to a more sophisticated process for producing a higher quality gas. Either coke or coal was heated in a retort into which steam was injected. A chemical reaction took place that produced a flammable gas mixture. Petroleum products or oils were then sprayed into this hot gas mixture creating another chemical reaction to form methane, which increased the heating and lighting value of the gas.
Citizen Participation	A program of planning and activities to encourage communication among people affected by or interested in hazardous waste sites and the government agencies responsible for investigating and remediating them.
Citizen Participation Plan	A document that must be developed at a site's Remedial Investigation stage. A CP Plan describes the citizen participation activities that will be conducted during a site's remedial process.
Citizen Participation Record	A document prepared at a major remedial stage that describes the citizen participation activities required at that stage. A <u>CP Record</u> also directs a scoping process to determine if additional citizen participation activities are appropriate and feasible.

Coal Carbonization	Refers to the oldest and simplest process used for manufactured gas production. Coal was heated in closed ovens, or retorts, with no source of air. Volatile constituents of the coal were driven off as a gas. This low quality gas was collected, cooled and purified prior to being directed into a distribution system.
Coal Tar	A very viscous oily liquid that is one of the by-products of the manufactured gas process during production, purification and distribution.
Division of Environmental Remediation	Formerly the Division of Hazardous Waste Remediation, a major program unit within the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation created to manage the hazardous waste site remedial program from site discovery through Operation and Maintenance activities. Staff include: engineers, geologists, chemists, attorneys, citizen participation specialists, environmental program specialists and support staff.
DNAPL	Refers to Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid. A DNAPL is a liquid that is immiscible and remains as a separate phase or layer in the environment and is heavier than water, thus making it sink through the groundwater.
Document Repository	A file of documents pertaining to a site's remedial and citizen participation programs which is made available for public review. The file generally is maintained in a public building near the MGP or gas holder site to provide access at a location and times convenient to the public.
Fact Sheet	A written discussion about part or all of a site's remedial process, prepared and provided by DER to the public. A fact sheet may focus on: a particular element of the site's remedial program; opportunities for public involvement; availability of a report or other information, or announcement of a public meeting or comment period.
Gas Holder	(Also known as a gasometer) is a large, expandable tank used to store gas at an MGP.
Groundwater	Refers to water below the land surface in a saturated zone of soil or rock. This includes perched water separated from the main body of groundwater in an unsaturated zone.
Holder Station	Gas holders were large storage tanks, either above or below ground that were used to maintain a supply of pressurized manufactured gas for introduction into the distribution system. The MGP would produce and purify the gas, and in some cases, because of the size of the distribution system or the area available for the plant, gas holders were located off the main plant site at other locations. Those places where just a gas holder was located are called holder stations.

Inorganic	Substances that do not contain carbon. Metals such as zinc and lead are inorganic substances.
Interim Remedial Measure (IRM)	Refers to an Interim Remedial Measure. This is a discrete set of activities which address both emergency or non-emergency conditions, which can be undertaken without extensive investigation and evaluation, to prevent, mitigate, or remedy human exposure and/or environmental damage or the consequences of human exposure and/or environmental damage attributable to a site.
LNAPL	Refers to Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid. A LNAPL is a liquid that is immiscible and remains as a separate phase or layer in the environment and is lighter than water, thus making it float or reside near the top of the groundwater.
Mailing List	Names, addresses and/or telephone numbers of individuals, groups, organizations, government officials and media affected by or interested in a particular hazardous waste site. The size of a mailing list and the categories included are influenced by population density, degree of interest in a site, the stage of the remedial process and other factors.
MGP	refers to a Manufactured Gas Plant. This was an industrial facility at which gas was produced from coal, oil and other feedstock. The gas was used for heating and lighting.
Monitoring Well	A hole drilled into the soil or bedrock which enables officials to collect samples of groundwater at a specific horizontal and vertical location. The samples can then be tested to look for contaminants.
NAPL	Refers to Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid. A NAPL is an immiscible liquid that remains as a separate phase or layer in the environment.
Natural Attenuation	A variety of natural processes by which contaminant concentrations decrease in soil or groundwater. For example, some bacteria break down contaminants into non-toxic substances like water and carbon dioxide.
New York State Department of Health	Agency within the executive branch of New York State government which works closely with DEC to evaluate potential health impacts and human exposures, reviews all site investigations, conducts health-related community outreach around sites, and reviews remedial actions to assure that public health concerns are adequately addressed.
Operable Unit	An administrative term used to identify a discrete portion of a site that can be addressed by a distinct investigation and/or cleanup approach. For example, groundwater contamination at a site may be considered as

	one operable unit, and soil contamination at the same site may be dealt with as a second operable unit. An Operable Unit can receive specific investigation, and a particular remedy may be proposed.
Operation, Maintenance and Monitoring	A period in which remedial action may be conducted following construction at a site (for example, operation of a “pump and treat” system), or which is performed after a remedial action to assure its continued effectiveness and protection of people’s health and the environment. Activities can include site inspections, well monitoring and other sampling.
PAH	Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons are a group of semivolatile organic compounds found in coal tar, asphalt and diesel fuel
Permeability	The extent to which a liquid or gas can move through a substance. For example, different types of soil have different permeabilities: water moves easily through some sandy soils (a high permeability soil) and slowly through clay (a low permeability soil).
Plume	An area of chemicals moving away from its source in a feather-like (hence the name, plume) shape. For example, a plume can be a column of smoke drifting away from a chimney or an area of dissolved chemicals moving with groundwater.
PPB/PPM	The concentration of a substance in air, water, or soil. The abbreviations stand for part per billion (ppb) and part per million (ppm). One ppb means there is one part of a substance for every billion parts of the air, water or soil in which it is measured. One ppb is 1,000 times less than 1 ppm.
Public Meeting	A scheduled gathering of agency staff and the public to give and receive information, ask questions and discuss concerns about a site’s remedial program. Staff from other NYSDEC divisions, legal and health staff, and staff from consultants and a responsible party often attend. A public meeting, unlike an availability session, generally features a formal presentation and a detailed agenda.
Purifier Waste	(Also known as box waste) is a solid MGP waste that was produced during purification of the manufactured gas. It is typically found as a dark mixture of wood chips with a very strong, unpleasant burnt odor.
Receptor	means any humans or biota that are, or may be expected to be, or have been, exposed to or affected by a contaminant from a site.
Remedial Action	Refers to those actions taken at or near a site as may be required by the NYSDEC, including without limitation, removal, treatment, containment, transportation, securing, or other engineering or institutional controls, whether of a permanent nature or otherwise, designed to ensure that any discharged contamination is remediated in compliance with applicable New York State standards, criteria, and guidelines.

Remedial Construction	The implementation of the remedial alternative selected to remediate (clean up) a site. A soil removal, installation of a groundwater treatment system, or installation of a landfill cap are all examples of remedial construction. Construction follows the Remedial Design stage of a site's remedial program.
Remedial Design	Refers to the development and presentation of the details necessary to implement a remedial action requiring construction or other physical work in the field.
Remedial Investigation	Refers to actions taken to investigate contamination and determine the nature and extent of the contamination presented by a discharge or disposal at the site.
Responsible Party	An individual or business who: currently owns or operates a former MGP or gas holder site; or historically owned or operated this type of site when waste was disposed; or generated waste at a site; or transported hazardous waste to a site.
Sediment	Refers to soils or organic material in water, as found in lakes, rivers, streams, and other water bodies and in or close proximity to wetland areas. Material found in enclosed sumps, sewers, or piping systems not accessible to fish and wildlife and not forming any benthic or aquatic habitat are not considered sediments for the purpose of comparison to New York State requirements for sediment.
Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds	A group of chemicals similar to Volatile Organic Compounds that do not evaporate as easily.
Site Characterization	Generally refers to the first or initial phase or stage of the process of identifying potential areas of concern at a site. This is not as detailed or encompassing as a remedial investigation that may be conducted at a site.
Soil Boring	A circular hole made in the ground by a drill to collect soil samples deep in the ground. Samples are collected for testing to see if the subsurface soil has been contaminated. Sometimes these borings are converted into groundwater monitoring wells.
Soil Gas	Refers to the air and other gases found in the pore spaces of soils above the water table. (Below the water table, these pore spaces are filled with water)
Soil Gas Survey	A method for investigating the underground distribution of volatile organic compounds by looking for their vapors in the soil gas (air trapped

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between soil particles). In a soil gas survey, a small amount of soil gas is collected from various locations and tested for the presence of contaminants.

Tar Well

Refers to any subsurface tank or vessel used to accumulate or store tar. It is common to find these structures, partially or totally full of tar, during MGP investigations.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)

Carbon-containing chemicals that readily evaporate, such as some cleaning solvents and chemicals in gasoline.

Voluntary Cleanup Agreement

New York State's Voluntary Cleanup Program is a cooperative approach between NYSDEC, property owners, and responsible parties to investigate and/or remediate contaminated sites. Under the Voluntary Cleanup Program, a volunteer enters into an agreement and performs investigation and/or remedial activities pursuant to NYSDEC approved work plans. Investigation and/or remediation is carried out under the oversight of NYSDEC and the NYSDOH and the volunteer pays the State's oversight costs. The Volunteer signs up to a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement with NYSDEC that contains the administrative requirements for executing the work at the site.

ACRONYMS

BTEX	-- Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene and Xylene
C & D	-- Construction and Demolition Debris
CP	-- Citizen Participation
DEC	-- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
DER	-- Division of Environmental Remediation, formerly the Division of Hazardous Waste Remediation (NYSDEC)
DNAPL	-- Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids
DOH	-- Department of Health (New York State)
DOW	-- Division of Water (NYS Department of Environmental Conservation)
ENB	-- Environmental Notice Bulletin
EPA	-- United States Environmental Protection Agency
F & W	-- Division of Fish and Wildlife (NYSDEC)
FOIL	-- Freedom of Information Law
FS	-- Feasibility Study
GPM	-- Gallons Per Minute
HeLP	-- Health Liaison Program (NYS Department of Health)
IRM	-- Interim Remedial Measure
MGP	-- Manufactured Gas Plants
mg/kg	-- milligrams per kilogram
NAPL	-- Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid
ND	-- Non-Detect
NYSDEC	-- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
NYSDOH	-- New York State Department of Health
OM & M	-- Operation , Maintenance and Monitoring

OU	-- Operable Unit
PAH	-- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon
PCB	-- Poly-Chlorinated Biphenyl
POTW	-- Publicly Owned Treatment Works (sewage treatment plant)
ppm/ppb/ppt	-- parts per million/parts per billion/parts per trillion
QA/QC	-- Quality Assurance/Quality Control
RA	-- Remedial Action
RAR	-- Remedial Alternatives Report
RAS	-- Remedial Action Selection Report
RCRA	-- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (Federal Law)
RD	-- Remedial Design
RHWRE	-- Regional Hazardous Waste Remediation Engineer
RI	-- Remedial Investigation
RI/FS	-- Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
ROD	-- Record of Decision
RP	-- Responsible Party
SCGs	-- Standards, Criteria and Guidance Values
SVOCs	-- Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds
TAGM	-- Technical and Administrative Guidance Memorandum
TSDF	-- Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility
ug/l	-- micrograms per liter
UST	-- Underground Storage Tank
VCA	-- Voluntary Cleanup Agreement
VCP	-- Voluntary Cleanup Program
VOC	-- Volatile Organic Compound