

New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG) Long Branch Plant Site Update
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
Site Remediation & Waste Management Program
June 2005

This report is provided in response to a request by the Concerned Citizens Coalition of Long Branch (CCC) for monthly updates on work conducted and planned at four areas associated with the former Long Branch Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP).^{*} These areas are:

- the former MGP (including the former Conrail properties, the eastern off-site property, and the former Jerry Morgan Park)
- the off-site portion of Troutmans Creek that flows north of the MGP
- residential areas where the community has expressed concern about potential soil contamination (Long Branch Avenue, Seaview Avenue, Grant Court and Ellis Avenue)
- the former Seaview Manor housing complex

All work is consistent with NJDEP's Technical Requirements for Site Remediation, which were developed to ensure remedial actions protect human health and the environment.

1) Long Branch Plant

In May NJNG collected soil samples from beneath the concrete slab where the red brick building was located. Analysis of the samples revealed the soil was contaminated with trichloroethene (TCE) and perchloroethylene (PCE) above NJDEP's soil cleanup criteria. These findings were not anticipated based on former site operations. NJNG has submitted a letter report to NJDEP summarizing the analytical results and geophysical findings. The report proposes additional investigation activities to delineate the extent of the TCE and PCE in the soil, as well as ground water sampling to investigate potential ground water impacts. **(What is the status of this?)** Following the completion of the soil and ground water investigation, NJNG will submit a Remedial Action Work Plan to address the subsurface soils. If ground water impacts are found, they will be addressed as part of the site-wide ground water remedial action.

NJNG is evaluating the results of the well point investigation that it conducted during April 2005. Based on the preliminary findings, NJNG intends to conduct a soil gas investigation to assess potential vapor intrusion at Talco and Atlantic Plumbing. A report documenting all the findings will be submitted when the soil gas results are available. A due date for the report has not been established, but NJDEP expects to receive it sometime in the fall of 2005. NJNG is also in the process of implementing the approved Phase II Ground Water Investigation. **(Any changes to this?)**

NJDEP continues to work with NJNG regarding the submission of a Final Ground Water Remedial Investigation Report (RIR) and a Ground Water Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) for the site. At this time, additional delineation of dense non-aqueous phase liquid (DNAPL) and further evaluation of possible ground water remedies is warranted. A work plan for these

^{*} For historical information about activities that NJDEP and NJNG have conducted at these areas, please refer to the monthly updates NJDEP has provided to CCC since January 2005.

activities is due in August 2005. **(Received yet? Formal due date?)** Upon approval by NJDEP, NJNG will implement the additional studies and present the findings in the RIR. NJDEP has recommended that NJNG submit a combined RIR/RAWP on or before January 31, 2006.

Remediation of the southern on-site portion of the Troutmans Creek is still pending, as this work cannot be implemented until NJNG obtains access from the owner of Atlantic Plumbing Supply Company (APSC) property. NJNG submitted an unrestricted use RAWP in February 2005 and NJDEP issued a conditional approval letter on April 2005. The unrestricted use remedial action will be implemented once NJNG has negotiated access to the property. Should the parties fail to reach an agreement, NJNG has indicated that litigation may be necessary.

2) Troutmans Creek

On August 8, 2005, NJNG is expected to submit a Remedial Investigation Report summarizing results of all of creek sampling it has conducted. NJDEP and CCC have agreed to postpone consideration of any additional sampling of the creek until NJNG has submitted its report.

In May NJDEP issued its report on the sampling that it conducted in December 2004. Copies of the report were provided to CCC, and NJDEP is currently working with CCC to schedule a presentation of these findings to the community. **NJDEP presented the findings during the July 28th meeting of the CCC.**

3) Off-Site Residential Areas

NJDEP collected soil samples from the right-of-ways along Long Branch Avenue, Seaview Avenue and Ellis Avenue and from Grant Court in May 2005. These samples were analyzed for volatile organic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds, total petroleum hydrocarbons and metals. NJDEP expects to issue a report detailing its findings in the late summer or early fall of 2005. **Any changes/additions?**

4) Seaview Manor

NJNG is in the process of removing all of the contaminated soil from areas where buildings are to be re-built, and a minimum of two feet of contaminated soil from the other areas. The schedule calls for substantial completion of remedial activities by September 2005 and submission of a Remedial Action Report in January 2006, with the exception of the culvert (see below).

Remedial Activities Conducted in June 2005

- Finished de-watering Block 400 Lot 7 and the Long Branch Sewerage Authority (LBSA) property (Block 401 Lot 23). To date approximately **17,484,000** gallons of ground water have been pumped, treated at the on-site wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) to remove contaminants, and discharged to the LBSA.
- Began restoration of the northern portion of Block 400 Lot 7.
- Continued on-site processing/handling of contaminated soil for subsequent transport to off-site treatment facility. To date approximately **24,000** tons of contaminated soil have been processed and transported off site.
- Continued to conduct land surveying, dust suppression, odor control and air monitoring.
- Continued to decontaminate heavy equipment and trucks.

Remedial Activities Planned for July 2005

- Excavate and backfill remaining portions of Block 400 Lot 6.
- Complete restoration of Block 400 Lot 7 and LBSA property.
- Complete installation of concrete cap for sheet pile wall on Block 400 Lot 7 and MGP site.
- Process/handle contaminated soil on site, followed by transport to off-site treatment facility.
- Conduct land surveying, dust suppression, odor control and air monitoring.
- Decontaminate heavy equipment and trucks.

Other Upcoming Remedial Activities

- After Block 400 Lots 6 & 7 are remediated, NJNG will proceed to remediate the utility easement (Block 400 Lot 5.01) east of Block 400 Lot 6.
- Culvert: Regarding the culvert area that connects the on-site portion of Troutmans Creek to the off-site portion of Troutmans Creek north of Seaview Avenue, a permitting issue has developed that will delay removal of the culvert and underlying contamination. It currently does not appear that this work will proceed during the current mobilization due to the permitting issue. Unless this matter can be resolved quickly, NJNG will remove the culvert concurrent with the future remediation of the northern off-site portion of Troutmans Creek.