

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

Red Brick Building

NJNG recently proposed additional investigation to delineate the extent of trichloroethene (TCE) and perchloroethylene (PCE) contamination in the soil beneath the concrete pad where the red brick building was located, as well as ground water sampling to evaluate potential ground water impacts. NJDEP conditionally approved the additional work in July, and NJNG plans to conduct the sampling in October 2005. Following the completion of the soil and ground water investigation, NJNG will submit a Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) 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.

Soil Gas Investigation

On August 15, 2005 NJNG submitted a Sub-Slab Sampling Remedial Investigation Work Plan (RIWP), which detailed proposals to investigate potential vapor intrusion at the Talco and Atlantic Plumbing buildings. NJDEP is reviewing this document and expects to issue comments in October 2005.

Ground Water Investigation

On August 15, 2005 NJNG submitted a Remedial Investigation Work Plan/Ground Water Pilot Test Work Plan, which contains proposals to delineate the dense non-aqueous phase liquid (DNAPL) and conduct ground water treatment studies. After NJDEP approves the document, NJNG will implement the additional studies and present the findings in a Remedial Investigation Report (RIR). NJDEP recommended that NJNG submit a combined RIR/RAWP for ground water on or before January 31, 2006. NJNG agreed to submit the combined RIR/RAWP, but

^{*} 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.

requested a due date of March 6, 2006. NJDEP has granted this request based on the amount of work required to complete the investigation and prepare the documents.

On-Site Portion of Troutmans Creek

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 obtains access to the property. NJNG has begun litigation to gain access.

2) Troutmans Creek

On August 8, 2005 NJNG submitted a RIR summarizing the results of the creek sampling it conducted since March 2004. NJDEP is reviewing the report and expects to issue comments in November 2005.

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 RIR detailing its findings in the fall of 2005.

4) Seaview Manor

NJNG finished removing 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 backfilled areas were re-graded and re-seeded in late August/early September. NJNG will submit the Remedial Action Report (RAR) for the portion of Block 400, Lot 7 that was subject to unrestricted use remedial action in September 2005. The RAR for the remainder of the parcels will be submitted in January 2006, with the exception of the culvert (see below).

Culvert Status

NJNG will remove the culvert that connects the on-site portion of Troutmans Creek to the off-site portion of Troutmans Creek north of Seaview Avenue and the underlying contamination during remediation of the sediments in the off-site portion of Troutmans Creek. NJNG and NJDEP expect this work will occur in the spring and summer of 2006.