

## **New Jersey Natural Gas Company Long Branch Plant (aka Long Branch Manufactured Gas Plant)**

**100 Brook Street  
Long Branch City, Monmouth County  
PI #: 21314**

**Community Relations Coordinator: Heather Swartz (609) 984-7135**

### **SITE DESCRIPTION/RESOLUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:**

As of 30 September 2014

This site is a 17-acre property located in a primarily residential area of Long Branch. Troutman's Creek, a tributary of the Shrewsbury River, flows through the site. Between 1860 and the 1950s, a series of utility companies operated a manufactured gas plant (MGP) at the property that extracted gas from coal. This process generated a viscous waste known as coal tar, some of which leaked into the ground. The primary contaminants associated with the MGP residues are polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and metals, such as arsenic and lead. Although MGP operations were phased out more than 50 years ago, contaminants from the operations remained in the soil, sediments and ground water.

New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG) acquired the site in 1952, when it purchased the natural gas properties of Jersey Central Power & Light. Since 1991, NJNG has been addressing the soil, sediment and ground water contamination that resulted from the former MGP operations. NJNG removed contaminated soil and ground water from the former plant property and adjacent off-site properties, including Seaview Manor and the former Jerry Morgan Park. The excavated areas were backfilled with clean fill material and a soil cap was installed. The ground water pumped from the excavated areas was treated to remove contaminants prior to being discharged to the local sewage authority.

In addition, NJNG removed contaminated sediments from the portion of Troutman's Creek that traverses the facility and installed a multi-liner system in the creek bed to prevent the underlying contaminated ground water from reaching the surface. NJNG also excavated contaminated sediments from the off-site portion of the creek between the Seaview Avenue and Joline Avenue bridges and restored the wetlands areas.

NJNG is planning to remove contaminated sediments and soils in the area of the Seaview Avenue bridge that could not be removed during the Troutman's Creek remediation. In order to accomplish this task, the bridge must be dismantled and then rebuilt after the sediments have been removed. Dismantling of the bridge, removal of the contaminated sediments and rebuilding of the bridge is expected to occur in 2015. There is a City of Long Branch approved road closure and traffic control plan in place for this project. NJNG is also monitoring the contaminated ground water by sampling on-site and off-site monitoring wells. NJNG will use the sampling data to design a remedial action to address the contaminated ground water.

Following is a summary of the removal, restoration, and treatment activities and the amount of money spent through mid-2014:

- Total volume of soil/sediment excavated and disposed of from all on-site and off-site properties and the creek is approximately 365,000 tons.
- Total treated water is approximately 114 million gallons.
- Approximately three acres of on-site and off-site wetland areas and transitional areas were restored.
- Remediation project expenditures by NJNG as of August 31, 2014 have totaled approximately \$117,700,000.

For historical information about activities that NJDEP and NJNG have conducted at these areas, please refer below to the monthly updates NJDEP has provided to CCC since January 2005. For more information, see NJDEP's Environmental Justice web page at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/ej>.