



# Community

## FACT SHEET

**Niagara Mohawk, a National Grid Company, Utica, New York**

**April 2004**

If you would like more information about Niagara Mohawk's remedial program at the Harbor Point property, please contact these project representatives:

Terry Young, P.E.  
Niagara Mohawk, a National Grid Company  
300 Erie Boulevard West  
Syracuse, NY 13202  
Phone: 315-428-6614

Lech Dolata  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7010  
Phone: 518-402-9669

For site-related health issues, contact:

Maureen Schuck  
NYS Department of Health  
Division of Environmental Exposure Investigations  
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation  
Room 300  
Flanigan Square, 547 River Street  
Troy, NY 12180-2216  
Phone: 518-402-7860

Details of the site cleanup are available at the document repositories listed below:

### **Document Repositories**

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7010  
Phone: 518-402-9662

### **Niagara Mohawk to Continue Clean Up Of Harbor Point Property**

*Niagara Mohawk is beginning to rehabilitate the storm sewer lines along Lee Street and Washington Street to the Utica Harbor as part of the Operable Unit 3 cleanup. Contaminated sediments are being removed from the storm sewer and the storm lines and manholes will be lined to prevent future infiltration of contaminated groundwater and discharge to the Utica Harbor. Outfalls along the Utica Harbor and Mohawk River will also be abandoned. A new section of sanitary sewer will be installed from the Harbor Point site entrance to the existing sewer system on Lee Street. This phase of work will be conducted in cooperation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. This phase of the remedial construction activities began in March 2004 and will be completed by late spring or early summer 2004.*

### **What is an MGP?**

An MGP was an industrial facility at which gas was produced from coal, oil, and other natural materials. MGPs were sometimes referred to as "gasworks" or "town gas." From each plant, a network of underground pipes brought the gas into homes and businesses where it was used for lighting, cooking, and heating - the same purposes that natural gas is used for today. The first MGPs were constructed in the early 1800s, and by the mid to late 1800s production had greatly increased. Most New York State MGPs closed by 1950, with the last MGP in the state shutting down its operations in 1972.

### **Cleanup Goals**

The cleanup goals for the site are:

- Address the exposure of fish and wildlife to the levels of PAHs in sediments above guidance values and to provide an appropriate habitat for benthic life in the harbor.
- Address human exposures to contaminated soils in the dredge spoil areas (DSAs) and impacts to groundwater resulting from contamination present in the spoils.
- Prevent ingestion of groundwater affected by the site that does not attain NYSDEC Class GA Ambient Water Quality Criteria.
- Address the threat to the environment posed by the presence of contaminants within the regulatory floodway.

### **Key Elements of the Cleanup Program**

The cleanup is anticipated to include the following key elements:

- Consolidate and containment of MGP material on the Water Gas Plant portion of the site.
- Containment to include a fully encircling barrier wall with an engineered cap and groundwater collection and treatment.
- Excavate and thermal treatment of concentrated MGP material at the site.
- Capping of residual MGP material at the site with a minimum of 2-feet of clean soil.
- Treatment of in place groundwater prior to its discharging to the Utica Harbor, Barge Canal and Mohawk River.
- Dredging of Utica Harbor, Barge Canal and Mohawk River to return it to navigational depths and capping of the inner harbor.
- Treating and properly disposing of contaminated materials offsite; and
- Restoring the site for future use as part of the City of Utica's waterfront development program.

### **Community Health and Safety**

The cleanup activities will be performed according to specific health and safety standards. Safeguards will be in place to protect construction workers and the community. Measures to monitor and limit air emissions will be implemented as well. Additionally, erosion-control practices will be used to protect surrounding lands and waters. Site access restrictions will serve as additional protection during cleanup activities.

### **What's Next?**

Construction is expected to be completed in June 2004.