

Manufactured Gas Plant Fact Sheet

Lewiston, Maine - March 2011

This fact sheet has been prepared for the public by Unital to present the status of the investigation and clean-up by us of the former manufactured gas plant (MGP) known as the Lewiston Gas Works (LGW) located on Lincoln Street in Lewiston, Maine.

Introduction

The former LGW is located forms a portion of the Southern Gateway to the downtown areas and is situated along the east shore of the Androscoggin River. The project site was operated by the Lewiston Gas Light Company (Lewiston Gas) between 1854 and 1968 and initially provided Lewiston and Auburn with manufactured gas for the nearby mills, followed by service to residences and stores. With the arrival of an interstate natural gas pipeline in 1966, Lewiston Gas ceased operations shortly thereafter. The plant was decommissioned and many of the structures removed. In 1966, Lewiston Gas merged with the Portland Gas Light Company to form the Northern Utilities, Inc. In 2008, the company was acquired by Unital.

Site Layout

MGP operations at the project site occurred along the east side (upland) of Lincoln Street between the intersection with Locust Street and Gulley Brook. In 2001 and 2002, several former residential properties on the west side of Lincoln Street (opposite the former MGP site) were purchased by Northern Utilities, when environmental investigations revealed MGP residuals had migrated beneath these parcels.

The project site abuts two industrial properties to the northwest (the former Avon Manufacturing) and southeast (Miller Industries). A right-of-way from the former Maine Central Railroad runs along the east boundary. Gas Light Park forms the west boundary of the project site along the Androscoggin River. The park was opened to the public by Northern Utilities in 2006 and forms a permanent cap, covering an underlying groundwater remediation system.



Lewiston Gas Works circa 1924

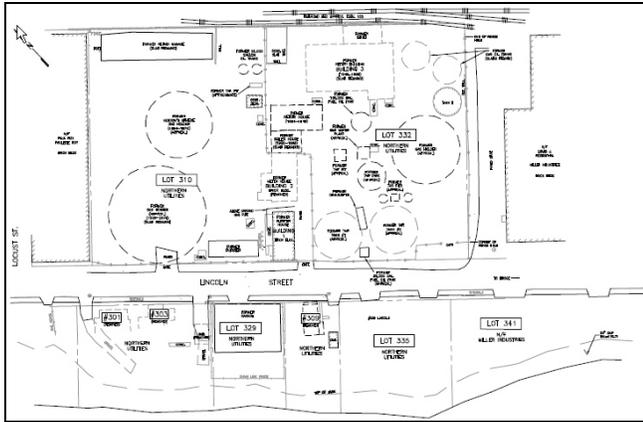
Environmental Investigations

Several investigations took place at the Site throughout the 1980s. Investigations generally pertained to addressing degraded site conditions and demolition activities. Investigations initiated in the 1990s included the collection of surface soil, fill material, river sediment, and subsurface soil samples at locations across the project site

The project Site Investigation Report (Phase II), prepared on behalf of Northern Utilities by MACTEC Engineering and submitted to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (ME DEP) in April 2003, established that the primary sources of MGP-related material at the site included solid process waste (including coke, ash, clinkers, and purifier wastes) and liquid process waste (including coal tar) that were spilled or leaked during operation or decommissioning of the former MGP.

The report also concluded that the primary source areas at the former MGP site included the following:

- Two Tar Tanks (underground)
- One Tar Tank (aboveground)
- Tar scabs across the east portions
- A subsurface dense non-aqueous phase liquid (NAPL) along the west side of Lincoln Street
- Wood fiber along the shore of the Androscoggin River



Site Layout in 2000

Regulatory Oversight

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) became involved with the former LGW site in 1994 when it was listed as a possible site under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund). In 1997, Northern Utilities agreed to a Voluntary Response Action Plan (VRAP) program with the ME DEP. Agreement to a VRAP would meet closure and cleanup objectives and resulted in the US EPA archiving the former LGW site from CERCLA in 1998. Remediation activities since then have been overseen by the ME DEP.

Continuing Remediation

In October 2003, the primary engineering feasibility study (with the Remedial Action Plan) was submitted to the ME DEP and Maine Public Utilities Commission (ME PUC) for review and approval. The recommended remedial actions included:

- Removal of the tar tanks (underground and aboveground) and any remaining product
- Installation of a concrete bulkhead along the shore of the Androscooggin River and capping of the same area
- Installation of a groundwater remediation system to collect dense NAPL from beneath the cap
- Excavation of contaminated soils and replacement with clean fill
- Demolition of the remaining structures and regrading of the project site with relocation of

remaining facilities (e.g., a natural gas regulator station).

Starting in December 2003 and continuing through April 2004, all three tar tanks were removed, along with their contents. Remediation along the river's shore began in November 2004 and was completed by August 2005. Soil removal commenced in August 2006 and was completed by May 2007.

In 2005, Northern Utilities (in conjunction with MACTEC and a landscape architect) started construction on Gas Light Park. This green space was dedicated in May 2006.

The groundwater remediation system continues to operate at the project site. In September 2008, though, Northern Utilities requested that the ME DEP issue a Certificate of Completion, as referenced in the VRAP agreement. In July 2009, The ME DEP indicated that additional monitoring was needed to ensure that subsurface contaminants are decreasing, as anticipated.



Gas Light Park in 2006 (facing north)

Contacts

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tom Murphy, Manager, Environmental Compliance: 603-379-3829 or murphyt@unitil.com

Unitil is committed to keeping you informed during every step of the MGP assessment and clean-up process. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us.

