



# FACT SHEET

## Voluntary Cleanup Program

**Receive Site Fact Sheets by *Email*.** See "For More Information" to Learn How.

**Site Name:** RGE - West Station  
**DEC Site #:** V00593  
**Address:** Falls Street  
Rochester, NY 14614

Have questions?  
See  
"Who to Contact"  
Below

### Remedy Proposed for Voluntary Cleanup Site Contamination Public Comment Period Announced

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has released a proposed cleanup plan for the RGE - West Station site ("site") located at Falls Street, Rochester, Monroe County. Please see the map for the site location. Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information."

#### How to Comment

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed plan for 30 days, from **July 19, 2017** through **August 18, 2017**. The proposed plan is available for public review at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area below.

#### Draft Remedial Action Work Plan

The proposed cleanup plan is described in the draft "Remedial Action Work Plan". The proposed remedy consists of:

- Excavation of soil and sediment that is visually impacted by manufactured gas plant (MGP) coal tar from the eastern side of the site along the Genesee River, for off-site disposal at a permitted facility.
- Reconstruction and restoration as applicable of the river bank. The specific restoration design will be determined during the design of the remedy.
- Extension of the existing site retaining/barrier wall to the south so that the retaining/barrier wall is contiguous with the existing intake/discharge barrier wall.
- Installation of recovery wells to collect mobile coal tar along the up-gradient side of the completed retaining/barrier wall, with removal and off-site disposal of any coal tar that accumulates.
- Installation of a site cover to allow for restricted-residential use of the site. The cover will consist either of the structures such as buildings, pavement, sidewalks comprising the site development, or a 2 foot soil cover.

- Imposition of an institutional control in the form of an environmental easement for the site which will require periodic certification of institutional and engineering controls, allow for restricted-residential (recreational or multi-family housing), commercial or industrial use of the site, restrict the use of groundwater at the site, and require compliance with a Site Management Plan.
- A Site Management Plan will be developed and implemented which will require maintenance of the site cover, management of soils excavated from the site, and groundwater monitoring.

The proposed remedy was developed by Rochester Gas & Electric Corporation ("volunteer(s)") after performing a detailed investigation of the site under New York's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP).

### *Summary of the Investigation*

Soil, groundwater, and sediments were analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and cyanide. Based upon investigations conducted to date, the primary contaminants of concern include VOCs, SVOCs, metals and cyanide in soils, VOCs and SVOCs in groundwater and SVOCs in sediment.

### **Next Steps**

NYSDEC will consider public comments, revise the plan as necessary, and issue a final Decision Document. The final Decision Document will document any changes to the proposed remedy in the Remedial Action Work Plan based on public comments and will be made available to the public. New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) must concur with the proposed remedy. After approval, the proposed remedy becomes the selected remedy. The volunteer(s) may then design and perform the cleanup action to address the site contamination, with oversight by NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the site.

### **Background**

**Location:** The Rochester Gas and Electric (RG&E) - West Station site is located along the west bank of the Genesee River in the City of Rochester, Monroe County. The site is approximately a quarter mile northwest of the Genesee River's High Falls.

**Site Features:** The site is a former manufactured gas plant (MGP) that is located within the Genesee River Gorge directly adjacent to the river. The site is relatively flat with the gorge wall rising to the west and the river to the east. The site is bounded by the Genesee River to the east, the Pont de Rennes Bridge to the south, the former Beebe Station to the west, and the end of Falls Street to the north. Most site structures have been demolished with the exception of small ancillary buildings on the northern portion of the site. Demolition of the adjacent Beebe Station was completed in 2017.

**Current Zoning/Use(s):** The site is currently inactive and is zoned Center City District - Riverfront (CCD-R). CCD-R zoning allows for industrial, commercial, and residential property use.

**Past Use of the Site:** The West Station Former MGP operated from about 1910 to 1952. Following the MGP the site was used as part of a large coal-fired power generating facility (Beebe Station) which was removed from service in 1999.

**Site Geology and Hydrogeology:** The site is located in the Genesee River gorge. The site is located on non-native historic fill ranging from 4 to 37.5 feet in thickness. The fill is underlain by 0 to 19.5 feet of native soil which overlies the Rochester Shale bedrock.

Groundwater is present in both the overburden and bedrock. Groundwater moves generally eastward and discharges to the river. A concrete retaining wall which is keyed into bedrock locally diverts overburden groundwater slightly to the south before it resumes its eastward course.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=V00593>

**Voluntary Cleanup Program:** New York's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) was developed to encourage private sector volunteers to investigate and clean up contaminated properties and return these sites to productive use. Once cleaned up, the properties may be redeveloped for commercial, industrial, residential or public use.

For more information about the VCP, visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8442.html>

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed.

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 8 Office  
6274 E. Avon-Lima Rd  
Avon, NY 14414-9516  
phone: (585) 226-2466

Rochester Public Library  
Rundel Branch, 4th Floor  
115 South Ave  
Rochester, NY 14604  
phone: (585) 428-8440

### Who to Contact

Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

#### Project Related Questions

William Bennett  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7014  
518-402-9659  
[william.bennett@dec.ny.gov](mailto:william.bennett@dec.ny.gov)

#### Site-Related Health Questions

Anthony Perretta  
New York State Department of Health  
Empire State Plaza Corning Tower, Room 1787  
Albany, NY 12237  
(518) 402-7880  
[BEEI@health.ny.gov](mailto:BEEI@health.ny.gov)

**We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.**

#### **Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email**

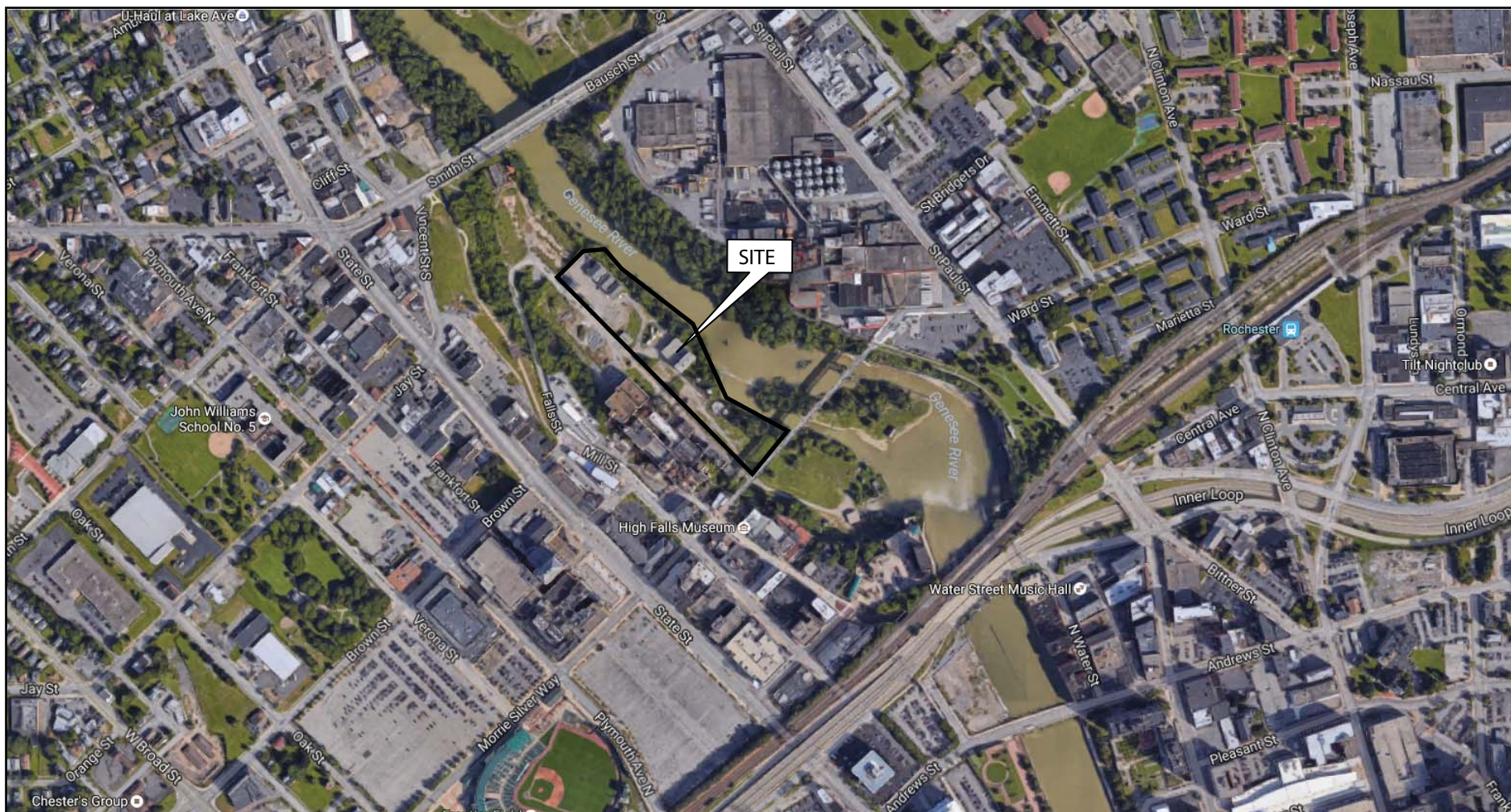
Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page:  
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>. It's quick, it's free, and it will help keep you *better informed*.



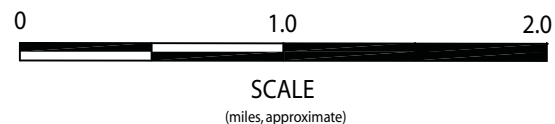
As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.





New York State



**SITE LOCATION MAP**  
 Rochester Gas and Electric  
 West Station Former MGP Plant Area  
 Remedial Action Work Plan  
 Rochester, New York

By: MAC Date: 10/2016 Project No.128480



Figure **1**



