

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

FOR THE

**FULTON MUNICIPAL WORKS FORMER MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT
SITE**

Nevins and DeGraw Streets

Brooklyn, NY 11217

Prepared by

National Grid

August 2024

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APPLICANT: NATIONAL GRID
SITE NAME: FULTON MUNICIPAL WORKS FORMER MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT
SITE ADDRESS: NEVINS, SACKETT AND DEGRAW STREETS
SITE COUNTY: KINGS
SITE NUMBER: 224051

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Citizen participation is an integral component of remedial programs in New York State. Input on the remedial program from affected or interested individuals and organizations helps ensure outcomes that account for both technical and human considerations for protecting public health and the environment. This CPP was prepared in general conformance with DER-23. NYSDEC is the lead for citizens participation and outreach with support from National Grid and the property owners. The NYSDEC's program is consistent with the goals and objectives of its Environmental Justice (EJ) policy. This project-specific plan is used to establish the framework needed to inform and involve community residents, public and private leaders, and other stakeholders. This Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) documents the planned project-specific public outreach activities and resources organized for the remedial program associated with the Fulton Municipal Works former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) site ("Site").

The primary purpose of this CPP is to outline a variety of communication methods that, based on applicable New York State law and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) regulations and guidance, provides for constructive communication of program activities between the stakeholders and other interested parties. This CPP includes methods intended to inform interested parties of program developments, elicit responses and public involvement, and provide a central point of contact for inquiries regarding the remedial program for the Site. Given this context, this CPP presents the planned communication and outreach activities, describes how interested individuals and groups can participate in the remedial program, and provides a variety of reference materials to facilitate gaining access to project-specific information and management personnel.

Both the NYSDEC and National Grid are committed to the implementation of this CPP as required by Title 6 of the New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Part 375, applicable NYSDEC guidance (e.g., Citizen Participation in New York's Hazardous Waste Site Remediation Program: A Guidebook, dated June 1998), the Administrative Order on Consent (Index # A2- 0552-0606) and the statewide Inactive Hazardous Waste Site Citizen Participation Plan (NYSDEC, 1988). As required by 6 NYCRR Part 375-1.10, NYSDEC and National Grid will review and update this CPP to account for significant changes in the Site remedial program.

2.0 BASIC SITE INFORMATION

The Site is located along Sackett and DeGraw streets between the Gowanus Canal and 3rd Avenue in Brooklyn, N.Y. (Figure 1). The Site is comprised of several separate parcels and owners with the City of New York owning the largest individual parcel where Thomas Greene Park is located.

History and Operations

A manufactured gas plant operated at the Site from approximately 1886 to 1933. The manufacture of gas, in general terms, consisted of heating coal and recovering the vapors, which were condensed and purified to produce gas. By-products from the heating and purification processes included coal tar, sludge, oils, ashes, contaminated wood chips (used for gas purification) and other chemicals. These byproducts were either recycled for energy recovery and chemical feedstocks or disposed.

The Site was owned by predecessors to National Grid at the time the MGP operations were active. However, none of the properties comprising the Site are currently owned by National Grid. The current land uses at the Site are the Thomas Greene Playground and the Douglas and DeGraw Pool, and other commercial/industrial uses, some of which are actively undergoing redevelopment.

Current Site Description

The former MGP Site operations occupied five properties (Parcels I through V) covering, in total, approximately 6.5 acres, roughly bounded and bisected by Nevins, Sackett and DeGraw streets in Brooklyn. The remedial investigation and subsequent DEC Record of Decision (ROD) for the Site also included three additional properties identified as Parcels VI, VII and VIII¹. The properties are currently owned by several entities including private owners and the City of New York Parks and Recreation Department and Department of Environmental Protection. NYC Parks and Recreation owns and operates the Thomas Greene Park and Douglas and DeGraw Pool which includes a playground, concrete swimming pool, changing facilities, and basketball and handball courts (all covering the surface with concrete), and some vegetated areas. There is ongoing remediation and/or planned redevelopment on Parcels I, III, IV, VI, VII and VIII (see Figure 1 – Site Location Map on following page).

The properties comprising the former MGP Site are:

Address	Block and Lot
270 Nevins Street (Parcel I)	Block 425, Lot 1
225 Nevins Street (Parcel II)	Block 419, Lot 1
537 Sackett Street (Parcel III)	Block 426, Lot 49
560 DeGraw Street (Parcel IV)	Block 426, Lot 17
191 3 rd Avenue (Parcel V)	Block 420, Lot 1

There are commercial and residential properties located adjacent to the Site.

¹ Parcels VI and VII are located on the west side of Nevins Street and are identified as 242 Nevins Street and 226 Nevins Street, respectively. Parcel VIII is located on the west side of the Gowanus Canal and is identified as 479 DeGraw Street.

FIGURE 1 – Site Location Map



3.0 REMEDIAL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

3.1 Project Area Investigation History

A Preliminary Site Assessment was prepared for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1986. EPA concluded that no further remedial action was required and archived the Site in the EPA's Superfund Program.

A Site Characterization conducted in 2007 by the NYSDEC identified the presence of materials expected at a former MGP site, and other materials associated with other industrial activities. The materials, including coal tar impacts, were generally found four feet or more below the surface. Coal tar was not observed at or near the ground surface. Consequently, the potential is low for human exposure to coal tar impacts by routine users of the park, workers involved in park operations or to people on the surface in the surrounding neighborhood.

Between 2008 and 2011, National Grid conducted a Remedial Investigation (RI) at the Site. The RI evaluated the nature and extent of potential impacts from the MGP operation, as well as the potential human health and ecological risks. This RI results showed that MGP related impacts are below ground and not accessible by the public. In addition, MGP-related impacts do not pose a risk to human health under current site use conditions.

3.2 Remedial Program Overview

- 2007 – Consent Order between The Brooklyn Union Gas Company d/b/a KeySpan Energy Delivery New York, a predecessor of National Grid, and the NYSDEC.
- 2012 – Remedial Investigation Report approved by NYSDEC
- 2015 – Feasibility Study Report
- 2015 – Proposed Remedial Action Plan
- 2015 – Record of Decision issued by NYSDEC
- 2017 – 2021 – Fulton Bulkhead Barrier Wall Design and Construction
- 2021 – Present – Parcel III/IV Design and Remediation
- 2023 – Present – Parcel VI/VII Combined Sewer Overflow Tank Construction and Remediation

4.0 CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES

The planned activities are geared toward making project-specific information (e.g., work plans, technical reports and information sheet summaries) available to the public. This facilitates communication among stakeholders, including the creation of contact lists; scheduling and conducting public meetings; establishing comment periods; and notifying the public of document availability, public meetings, comment periods and major program milestones with input and direction from NYSDEC.

4.1 Goals and Objectives

The central goal of this CPP is to achieve effective, open communication among stakeholders and interested parties, National Grid and the NYSDEC. Common goals identified in DER-23 include:

- Promoting the development of timely and effective site remedial programs that protect public health and the environment
- Enhancing the public's access to, and understanding of, issues and information related to a site and that site's remedial process
- Providing citizens with early and continuing opportunities to participate in DER's site remedial process and timely notice of such opportunities
- Ensuring that DER staff make site remedial decisions after considering the input and concerns of the affected and interested community

In order to accomplish these goals, DER-23 also references the following additional objectives to support the implementation of this CPP:

- Provide a process for the affected and interested public to become well informed about site issues and information to effectively participate in the decision-making process for site remedial actions
- Foster meaningful public participation that reflects the diversity of interests and perspectives found within the community
- Solicit public comments at formal milestones and encourage public input at any time during the site remedial process
- Encourage dialogue to promote the exchange of information among the affected and interested public, governmental agencies, and other interested parties that strengthens trust among the parties, increases understanding of site and community issues and concerns, and improves decision-making
- Provide timely and courteous responses to citizen requests, concerns and issues
- Inform the public and obtain public input
- Educate the community, in lay terms, about the nature and magnitude of potential site risks, including instructions for mitigating risk (if appropriate) and assurances that site activities are protective of the

environment and worker/public health and safety (as necessary/appropriate)

- Provide interested parties the opportunity to review and comment on technical reports generated through the remedial program (e.g., public comment periods and document repositories as required by 6 NYCRR Part 375)
- Provide interested parties the opportunity to present opinions and ideas during the remedial program (e.g., via public meeting/comment periods and availability sessions as required by NYSDEC)
- Provide responses to public review and comment (e.g., prepare a responsiveness summary as required by 6 NYCRR Part 375)
- Prepare to engage the news media with press releases and/or interviews with National Grid-authorized spokespersons, as available, to ensure accurate coverage of remedial program activities
- Provide a designated project spokesperson as point of contact through which community inquiries regarding the project can be addressed consistently and effectively
- Periodically review the effectiveness of the citizen participation and outreach activities during the remedial program and make adjustments in this CPP's methods and/or activities, if necessary

The community contact list is provided in Appendix C and the former Fulton MGP Site Project management contacts, including contacts from NYSDEC, New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and National Grid, are provided in Appendix D.

4.2 Tools and Methods

There are many ways to reach and communicate with the community and other interested parties as this CPP is implemented over the course of the remedial programs. A variety of outreach tools and methods will be used to ensure proper communication with the interested parties that include various organizations, public and business leaders, and a diverse assemblage of individuals of all ages, education backgrounds and cultures.

Interested parties will be informed and invited to participate in the planned citizen participation activities through appropriate means such as NYSDEC outreach through their ListServ, mailings to the contact list, legal notice in newspapers, press releases, notices posted on the Site's website, information sheets and other documents made available in the document repositories.

4.2.1 Document Repositories

The current document repositories for the project are the www.fultonmgpsite.com website and the NYSDEC Central Office (information below).

NYSDEC Central Office
625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7016
Attn: Aaron Fischer
518-402-9767
aaron.fischer@dec.nyc.gov

In addition, the following repositories were previously established for hard copies of documents and will only be used in the future if requested by NYSDEC.

Brooklyn Community Board 6
250 Baltic Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201-6401
(718) 643-3027
<https://www.nyc.gov/site/brooklyncb6/index.page>

Brooklyn Public Library
Carroll Gardens Branch Library
396 Clinton Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11231
(718) 596-6972
<https://www.bklynlibrary.org/locations/greenpoint>

The following documents are typically available in the repositories or will be made available when completed and accepted by the NYSDEC:

- Administrative Order on Consent
- Citizen Participation Plan
- Fact Sheet Announcing the Start of the Remedial Investigation
- Remedial Investigation Work Plan, as well as several remedial investigation work plan addendums
- Remedial Investigation Report
- Feasibility Study Report
- Proposed Remedial Action Plan

- Record of Decision (ROD)
- Remedial Design
- Post-Remedial Site Management Plan
- Other Materials (e.g., information sheets, notices, etc.)

These documents are also typically available on the project website at www.fultonmgpsite.com.

4.2.2 Community Outreach

NYSDEC has taken a lead role in the project outreach to the community for the Site and the NYSDEC issued a project fact sheet for the Parcel III remediation in March 2022, and the NYSDEC also held a virtual Public Meeting for the Parcel III remediation on April 2022 to review the scope of the Parcel III and IV remediation.

NYSDEC and National Grid are committed to sharing information with the community and have a number of resources to make information available for the community including the website, mailers, a hotline number and document repositories.

Interested parties will be informed and invited to participate in the planned citizen participation activities (including virtual meetings and public meetings when appropriate) through appropriate means including NYSDEC's ListServ mailings, mailings to the contact list, press releases, information sheets and other document postings in the document repositories.

Information newsletters are prepared and distributed to the contact list in order to announce major project milestones and accomplishments throughout the remedial program (e.g., start of construction, major report completion, etc.). Written in lay terms, information newsletters describe and summarize the Site area history, review the goals of the remedial program, update the status of the Site plans and/or results, list opportunities for citizen involvement, list key contacts and list the location of the document repositories.

4.2.3 Telephone Hotline

National Grid established a telephone hotline for neighbors of the Site. The phone number is (718) 982-7349. If there are news updates, the hotline can be used to obtain questions from the community and other stakeholders.

4.2.4 Website

National Grid continues to maintain the website for the project at www.fultonmgpsite.com. The website includes background information about manufactured gas plants, historical information about the Fulton Site, a description of work that has been completed during the project, periodic updates about remediation activities and contact information, including links to the NYSDEC's MGP website. The homepage contains updates of activities and current site status related to the investigation and remediation of the Site. A key documents section contains the major reports completed during the project, and an archive of fact sheets and weekly reports.

4.3 Roles and Responsibilities

The specific roles and associated responsibilities for implementing this CPP are:

- Aaron Fischer, NYSDEC Project Manager – The NYSDEC project manager is responsible for enforcement, oversight and management of the overall remedial program. Typical citizen participation-related activities include making presentations at public meetings, reviewing project documents such as information sheets, and providing technical assistance in preparing the responsiveness summary or answering public inquiries.
- Thomas Panzone, NYSDEC Citizen Participation Specialist – The citizen participation specialist assists the project managers in implementing the CPP. Typical activities include preparation and/or review of information sheets and coordination of public meetings and availability sessions.
- Patrick Van Rossem, National Grid Project Manager – The National Grid project manager, in cooperation with the NYSDEC project manager, is responsible for managing the overall National Grid remedial program for the Site.
- April Dubison, National Grid Community Relations Representative – Typical citizen participation-related activities include management of CPP implementation, providing updates to the public, coordinating public meetings and providing assistance to the NYSDEC project manager and citizen participation specialist.

5.0 SUMMARY

Guided by the NYSDEC and the goals and objectives of this CPP, implementation of the planned public outreach and citizen participation activities supports the timely communication of important program information of interest to the local community. Citizen involvement and interaction in the remedial program is being facilitated through specific opportunities such as public meetings, public comment periods, availability sessions and use of the Site's website and document repositories. Throughout the remedial program, this CPP and its specific outreach tools and methods are reviewed and updated as required and agreed by the NYSDEC and National Grid, and adjustments made to improve the effective response to community requests.

APPENDIX A
Glossary of Key Citizen Participation
Terms and Major Program Elements

Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) – A document that describes the project-specific citizen participation and outreach activities that have been established alongside the technical components of the remedial program. The CPP also provides project information, citizen participation goals and objectives, and lists of contact persons and document repositories.

Citizen Participation Specialist – An NYSDEC staff member whose duty it is to provide guidance and assistance in carrying out the CPP. The citizen participation specialist is the key contact for public inquiries about the project and the remedial activities.

Contact List – A list in the CPP (Appendix C) containing names and addresses of individuals, groups, organizations, news media and public representatives interested and/or affected by the project. The contact list is used to distribute important information and notices about the project and the remedial program.

Document Repositories – Project documents and other information are placed in the document repositories to facilitate convenient public access to these materials. Documents are available for public reference and review at the offices of Community Board 6, the NYSDEC Central Office and the Carroll Gardens Branch Library. Refer to Appendix B for more information about the document repositories' locations and hours of operation.

Feasibility Study (FS) – Based on information gathered during the Remedial Investigation (RI), the FS is a process for developing, evaluating and selecting appropriate Remedial Action (RA) for limiting or eliminating the potential human and environmental hazards of a site. The FS sets out the goals of the remedial actions to be taken, evaluates the most appropriate alternatives and selects the best alternative based on several criteria. The selected remedy is then recommended for implementation in the Proposed Remedial Design Plan, which is subject to public review and comment.

Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) – A discrete action that can be conducted at a site relatively quickly to reduce the risk to people's health and the environment from a well-defined waste problem. An IRM can involve cutting and plugging waste conduits, removing contaminated soil and securing a site.

Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (NAPL) – An immiscible liquid that remains as a separate phase or layer in the environment.

Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) – Contaminants typically found at MGP sites and associated with coal tar residues. PAHs can also be associated with non-MGP related activities.

APPENDIX A Continued
Glossary of Key Citizen Participation
Terms and Major Program Elements

Remedial Design (RD) – The RD report typically includes a detailed description of the remedial objectives and the means by which each essential element of the selected remedial alternative will be implemented to achieve those objectives. It incorporates the findings of the FS Report to provide a remedial design that will be implemented during the performance of the cleanup activities at the Site.

Remedial Investigation (RI) – A process to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a site by analyzing data collected from sampling (e.g., water, soil, air, etc.) at a site.

Information gathered throughout the RI is then used to conduct a Focused Feasibility Study (FFS), which proposes and evaluates various remedial alternatives for the Site.

Responsiveness Summary – The Responsiveness Summary is prepared by the NYSDEC to address public comments, questions and concerns regarding the proposed remedial action to be taken at a site. The Responsiveness Summary was issued as part of the Remedial Action Program.

Site Management Plan (SMP) – A Site Management Plan is a guidance document that is submitted to the NYSDEC for properties where residual contaminants remain below ground. The document helps to ensure properties are managed safely to protect the public and the environment. The SMP provides guidance on protecting workers and the general public from coming into contact with residuals found below the ground surface. It also provides guidelines for excavation, redevelopment, adding utilities or other ground intrusive work.

Volatile Aromatic Hydrocarbons – Benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylene (BTEX) are volatile aromatic hydrocarbons and typical contaminants found at MGP sites and other sites where petroleum, coal, oil, refined products and other hydrocarbons were combusted or used.

APPENDIX B
Identification of Document Repositories

Brooklyn Community Board 6 250 Baltic Street

Brooklyn, NY 11201-6401

(718) 643-3027

Call for Appointment

<https://www.nyc.gov/site/brooklyncb6/index.page>

Carroll Gardens Branch Library 396 Clinton Avenue

Brooklyn, NY 11231

(718) 596-6972

<https://www.bklynlibrary.org/locations/carroll-gardens>

NYSDEC Central Office

625 Broadway, 12th Floor

Albany, NY 12233-7016

Attn: Aaron Fischer

(518) 402-9767

aaron.fischer@dec.state.ny.us

APPENDIX C
Community Contact List

Affected and/or Interested Parties

Nevins Canal Corp.

116 John Street, Room 312
New York, NY 10038

270 Nevins St. Properties, LLC

116 John Street
New York, NY 10038

Eastern Effects, Inc.

270 Nevins Street
Brooklyn, NY 11217

ATS Realty Inc.

c/o Adams Book Co.
537 Sackett Street
Brooklyn, NY 11217

Domain/Vorea Group

545 Sackett St.
Brooklyn, NY 11217

Associated Mechanical Incorporated

549 Sackett Street
Brooklyn, NY 11217

City New York, Parks Dept.

830 5th Avenue
New York, NY 10021

242 Nevins, Inc.

444 3rd Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11215-3190

Jaez Realty, LLC

42 West 48th Street
New York, NY 10036

Royal Items

595 DeGraw Street,
Brooklyn, NY 11217

Brooklyn Boulders

575 DeGraw Street
Brooklyn, NY 11217

Abatemarco Realty Corp.

224 3rd Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11217-3036

Government Elected Officials**Brooklyn Borough President**

Hon. Antonio Reynoso
Brooklyn Borough Hall
209 Joralemon Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
<https://www.brooklyn-usa.org/>

City Council Member

Hon. Shahana Hanif
197 Bond Street, 1st Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11217
(718) 499-1090
<https://council.nyc.gov/district-39/>

Congressman

Hon. Dan Goldman
(202) 225-7944
<https://goldman.house.gov/>

Assemblywoman

Hon. Jo Anne Simon 341 Smith Street
Brooklyn, NY 11231
(718) 246-4889
<https://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Jo-Anne-Simon>

State Senator

Hon. Andrew Gounardes
8018 5th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11209
Phone: (718) 238-6044
<https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/andrew-gounardes>

Brooklyn Community Board 6

Michael Racioppo, Mgr. 250 Baltic Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 643-3027
<https://www.nyc.gov/site/brooklyncb6/index.page>

Community Groups and Contacts

Gowanus Canal Community Advisory Group (CAG) – Doug Sarno

Gowanus Canal Conservancy – Andrea Parker

Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Corporation – Andrea Devening

Friends and Residents of Greater Gowanus (FROGG) – Marlene Donnelly

Fifth Avenue Committee – Michele de la Uz

Gowanus Houses Tenants Association – Edward Tyre

Gowanus Alliance – Paul A. Basile

Carroll Gardens Neighborhood Association – Maria Pagano

Friends of Thomas Greene Park – Sue Wolfe

Wycoff Gardens Tenants Association – Charlene Nimmons

Community Newspapers Outlet

Brooklyn Papers

<https://www.brooklynpaper.com/>

Brooklyn Daily Eagle

<https://brooklyneagle.com/>

Courier Life's Brooklyn Daily

<https://www.schnepsmedia.com/courier-life-brooklyn-paper/>

Community Blogs

The Brownstoner

<http://www.brownstoner.com>

Pardon Me For Asking

<http://pardonmeforasking.blogspot.com>

McBrooklyn

<http://www.mcbrooklyn.blogspot.com>

APPENDIX D
Identification of Project Management Contacts

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Aaron Fischer, Project Manager

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation 625 Broadway, 12th Floor

Albany, NY 12233-7016

Phone: 518-402-9767

aaron.fischer@dec.ny.gov

New York State Department of Health

Steven Berninger, Public Health Specialist 2 Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation Empire State Plaza

Corning Tower, Room 1787 Albany, NY 12233

(800) 458-1158, ext. 27860

(518) 402-7860

Email: BEEI@health.state.ny.us

National Grid

April Dubison, SIR Community Affairs

2 Hanson Place

Brooklyn, NY 11217

Fulton MGP Project Hotline Telephone – (718) 982-7349

Please leave a message on the hotline and your call will be promptly returned.