Introduction

Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. (Con Edison), together with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), is providing this fact sheet on the upcoming investigation activities planned for a portion of the former Hunts Point Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site located at the foot of Farragut Street, in Hunts Point, Bronx, New York (see Figure 1).

Project Status and Schedule

Con Edison has entered into a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement (VCA) with the NYSDEC to investigate, and if necessary, remediate potential impacts at former MGP sites. One of these MGP sites is the former Hunts Point MGP Site. Portions of the former Hunts Point MGP Site were previously investigated and/or remediated. This investigation is focused on a portion of the larger MGP Site that is owned by the City of New York, and is currently occupied by a Marine Transfer Station (MTS).

The MTS Site includes approximately 4 acres and is bounded to the north by Farragut St. and to the south by the East and Bronx Rivers. The MTS was historically the southernmost property boundary to the historical Hunts Point MGP operations (Figure 2).

Between September and November 2014, site characterization activities will be performed at the MTS Site. Field activities will include the collection of soil and groundwater samples. During the field activities, extensive efforts will be made to protect the community from potential hazards. These efforts will include the use of real-time air monitoring in accordance with the NYSDOH's Community Air Monitoring Plan.

Investigation Goal

The primary goal of the site characterization activities is to evaluate whether remnants from MGP operations have impacted human health or the environment. If remnants from MGP operations are present, additional sampling may be needed to determine their nature and extent and the need for remediation. Because MGP remnants are typically found many feet beneath the surface, the public is not exposed through direct contact.

Dear Interested Citizen:

This fact sheet is to inform you of the future site characterization activities planned for the former Hunts Point MGP Site.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact:

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For site-related environmental questions, please contact:

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For site-related health questions, please contact:

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Corning Tower – Room 1717
Albany, New York 12237
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Documents related to this project are available at the following locations:
Office of the Borough President, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10451, 718-590-3500; New York Public Library, Hunts Point Branch, 877 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10459, 718-617-0338; NYSDEC, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233, 518-402-9768 and NYSDEC Region 2, 1 Hunter's Point Plaza, 47-40 21st Street, Long Island City, NY 11101-5407, 718-482-4900
Exposure to impacted groundwater through ingestion is also not expected because the area is served by a municipal water system.

If remedial planning is necessary based on the site characterization or subsequent remedial investigation results, the scope and basis for a remedial plan will be developed in cooperation with the NYSDEC and NYSDOH and presented to the public for review and comment.

Site Background

Con Edison operated the Hunts Point MGP Site as an MGP and gas holder station between 1926 and 1962. A large gas holder on the northern portion of the Gas Works was used until 1968, after which it was removed from service and demolished. The City of New York acquired the majority of the former Hunts Point Gas Works property in the late 1960s. The majority of the Gas Works property was then transitioned into warehouse space for a wholesale food cooperative.

Reviews of historical aerial photographs indicate that the majority of the structures related to the Gas Works were located north of the MTS Site in the area currently occupied by the Hunts Point Co-Operative Market. The photos also indicate that most of the MTS site was open water, until sometime between 1954 and 1966, when this area was filled in and the MTS was constructed. Aerial photographs indicate that the MTS has been present since at least 1966.

What are Former Manufactured Gas Plants?

Manufactured gas plants were operated between the 1800s and mid-1900s, before the development of natural gas systems, to convert coal and oil into gas for heating, lighting and cooking.

Public Involvement

Public understanding and involvement are an integral part of a successful investigation and remediation program. To provide you with the most up-to-date and accurate information regarding manufactured gas plants, Con Edison has created a series of informational resources including fact sheets, a toll-free hotline, and internet content at www.coned.com/mgp. Information can also be found at the NYSDEC website at www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/24904.html. In addition, a Citizen Participation Plan has been approved by the NYSDEC that outlines the steps to be taken to provide for public participation in the remedial program. Document repositories for site related documents have also been established so that concerned citizens can review available information.