



In conjunction with



Dear Interested Citizen:

This fact sheet is to update you on the remedial plan for the former E. 115th Street MGP.

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

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Fact Sheet

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East 115th Street Works

www.coned.com/mgp

Introduction

The Manhattan Center for Science and Mathematics and the Isaac Newton Middle School are located on the site of a former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP). MGPs 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. Con Edison has been working on the site since 2002 and activities have included indoor air sampling every six months and sampling of soil and ground water. Con Edison is currently in the design phase for the remedial plan that was approved by NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and NYS Department of Health (DOH).

Project Update

Over Spring break (April 9 - April 13), Con Edison conducted a pilot study test in the basement of the school while students were not present. The pilot study test was conducted to gather additional information for remedial planning and design purposes as part of the Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) program.

During this work, two 55 gallon drums were stored outside of the school building. The drums contained "recycled" carbon that was used to filter soil vapors from beneath the building foundation (Carbon is commonly used as a filter). When the two drums were taken off the property to the disposal facility, low levels of radiation were detected.

Although the drums were never brought into the school building and students were not exposed, Con Edison requested that the NYPD come on-site and test the inside of the building as well as the outside for radiation. No elevated radiation levels were detected and Con Edison was authorized to resume the pilot test work. The NYS Department of Health also reviewed all of the data and stated that there are "no public health concerns".

Con Edison is currently working with the drum supplier to determine why the drums tested positive for radiation. Con Edison is also speaking with the disposal facility to determine what instruments were used when the drums were tested.

In conclusion, this work was done when the school was closed. The drums were never inside of the building and the NYPD and the NYS Department of Health have confirmed that the drums pose no public health concerns.

Con Edison will be briefing the Parents Associations for both schools during their May meetings. Please feel free to contact Laura Mascuch, Con Edison Public Affairs, at 212-460-4883 with any questions or Liz Lukowski, NYS DEC Project Manager at 518-402-9564 or Dawn Hettrick, NYS DOH Project Manager at 518-402-7880.