



Manufactured Gas Plant Program

Former Fresno-2 MGP

Pilot Study Fact Sheet

September 2013

What is a manufactured gas plant?

As part of our commitment to environmental responsibility, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is addressing over 40 Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) sites it owned or operated in its service territory. This program is being conducted under the oversight of the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC).

In the mid-1800s and early 1900s, before natural gas was available as an energy source, more than 1,500 MGPs were located in cities and towns throughout the United States. MGPs used coal and oil to produce gas for lighting, heating and cooking. With the arrival of natural gas, most of the MGP sites in PG&E's service area were no longer needed and were closed down.

PG&E operated the former Fresno-2 MGP on Mariposa Street, between F and G Streets, in Fresno, California from 1881 to 1919. The site is now redeveloped as a restaurant, parking lot, automobile repair business and a vacant lot.

Pilot Study: September 2013 - January 2014

Samples of soil and soil gas (air in between soil particles) have been collected and analyzed for chemicals associated with the historic gas-making process. Investigations confirmed the presence of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, total petroleum hydrocarbons, volatile organic compounds and metals in soil.

In September, PG&E will be conducting a three-month pilot study to determine if soils can be treated on-site using heat to vaporize contaminants so they can be extracted and treated. This on-site cleanup does not require digging soil, limiting both truck traffic and the material placed in landfills, and minimizing impacts to the surrounding community. If the technology proves suitable, it will be proposed as one of several methods to clean up the site.

A Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) confirmed that under current conditions, the Site is fully protective of the community and local businesses. However, some form of cleanup is needed for long-term protection of the environment. All work will be done in accordance with a site specific Health and Safety Plan and air emissions will be monitored.

For More Information

Throughout the entire process, PG&E will make sure interested community members are informed about this project. For more information please contact:

- Sharron Reackhof, PG&E Project Manager, (415) 279-1730 or slrl@pge.com
- Maribel Rosas, Public Affairs, (510) 685-1325 or maribel@craig-communications.com
- PG&E toll-free Community Hotline, (866) 247-0581