



Former Eureka Manufactured Gas Plant Proposed Cleanup Plan Winter 2016/2017

Introduction

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is voluntarily remediating environmental impacts from a former manufactured gas plant (MGP) that operated from 1907 to the early 1940s at 1206 West 14th Street in Eureka (site). This work is part of a company-wide program to address impacts from former operations and is overseen by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board).

Proposed Cleanup Plan

PG&E has prepared a proposed cleanup plan to remove or immobilize chemical residues in soil and protect groundwater from historical gas-making activities. As was common practice at the time, byproducts of the gas-making process were left buried on-site. While the property presents no significant risk in light of its current use as a lumber yard, the proposed cleanup will (1) make the site safe for other uses that may arise in the future and (2) protect groundwater.

PG&E submitted a proposed cleanup plan to the Water Board for review and approval. The proposed plan recommends an approach that accomplishes the cleanup goals while minimizing disruption to the neighborhood, truck traffic, and the amount of material placed in landfills. The plan proposes:

- Excavation and off-site disposal of approximately 4,000 tons of soil;
- Off-site disposal or recycling of 2,500 tons of wood and concrete debris;
- On-site treatment of approximately 32,000 tons of soil that will be mixed with cement, which solidifies the soil, immobilizes chemical residues, and prevents them from moving into groundwater;
- Ongoing groundwater monitoring to confirm any remaining chemicals in groundwater are naturally breaking down over time;
- Covering the site with one foot of clean fill to minimize future contact with the solidified soil;
- Installation of an asphalt cover, and a shallow swale covered with vegetation to help with storm water management;
- Recording a land use covenant to document site conditions and provide guidance to manage impacted soil if encountered during future work; and
- Post-remediation inspections of the one foot of clean fill and asphalt cover.

Public Comment

As part of the Water Board's review and approval process, the public will have 30 days to review and provide comments on the proposed cleanup plan. The

Fast Facts

- PG&E has prepared a proposed cleanup plan
- The City of Eureka and Water Board will hold a 30-day public comment period starting in January 2017
- Upon approval of the cleanup plan, PG&E will prepare engineering drawings
- Cleanup is anticipated to start summer 2017 and last six months



The former manufactured gas plant in June 1948.



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Water Board will mail site neighbors a public notice with details of the proposed cleanup plan and post a public notice in the *Eureka Times-Standard*. The public comment period will begin in January 2017.

As the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City of Eureka conducted an Initial Study on the proposed cleanup plan. The study determined the proposed project – including mitigation measures – would not have a significant impact on the environment. Therefore, the City proposes to issue a Mitigated Negative Declaration under CEQA. Concurrent with the Water Board public comment period, the public will have 30 days to review and provide comments on the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Site Cleanup

Upon Water Board approval of a cleanup plan and City approval of CEQA documents, PG&E will prepare engineering drawings and secure all necessary permits. PG&E anticipates cleanup work will begin in summer 2017 and last six months. Work will be done in accordance with a project-specific health and safety plan that follows industry best practices, including air monitoring, to protect worker and public health. In addition, a majority of the work will be conducted in a large negative-pressure tent to minimize odor and dust impacts, and allow the work to be conducted during times of inclement weather.

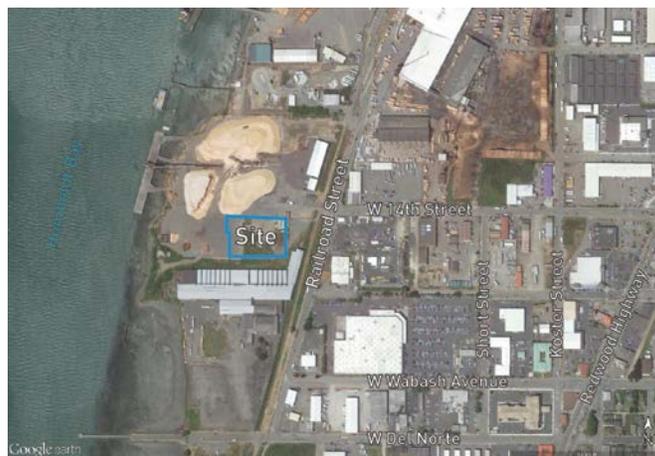
Community Outreach

PG&E has successfully completed a number of these projects in urban areas and will work closely with the community to minimize impacts and keep them informed. This includes coordination with the third-party property owner, regular project updates to the City of Eureka, Humboldt County, surrounding businesses, environmental organizations, and Native American Tribes. In addition, reports will be issued via email at the end of each week to document progress and provide information on upcoming work.

For More Information

We welcome your input and questions. Calls and emails are returned the same day or next business day. For more information, please refer to:

- PG&E Toll-free Environmental Remediation Response Line: (866) 247-0581 or remediation@pge.com
- PG&E website: <http://www.pge.com/en/about/environment/taking-responsibility/mgp/eureka/index.page>
- Water Board website: <http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov>



The site is located at the corner of West 14th Street and currently operates as a lumber yard.