



# Former Eureka Manufactured Gas Plant Cleanup Project Spring 2017

## Introduction

This summer, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) will begin an eight-month remediation project at 1206 West 14<sup>th</sup> Street in Eureka. All work is approved and will be overseen by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) and conducted in accordance with permits issued by the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (Air District) and the City of Eureka (City).

## Fast Facts

This summer, PG&E will begin an eight-month remediation project in west Eureka.

Cleanup is overseen by the City of Eureka and State Water Board.

Most work will take place in a large tent to limit off-site impacts and allow work to continue when it rains.

## Why are you cleaning up the site?

A manufactured gas plant operated in this area from the early 1900's to 1940's and provided gas for business and household use. These gas plants were closed when natural gas became available, and as was common practice at the time, byproducts of the gas-making process were left buried on-site. The property now operates as a lumber yard and does not present a human health-risk; however, cleanup of the property will remove or immobilize chemical residues in the soil and protect the environment and groundwater in accordance with today's regulatory standards.

## How will the site be cleaned up?

The cleanup plan, which has been approved by the Water Board and the City, balances remediation work and its impacts such as noise, dust, and odors, minimizes truck traffic and the amount of material placed in landfills, and disruption to the neighborhood. Work includes:

- Excavation of approximately 4,000 tons of soil in a closed tent with a specialized air-filtration system and transport of this material to an off-site disposal facility;
- Off-site disposal and/or recycling of 2,500 tons of wood and concrete debris;
- On-site treatment of 32,000 tons of soil to immobilize chemical residues and installation of asphalt cover over these areas;
- Installation of a storm water management system; and
- Post-remediation inspection and ongoing groundwater monitoring.

## What will work look like?

This work looks a lot like construction and earthmoving activities work using backhoes, excavators, and big-rig trucks. Up to four trucks will enter and exit the site per day during work hours. Safety flaggers will manage pedestrian, automobile, and truck traffic as they enter and exit the site to minimize traffic delays. Trucks will follow a city-approved truck route by traveling east on West 14<sup>th</sup> Street and turning right onto US-101 south or by traveling south on Railroad Avenue, turning left onto West Wabash Avenue, and then turning right onto US-101 south.



The former Eureka manufactured gas plant in June 1948.



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## What measures will be taken to protect the community?

Safety is of utmost importance to PG&E. A project-specific health and safety plan will be followed and the work will be performed in accordance with City and Air District permits. Measures to protect workers and the public include:

- Conducting most of the work in a large negative-pressure tent to minimize odor and dust impacts;
- Use of dust control measures including limiting the size of the excavation, using recycled water and foam to keep the soil damp, and covering the soil with plastic tarps;
- Monitoring the air for volatile compounds during all excavation work;
- Monitoring the air for volatile compounds at the perimeter of the site;
- Inspecting, cleaning, and covering trucks before they leave the site; and
- Monitoring and controlling noise and vibrations.



Most work will be conducted within a tent, similar to the one shown above, to control dust and odors.

## For More Information

PG&E has successfully completed many of these projects in urban areas and will work closely with the community to minimize impacts and keep them informed. Community relations staff will be on-site as needed and weekly reports will be issued via email to document progress and provide information on upcoming work.

For more information, please refer to:

- Mónica Tell, PG&E Stakeholder Engagement, (415) 272-4788 or [M1T2@pge.com](mailto:M1T2@pge.com)
- PG&E Toll-free Environmental Remediation Response Line: (866) 247-0581 or [remediation@pge.com](mailto:remediation@pge.com)
- PG&E website: <http://www.pge.com/eureka-mgp>
- Water Board website: <http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov>