

Former Long Branch Manufactured Gas Plant Site

A Citizen's Guide to the Public Health Assessment

continued

was often used for recreation. The former Seaview Manor complex was built on a portion on the site. People were exposed to site-related contaminants in the past through ingestion of soil, sediment, and surface water, and from inhalation of indoor air. Potential exposures include: inhalation of contaminants that were likely to have been released to outdoor air in the past; past, present and future exposures to off-site portions of Troutman's Creek; and consumption of fish and crabs from Troutman's Creek.

What are the risks to area residents from exposures?

The NJDHSS and ATSDR considered each of the chemicals found in soil, sediment, and water. We evaluated the risk to area residents based on exposures to both the highest and the average concentrations of contaminants found for as many years as exposures could have taken place.

In general, there is an increased risk of cancer among people exposed in the past to the highest and the average levels of contamination at the Seaview Manor housing complex, the processing area, and the southern site boundary. In addition, there was an increased risk of exposures to lead among children who visited the processing area and the southern site boundary in the past.

What do the NJDHSS and ATSDR conclude about the site?

The NJDHSS and ATSDR conclude that the site posed a **Public Health Hazard** due to past exposures to chemicals that can cause cancer. Because of past and ongoing clean-up activities, on-site exposures present **No Public Health Hazard**. Off-site contamination is still being identified. Therefore, off-site exposures could not be evaluated and are considered an **Indeterminate Public Health Hazard**.

What do the NJDHSS and ATSDR recommend for the site?

The NJDHSS and ATSDR recommend that New Jersey Natural Gas, with NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) oversight, complete the investigation of off-site areas. This includes residential properties along Seaview Avenue, and off-site surface water, sediment, and fish, crabs and other biota of Troutman's Creek. NJDEP should also continue to require and ensure that air monitoring, dust suppression, and odor control measures take place during remediation.

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDHSS) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) have prepared a Public Health Assessment on the Long Branch Manufactured Gas Plant Site in Long Branch, New Jersey, at the request of the Concerned Citizens Coalition of Long Branch. The purpose of this document is to evaluate past and present exposures to on-site contaminants. The document has been released for public comment through June 30, 2007. Evaluations of off-site contaminants are ongoing and will be released at a later date. For a copy of the current health assessment please contact one of the agencies listed at the end of this guide.

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