NPL Site Narrative for Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. (Saratoga Springs Plant)

NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORP. (SARATOGA SPRINGS PLANT)

Saratoga Springs, New York

Conditions at proposal (June 24, 1988): The Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. plant covers approximately 7 acres within the City of Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County, New York. The area is zoned for industrial use but is primarily residential. Currently, the site serves as a substation and regional operations facility. From approximately 1853 to the 1940s, Niagara Mohawk's predecessors, Saratoga Gas and Light and New York Power and Light Corp., produced a commercial fuel substitute from coal. The main waste associated with coal gasification is coal tar, which contains polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons. The company disposed of coal tar by landfilling it on-site with other wastes.

In January 1986, a consultant to the company detected benzene, toluene, xylene, naphthalene, phenanthrene, and other coal tar constituents in on-site soil and wells. An estimated 1,250 people in trailer parks and other residences obtain drinking water from private wells within 3 miles of the site.

A fresh water wetland is 0.2 mile from the site.

Status (February 21, 1990): On September 27, 1989, EPA and Niagara Mohawk signed an Administrative Order on Consent for the company to conduct a remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) to determine the type and extent of contamination at the site and identify alternatives for remedial action. EPA is reviewing Niagara Mohawk's workplan for the RI/FS.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at ATSDR - ToxFAQs (http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.