

## We Are Committed to Our Communities

New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG) is committed to the health and well-being of our neighbors in the communities we serve. Caring for the environment is an important part of this commitment.

We are in the process of restoring and improving properties where a manufactured gas plant (MGP) in Toms River once operated. The former plant property, off Herflicker Boulevard at Highland Parkway South, is used for commercial purposes by a public utility and a privately owned business.

To date, our activities have focused on investigation, reporting and planning, in accordance with the requirements of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). Public health and safety remains our primary consideration, and from the earliest planning stages our restoration activities are conducted with careful consideration for the concerns and needs of the community.

Ongoing communication remains an important part of the project. Our efforts include meeting with local officials, neighbors and interested citizens. If you have questions or comments about our improvements, please contact us at 1-888-638-9924.

Sincerely,



Steve Rybka  
Manager - Public Affairs

## Completed Work

NJNG has been working diligently and consistently to address potential impacts from the former plant, following NJDEP requirements. Many milestones have been achieved, including:

- ✓ Completely covering the MGP property to eliminate direct access to the soil below.
- ✓ Construction of a sidewalk along Highland Avenue South.
- ✓ Testing to determine the extent of potential impacts to the soil from the former plant's operations.
- ✓ Installation of groundwater monitoring wells both on- and off-site to identify potential impacts from MGP by-products in groundwater.
- ✓ Designing a groundwater treatment facility to pump and treat groundwater and create an underground barrier to prevent migration of affected groundwater.

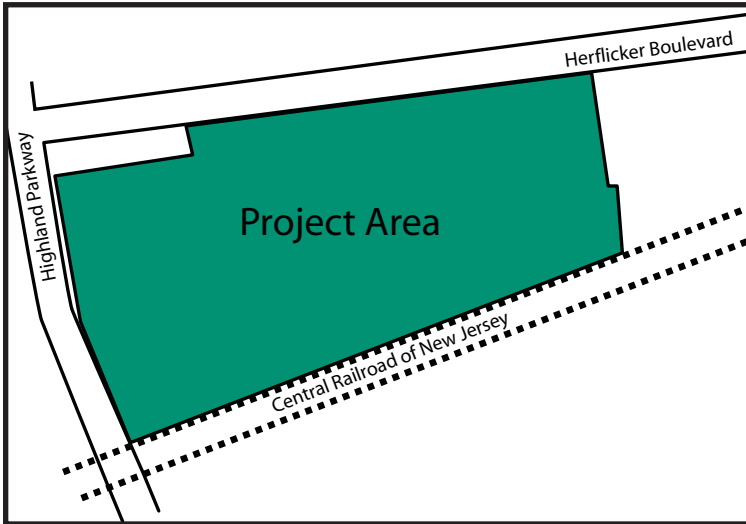
## Next Steps

- Continue soil and groundwater testing.
- Select remedy for shallow and deep by-product soil impacts.

The location of the former MGP in Toms River is in active use as an industrial and commercial property.



## Project Overview



Toms River, like thousands of other communities throughout the United States, hosts a former MGP. The plant, commonly known as a “town gas” or “coal gas” plant, operated from circa 1900 to 1950 to produce gas for the area’s lighting, cooking and water heating needs.

NJNG’s continuing efforts address coal tar and other by-products of manufacturing gas from coal in the area of the former plant. The work is conducted under the direction of NJDEP. NJNG’s improvements focus on preventing contact with residues in the soil and groundwater from the former MGP’s operations.



A combination of asphalt, an office building and crushed rock and clean soil creates a protective covering over the former MGP property.

## MGP By-Products

Coal tar, a by-product of manufacturing gas from coal, is a mixture of hydrocarbon and other compounds left after combustion. It’s black with an adhesive-like or “sticky” texture and looks and has an odor similar to roofing tar.

Many compounds in MGP by-products are found in common materials such as gasoline and broiled meat. MGP by-products also have properties that are useful for some medicinal and household applications, including coal tar shampoo for dandruff and skin lotions to treat chronic skin disorders like psoriasis and dermatitis.

## Health and Safety

A combination of asphalt, an office building and crushed rock and clean soil on the Toms River property prevents contact with any of the residues from the former MGP’s operations. Together, the materials form a protective covering that eliminates direct access to affected soil.

A Public Health Risk Assessment Study prepared in 1989 found, “Overall, there appears to be insignificant risk to any person or environmental species from contamination associated with the former coal gasification site in Toms River, New Jersey.” NJNG is currently reviewing and updating aspects of this study as needed.



Groundwater monitoring wells both on- and off-site are used to identify potential impacts from MGP by-products in groundwater.

## We Want to Hear From You

Questions? Comments?

Please call Steve Rybka at **1-888-638-9924**.

For convenient online access to information about NJNG’s MGP improvements, visit the NJNG Web site at [njliving.com](http://njliving.com) and click on “Community.”