

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION**

502 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Public Notification of Actions to Be Taken Per Iowa Administrative Code IAC-567—137,  
Land Recycling Program and Response Action Standards

for the

Two Rivers Former Manufactured Gas Plant Site  
MidAmerican Energy Company  
Southeast 1<sup>st</sup> Street and East Market Street  
Des Moines, Iowa

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is proposing to issue a conditional No Further Action (NFA) certificate under the Iowa Land Recycling Program (LRP) to MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) for the Two Rivers former manufactured gas plant (MGP) property at Southeast 1<sup>st</sup> Street and East Market Street in Des Moines, Iowa. The site operated as an MGP from 1876 into the 1950s. During plant decommissioning in the 1950s, the majority of the potential source materials were removed from the MGP structures for off-site disposal. Soil borings and test trenches advanced inside the structures confirmed removal of the material. Prior to enrollment in the LRP in September 2002, investigation and remediation activities were conducted at the site in accordance with Consent Order 97-HC-05. Various investigations have been conducted at the site since 1993. During January 2005, over 2,800 tons of contaminated soil were excavated from the site and treated by thermal desorption. Portions of the site where historical MGP structures were located are currently inaccessible due to the presence of buildings; if the buildings on a specific portion of the site are removed in the future and excavation below 2 feet is planned, additional evaluation may be required. Dense nonaqueous phase liquid (DNAPL) free product is present at the site at a depth of approximately 50 feet below ground surface. The conditional NFA will require recovery of the DNAPL from existing wells at the site.

The soil pathway at the site has been evaluated and found not to pose significant human health risks for the existing and planned future land use. Due to risks associated with residual soil contamination, an environmental covenant will be placed on the property to prohibit residential use of the property. MidAmerican has conducted a screening level ecological risk assessment (SLERA) of the Des Moines River and DNR concurred that the site does not pose significant ecological risks to the Des Moines River. Groundwater contamination above the statewide standards (equivalent to drinking water standards) exists at the site. The area of contaminated groundwater is stable or decreasing. It is expected contaminant concentrations will remain stable or continue to decrease as a result of natural attenuation processes. Risks associated with potential exposure to contaminated groundwater will be prevented by ensuring impacted groundwater at the site will not be used. A municipal water supply is readily available in the vicinity of the site. An environmental covenant will prohibit the installation of water wells on the property. A Polk County Well Regulation requires use of the municipal water supply where it is available, and will prevent any use of potentially impacted groundwater in the vicinity.

All documents concerning this site are available for review from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at the DNR's record center on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Wallace State Office Building located at 502 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street in Des Moines 50319. The records are located under the file name CON 12-15, LRP – Two Rivers MGP Site. Written comments regarding this site should be directed to Mr. Daniel Cook, the DNR project manager for this project. Concerned individuals or parties can request a public hearing if so desired. The closing date for comments is December 7, 2005.

If you have any questions or need further information please feel free to contact Mr. Cook at the address above, (515) 281-4171, or [dan.cook@dnr.state.ia.us](mailto:dan.cook@dnr.state.ia.us).