“EPA Will Close Portion of 7th Street Through April”

The following is a press release from EPA Region 7:

EPA to Begin Removal Action at Iowa-Nebraska Light & Power Former Manufactured Gas Plant Superfund Site in Norfolk, Neb.

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Environmental News

(Lenexa, Kan., January 17, 2014) – The Removal Action for the Iowa-Nebraska Light & Power Former Manufactured Gas Plant Site will begin on January 20, 2014. The project will consist of building demolition, soil excavation and backfilling operations located at the corner of Norfolk Avenue and 7th Street, in Norfolk, Neb.

The site work will result in closure of the southbound lane of 7th Street between Norfolk and Madison Avenues beginning Wednesday January 22. Intermittent road closures of the northbound lane along with the southbound lane of 7th Street between Norfolk and Madison Avenues will also occur throughout the site work. An increase in truck traffic will occur during the project timeframe of January 20, 2014 and lasting through project completion, currently planned for the end of April 2014.

The removal action for contaminated soils is excavation to a depth of 10 feet below ground surface, followed by confirmation soil sampling on the walls and floor of the excavated areas. If confirmation soil sampling results are above the cleanup goals, excavation will continue until the concentrations are below the cleanup goals or until groundwater is encountered, whichever occurs first.

Following the soil excavation, EPA will oversee groundwater monitoring to document plume stability and/or a decreasing plume. Groundwater monitoring will continue until the EPA determines that the removal action objective is complete.

Soil contamination at the site includes coal-tar-contaminated materials including but not limited to: volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylenes (BTEX); semi-VOCs, including polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs); and metals.

Groundwater contamination includes coal-tar-contaminated materials including but not limited to: VOCs including benzene; PAHs; and dense nonaqueous phase liquid.

The removal action is estimated to cost $2,835,000.