

Water studies (continued from page 1)

because such private wells are located beyond the zone of influence of the well fields. Similarly, other municipal well fields would not be adversely impacted by the increased pumping at the Schenectady/Rotterdam well field because the zones of influence for the Scotia and Glenville well fields are beyond the municipal wells' zones of influence.

- 5) Investigations have identified and delineated a plume of trichloroethene (TCE) and related compounds in the

groundwater at and near the GEP site. The hydrogeologic evaluation shows that the direction and rate of migration of the TCE plume will not be altered by the additional pumping at the Schenectady/ Rotterdam well fields.

"In addition to proving that GEP's proposed water usage plans will not adversely impact the community, this study is important because it helps all of us learn more about one of the county's greatest assets, the Great Flats Aquifer," said Tom Macaulay, GEP partner.



**Contact us at:
Glenville Energy Park
165 Freemans Bridge Rd.
Glenville, New York 12302**

**We are open to the public every
Wednesday from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. Please
feel free to drop by to discuss GEP or visit
our web site at:**

www.glenvilleenergypark.com

**Glenville Energy Park
165 Freemans Bridge Rd.
Glenville, New York 12302**





NEWS LETTER

Summer 2001

Great Flats Aquifer studies now completed

The Great Flats Aquifer provides an almost unlimited supply of water, according to the study of the aquifer conducted for Glenville Energy Park's (GEP) Article X application.

The study, conducted by Alpha Geoscience, a Latham-based geology consulting firm, found the aquifer is constantly being filled by the Mohawk River and that any withdrawn water is quickly replaced.

The study's findings (based on volumes of historical data, including previous studies, well drilling logs and pump tests) were publicly

released to enable the Schenectady County Intermunicipal Watershed Board to review them and provide the board with more insight into the aquifer. The full study will be a part of GEP's Article X application, expected to be filed later this summer.

Among Alpha's conclusions are the following:

- 1) Where the Mohawk River flows near aquifer well fields (e.g., the City of Schenectady or the Town of Glenville), the pumping at the well fields causes water from the river to recharge the aquifer.
- 2) The ability of the Mohawk River to sustain the Schenectady, Rotterdam and Glenville well fields prevents those systems from being susceptible to drought conditions. Current water restrictions are principally based in the system's inability to transport water.
- 3) The City of Schenectady's well field has historically produced volumes of water at rates greater than 16.2 million gallons per day, nearly
- 4) The water levels, groundwater flow direction and available groundwater quantity of private well users would not be adversely impacted by increased pumping at the Schenectady or Rotterdam well field

continuously for a 79-month period between April 1988 and October 1994. This finding led Alpha to conclude that GEP's proposal to use the City's water will in no way result in an adverse impact on the volume of water available from the Schenectady well field.

Continued on page 4

Air modeling results appear very positive

Diesel busses idling at curbside next to the schools will represent a more significant air quality concern for the students' well-being than the air emissions from Glenville Energy Park, according to initial modeling results conducted for GEP's Article X application.

GEP has submitted its air applications to the New York State Department of

Environmental Conservation (DEC) and is now revising that application in accordance with the department's requests. To date, however, the results from studies have been very positive.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the DEC create the guidelines for this modeling and the standards that GEP must meet. The

EPA has established the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to protect the public health and welfare. These standards are based on the most sensitive populations in the country (generally the elderly and children) to help ensure overall health and safety.

A second set of criteria has been established which

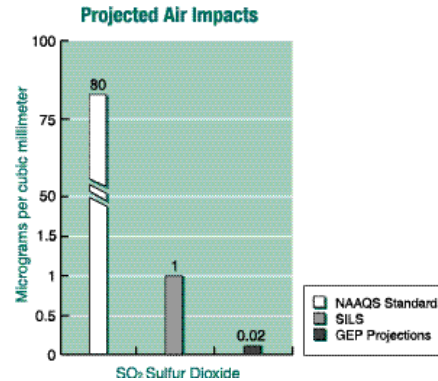
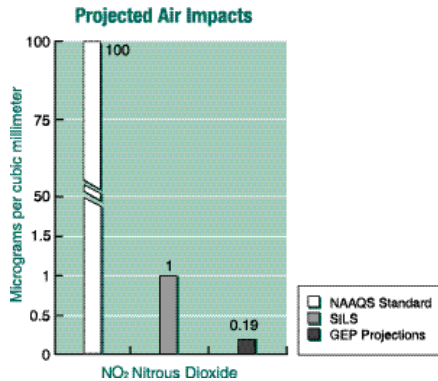
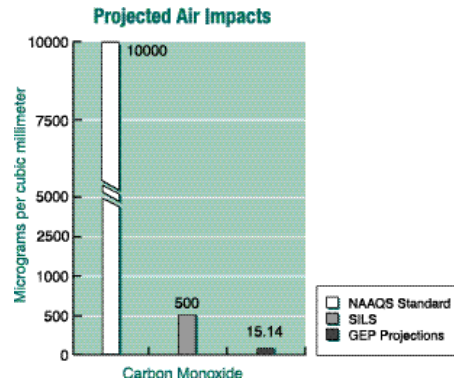
is 90 percent less (better) than the NAAQS, called the Significant Impact Levels (SILS). With those criteria in place, facilities with impacts less than SILS are not required to conduct certain additional studies (since they will have no significant impacts).

See related story on page 2.

Expected air quality impacts below SILS in all cases

Glenville Energy Park's (GEP's) expected air quality impacts are below Significant Impact Levels (SILS) in all cases. For example, NO₂ (nitrous dioxide) will be approximately one-tenth of SILS (or 90 percent less). Similar results were found for SO₂ (sulfur dioxide) and CO (carbon monoxide). The accompanying charts explain this analysis.

"The bottom line is that all of these tests prove what we have said all along," said Tom Macaulay, GEP partner. "We will not impact the health and safety of the community, nor will we do environmental harm. Now that the facts are made clear, we anticipate creating more understanding about the project."



GEP process moving forward, studies finished

by Tom Macaulay

Many of the studies needed to complete the Glenville Energy Park Article X application are finished. We, at GEP, decided to release some of the conclusions in this newsletter, rather than asking people to wait any longer for the application to be filed. The articles in this newsletter are a sampling of the study conclusions that make up the application. Obviously, there are reams of data and scientific research that support these conclusions.

GEP is also finishing the stipulation process, with final drafts ready for signature to be produced shortly. We appreciate the time and effort that people have invested in making these stipulations better for both the community and the project. However, GEP has not ended its discussions about issues that may not have been included in these stipulations, or issues that may be included as permit conditions rather than stipulations. We will

continue to participate in the dialogue regarding public concerns about the project.

The GEP project has a great story to tell, and this is just the first time we have collected some of our studies in one short compilation. More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to the submission of our application.

Most importantly, we want to emphasize that these studies confirm what

we have been saying for the past two years: the GEP project will have minimal impact on the health and safety of area residents, while producing many community benefits.

Our offices at 165 Freemans Bridge Road in Scotia are open to the public every Wednesday (except July 4) from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. Please feel free to drop by to discuss GEP or visit our web site at:

www.glenvilleenergypark.com.

GEP to play a large role in Schenectady County

Glenville Energy Park (GEP) will become an important corporate citizen in the Schenectady County and Glenville communities. In addition to the various economic opportunities the facility will provide, GEP is committed to working to create stronger communities, better schools and improving the quality of life for area residents.

GEP anticipates providing significant revenue enhancements to the community, the school district and other local municipal entities. Under a new state program (the Empire Zones Program), GEP may well be in a position to pay 100 percent of its real property taxes.

Based on initial estimates, this could amount to as much as \$80 million in tax revenues for the County, the Town and the Scotia-Glenville School District over a 10-year period. This could, for example, result in a 25 percent school tax cut.

GEP estimates having 25 full-time jobs on site once the plant is fully operational,

with periodic maintenance crews raising that number at specified times. In addition, up to 430 people will be employed during construction of the project. According to the Capital District Regional Planning Commission, the economic spin-off of those jobs would exceed \$30 million for the region.

GEP is proposing to take a vacant and undevelopable piece of land (due to the presence of power lines bisecting the site) and turn it into a site for the town's largest taxpayer.

GEP also proposes to upgrade sewer capacity in certain areas of the Village of Scotia and, as part of its program to purchase water from the City of Schenectady, will be able

to provide the Town of Glenville and the Village of Scotia with an emergency water interconnect to the City of Schenectady's water supply

system.

As a result of the GEP project, other industries in the area may find growth and expansion more desirable, bringing more

jobs and tax dollars. Natural gas pipelines extended as a result of GEP to the industrial park will enhance Schenectady County's natural gas pressure, reliability and capabilities. Sewer and electric system upgrades constructed

by GEP may also serve to attract more businesses to the area.

In addition to all of these benefits, GEP will also provide an number of other as-yet-undetermined community benefits. One project, for example, that has already been proposed

by GEP is to retrofit all of the school busses in the Scotia – Glenville School District from diesel exhaust to natural gas. This proposal will limit the exposure of the school children to the potential dangers of fumes from the idling busses at curbside.

Other such community projects will be determined as GEP moves forward.

Under consideration, for example, are the Maalwyck Park Master Plan and upgrades to the Town of Glenville's water supply system.

...GEP's payments could result in a 25 percent school tax cut.

GEP is proposing to take a vacant and undevelopable piece of land...and turn it into a site for the town's largest taxpayer.



A view of the GEP site looking North. The overhead power lines have kept this site – in the middle of the Scotia-Glenville Industrial Park – vacant for years.