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Pilot test for riverfront cleanup begins this month

Pentral Hudson is beginning a pilot test using a hydraulic dredging system as part of its ongoing environmental remediation project along the Poughkeepsie waterfront starting in late October and continuing through the end of the year. The pilot will test the system's effectiveness in safely sediments removing impacted and materials from the riverbed at select locations using a hydraulic mechanism, dewatering the sediment, and transporting the materials on covered barges to a registered disposal facility.

The cleanup project is related to a former manufactured gas plant (MGP) that once operated at this site to make gas from coal for light and heat for Poughkeepsie's homes and businesses. The plant operated from 1911 until the 1950s, when it was replaced by natural gas.

These remediation activities require a temporary work exclusion zone within the River along a portion of the shoreline in the City of Poughkeepsie and adjacent area

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ENCOURAGING INVESTMENT IN CHARGING STATIONS

New program reduces upfront costs for installation

The future of transportation is electric, and Central Hudson is facilitating this transition by offering businesses, developers and municipalities a new tool that incentivizes the installation of electric vehicle charging stations.

In many cases, the installation of Level 2 chargers and DC Fast Chargers requires costly utility and site development work. Under Central Hudson's Make Ready program, most or all of this work is funded by the utility, reducing upfront costs and encouraging investment in electric vehicle charging stations.

"When it comes to producing electricity, New York State is among the cleanest in the country, as generation contributes only 17% of total statewide emissions, while emissions from cars and trucks contribute nearly 40%," said Charles A. Freni, President and C.E.O. of Central Hudson. "Transitioning to electric transportation benefits the environment and it is cost-effective." He explained that electric cars and trucks produce 60% to 85% fewer emissions than conventional vehicles

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Charging: EVs produce up to 85% fewer emissions

and cost 50% to 70% less to operate than using gasoline and diesel fuels.

The new Make Ready funding is intended to support the installation of more than 3,200 Level 2 chargers and 69 high-speed fast chargers throughout the region and is open to municipal, county, non-profit and private entities. Information about this program is available at <u>www.CentralHudson.com/</u> <u>My-Energy/Electric-Vehicles/EV-makeready-program</u>. In addition to these incentives, Central Hudson will also be offering Fleet Assessment services; and a pilot program will also be launched for recharging medium and heavy-duty fleet vehicles.



We are committing 10% or more of our annual vehicle replacement budget on full electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles through 2025.

> CHARLES A. FRENI PRESIDENT AND C.E.O. CENTRAL HUDSON

Central Hudson also plans to expand its own use of electric vehicles as its cars and trucks are replaced. "We are committing 10% or more of our annual vehicle replacement budget on fully electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles through 2025," Freni said. "These include line trucks, pickup trucks, SUVs and mobile equipment."

Depending upon the pace of technological advances in heavy duty vehicle electrification and charging infrastructure, the utility will plan to increase electric vehicle purchases to 50% or more of the annual vehicle replacement budget by 2030. Central Hudson's goal is to electrify 10% of its fleet by 2025 and 50% by 2030. To prepare, the utility recently installed 60 Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations and one high speed fast charger at its five Mid-Hudson Valley offices.



Central Hudson is expanding its use of electric vehicles as its cars and trucks are replaced. Above, a plug-in hybrid van used by the Consumer Outreach department.

"We are fully supportive of the transition to electric transportation and have been active in promoting the adoption of electric vehicles," said Freni. Examples include participation in ride and drive events, online resources and hosting Electric Vehicle Summits for municipalities and fleet owners. Central Hudson has developed a special Time of Use electric rate to help improve the cost-effectiveness of vehicle charging and implemented an incentive program for high-speed commercial fast charges, which can recharge electric vehicles in as little as 30 minutes.

"Electric vehicles have come a long way, many offering 200 to 300 miles of range or more, and there is a growing selection of all-wheel drive and truck options," said Freni. "Charging infrastructure is also expanding, for example New York State recently announced a new fast charging hub locating in the Town of Lagrange, and there are many other charging stations located throughout the region. We are excited to be a part of this movement toward clean, economical transportation."

To learn more about electric vehicles, visit <u>www.CentralHudson.</u> <u>com/My-Energy/Electric-Vehicles</u>; for a nationwide map of electric vehicle charging stations, go to <u>www.NYSERDA.</u> <u>ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Drive-Clean-Rebate/Charging-Options/ Electric-Vehicle-Station-Locator#/ find/nearest</u>; and for more information on National Drive Electric Week, visit <u>https://DriveElectricWeek.org</u>. *****

Pilot: Full-scale remediation planned for fall of 2021

during this timeframe. In addition to the marked exclusion zone, several barges, cranes and other large equipment will be transported down river from the Albany area and will be visible on the waterfront until the pilot test is complete. If the hydraulic dredging technology is successful at safely removing sediments from selected impacted areas, Central Hudson will work with state agencies and stakeholders to initiate a full-scale remediation project in the fall of 2021. A description of the project and approved methods utilized to safely and effectively conduct these cleanup activities is available at <u>https://www. cenhud.com/about-us/projects/</u> poughkeepsie-shoreline-cleanup. *****