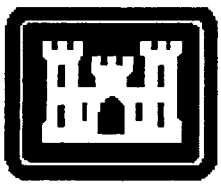
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD
FOR THE MADISON SITE
MADISON, ILLINOIS

Community Relations-

Public Announcements, News Clippings & Newsletters



US Army Corps
of Engineers
St. Louis District

MARYLAND HEIGHTS • BRIDGETON W
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1997 FIFTY CENTS

Radioactive cleanup

DOE begins project but likely will lose responsibility

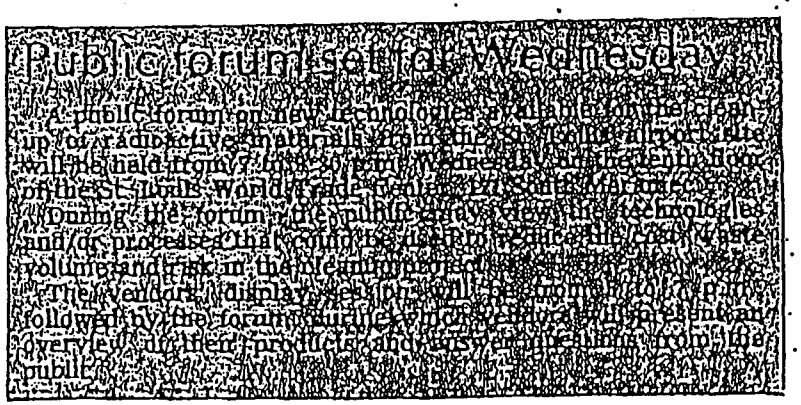
By Barbara Ponder
Staff writer

North County and Washington, D.C., seem worlds apart, but those worlds seemed headed on a collision course last week.

In unincorporated North County, the Department of Energy (DOE) began the first phase of its plan to remove radioactive material from the 22-acre airport site.

In Washington, D.C., discussions continued over whether to transfer authority for such cleanup efforts from the DOE to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Richard Cavanagh, St. Louis County's director of health administration, heads a 12-person committee overseeing the DOE's cleanup efforts. The committee consists of representatives from environmental groups and St. Louis county and city.



Cavanagh believes the transfer is nearly a done deal.

"We're concerned it could cause a delay in implementing current and future plans for the cleanup," Cavanagh said. "The Corps is very capable but they're going to be starting at square one."

Kristin Young from the office of U.S. Rep. Jim Talent, R-2nd Dist., expects confirmation of the transfer early next week.

"We've been hustling to ensure the site keeps moving forward . . . ," Young said. "We've received assurances from the Corps that they're going to make sure it doesn't affect the cleanup adversely.

Young said the Corps has a good track record in conducting such remediation projects in cooperation with the community.

However, Talent's office has not received a commitment the Corps will direct the cleanup from its St. Louis office and not from another location, Young said.

The airport site, situated adjacent to McDonnell Boulevard, is one of several sites in North County and St. Louis city contaminated with waste remaining from the development of the atomic bomb in World War II and research during the Cold War.

The first phase of the project to clean up the 22-acre site entails removing contaminated material, such as dirt, to an

See CLEANUP, Page 2A

Cleanup

Continued from Page 1A

out-of-state disposal site.

Steve McCracken, the DOE's site manager, said the DOE would support the Corps during the transfer, if enacted.

"It (the cleanup) will continue to get done," McCracken said. "I think the momentum is there. The community is still going to be behind the work and they'll keep it moving."

Not everyone was happy to see the cleanup begin last week.

"I think they're rushing into this project and digging at the most vulnerable part of this 22-acre site, near Coldwater Creek Water," said Kay Drey, a member of the Missouri Coalition for the Environment. "They're going to be digging five feet from the creek. It's not very far and every bit of dirt is contaminated."

"Our view on beginning where we are is because it gives us a wider, cleaner buffer zone between the creek and the rest of the area to be excavated," McCracken said.

Drey, of University City, resigned from the oversight committee Sept. 18, citing concerns about the project.

Drey said the DOE should have explored new technologies, such as a frozen soil barrier to protect the creek during excavation, before beginning the project.

The DOE is considering the use of new technologies. A public meeting displaying some of that technology is planned for Wednesday. (See box for details.)

Cavanagh stands by the oversight committee's approval of phase one, which will remove 5,000 cubic yards of soil or about the same amount as would be dug out to build six home foundations. Phase 1 will be completed in about five weeks.

A dry summer and extremely low groundwater levels make it an ideal time to begin the project, Cavanagh said.

"As a resident who lives along Coldwater Creek, I am quite concerned with whether I think it will save the creek from further contamination," Cavanagh said. "By doing this there will be more soil out."

Public forum set for Wednesday

A public forum on new technologies available for the cleanup of radioactive materials from the St. Louis Airport site will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday on the tenth floor of the St. Louis World Trade Center, 121 South Meramec.

During the forum, the public may view the technologies and/or processes that could be used to reduce the total waste volume and risk in the cleanup project.

The vendor display session will be from 5 to 7 p.m. followed by a brief forum during which vendors will present an overview of their products and answer questions from the public.

Congress Plans To Switch Agency In Charge Of Waste Cleanup Here

By Kristen Ostendorf
Post Dispatch Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON - Congress is about to transfer responsibility for cleaning up a mountain of radioactive waste in the St. Louis area from the Energy Department to the Corps of Engineers.

A House-Senate conference committee approved the change last week, just as the Energy Department began preparations to remove the waste. Although the action will not become final until ratified by both houses, agreement in conference is usually tantamount to passage.

Several area officials were concerned by the action. They noted it took nine years of negotiations with the Department of Energy to agree to the cleanup, which could cost $600 million.

Not only might there be a further delay in the cleanup, but also intervening funding may be in jeopardy, said Richard Cavanagh, chairman of the St. Louis oversight committee for the cleanup.

Jim Brown, a lobbyist in Washington for St. Louis and Lambert Field, said, "I'm assuming that we're reinventing the wheel."

The 900,000 cubic yards of contaminated earth is left over from the development of the first atomic bombs during World War II. Heaped up, the earth would be about a fourth the size of the Great Pyramid of Egypt.

In the St. Louis area, three large sites would be affected: those next to the airport, a site north of downtown and a site in north St. Louis County.

Steve McCracken, site manager for the cleanup, said he was surprised at the switch but intended to continue the work during the transition.

Under the Energy Department's schedule, the cleanup would be completed sometime around 2002 to 2004.

Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., pushed to make the switch to the Corps of Engineers. He told the conference committee that the Energy Department's program has been a low priority and that the cleanups were taking too long.

Missouri's senators, Christopher S. Bond and John Ashcroft, both Republicans, asked the conference committee to keep the cleanup program under the Energy Department.

But Bond said Thursday that he would work with the new situation rather than pick a fight on the Senate floor. Bond said corps officials had assured him "the corps will work with the community and all of the stakeholders to ensure a smooth transition of the program."

On Monday, the Energy Department started work on removing about 5,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil from the 22-acre site near Lambert Field. The area is being cleared to create a buffer zone between the rest of the contamination and Coldwater Creek, which runs along the edge of the site.

Army engineers take on soil cleanup

By Chris Lesniak
Correspondent

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will assume responsibility for removing radioactive soil from the Coldwater Creek site, but this shouldn't sl e cleanup process.

was the message from U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) officials at a public forum Wednesday at the St. Louis County Government Center in Clayton. Few residents attended the session.

"We need to fold the corps into the decision-making process," said Steve McCracken, DOE site manager.

The previous week's announcement of congressional budget authority shifting from DOE to the Corps of Engineers in the cleanup project confirmed recent rumors of the Corps assuming responsibility for it.

"The question is, will the local people accept a solution that places clean soil back on the site? That's the most economical solution."

Mike Mann
President of ART Inc.

The current phase of the cleanup is the selection of bids for a demonstration of the technology needed to remove the contamination material. Three firms will receive a combined $5 million.

The purpose of Wednesday's public hearing was to let competing bidders pitch their cleanup methods to the public.

But while nine vendors set up displays previewing the latest in radioactive soil-cleaning technology, few residents attended.

"Probably about four or five true citizens (showed up)," DOE spokeswoman Mary Ann Crate said.

One of them was University City resident Dr. Neville Rapp, a pathology specialist and Sierra Club member.

"I'm optimistic they will investigate the possible technologies and hope they can find a way to get it cleaned up at the lowest cost possible," Rapp said.

One of the vendors at the meeting was Mike Mann, president of ART Inc., a firm that has experience in similar industry cleanups.

"The question is, will the local people accept a solution that places clean soil back on the site? That's the most economical solution," Mann said.

Mann said of resident interest, "If the local people get involved it can be really tremendous. The question is, "Is the interest there?' "

F U S R A P U P D A T E

The St. Louis Sites

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St. Louis Downtown Site

Record of Decision Released

The St. Louis District, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is pleased to announce the release of the signed Final Record of Decision (ROD) for the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS) in St. Louis, Missouri. The ROD is a legal document, which outlines the final method selected to clean up radiological contamination. It was developed in accordance with environmental laws such as: the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), and the National Contingency Plan (NCP). The Final ROD was developed from comments received from the general public and regulatory agencies on the SLDS Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan (FS/PP).

In response to the potential risk of radioactive exposure, the USACE selected and will implement Alternative 6 to protect human health, wildlife, and the environment. Final remediation under this selected remedy calls for the removal of accessible contaminated soils from the site.

The volume of accessible soils contaminated above the cleanup criteria under Alternative 6 is estimated to be 88,000 cubic yards. It is anticipated that the SLDS remediation will be completed no later than 2004.

SLDS is located in northern St. Louis City, just south of the McKinley Bridge and 300 feet west of the Mississippi River. The site is composed of a large chemical manufacturing complex owned and operated by Mallinckrodt, Inc., and adjacent commercial properties. Site studies have determined that radiological contamination is present in surface and subsurface soils as well as in buildings. The primary contaminants of concern are radium, thorium, and uranium.

City Properties Remediated

As a result of the release of the SLDS ROD, 3,400 cubic yards of contaminated material were removed this fall from the St. Louis City Properties. These properties border the Mississippi River and the Mallinckrodt plant east of the McKinley Bridge. Once restoration and landscaping activities are completed, the properties will be released for use by the Corps to the City of St. Louis.

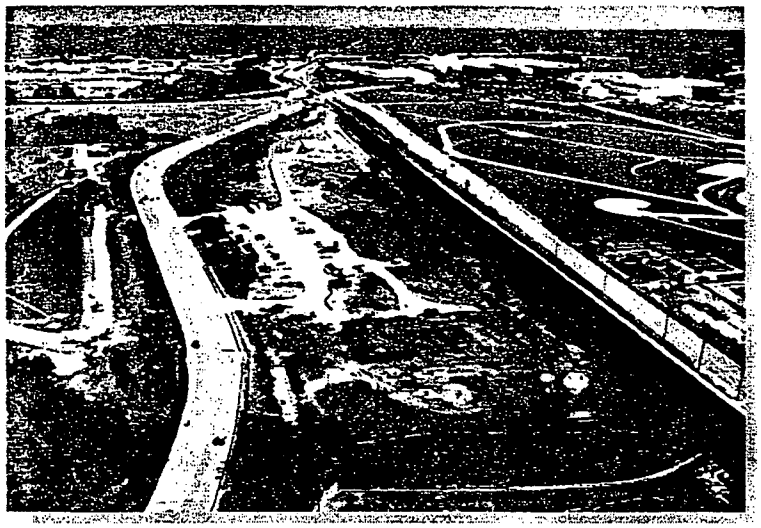
As a result of the release of the SLDS ROD, remediation of the City Properties is nearing completion.

SLDS Administrative Record Available

The final signed ROD closed the SLDS Administrative Record. As required by CERCLA, the complete SLDS Administrative Record was released for public review in late October 1998. To review these documents or others related to the St. Louis FUSRAP sites, feel free to visit our Administrative Record locations at the St. Louis Public Library or the FUSRAP Project Office.

What's Next?

Once the design of the activity is settled upon, Plant 2 of the Mallinckrodt Property will be the next area cleaned under the SLDS ROD.



Aerial photograph of SLAPS and the North Ditch Area.

St. Louis Airport Site

Rail-Loading Facility Completed

In August, the St. Louis District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) completed the construction and installation of a rail-loading facility at the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS). Located along the East End of SLAPS, the load-out facility consists of a 1,200-foot rail spur in addition to a major staging area where excavated materials are placed before being loaded into railcars.

This new facility has increased the District's load-out capacity by as much as 167 percent per day over what was previously possible. The increased load-out capacity has allowed the Corps to accelerate cleanup activities in the North St. Louis County area. The Corps can also take advantage of favorable construction weather without experiencing delays from coordinating major shipping efforts.

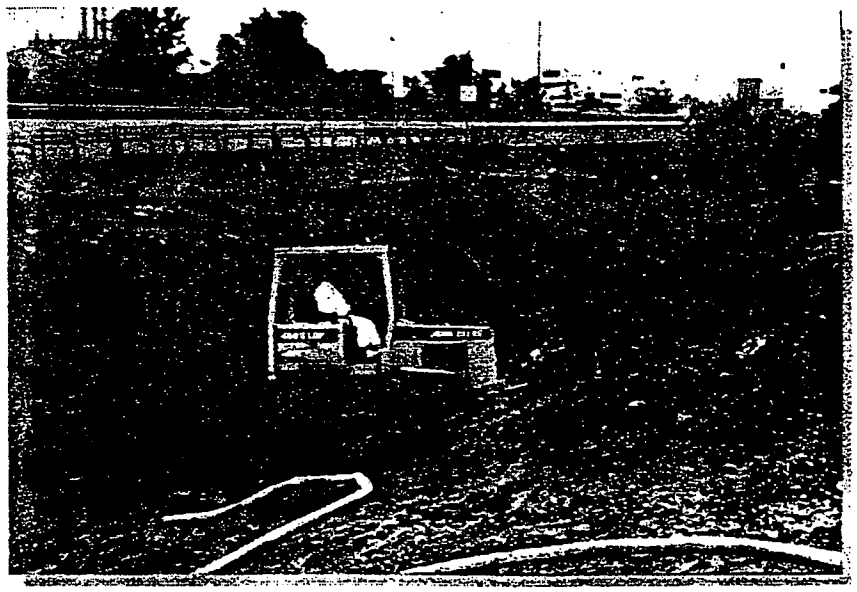
Over 3,000 cubic yards of contaminated material were removed to build this larger, more efficient facility. When the facility was completed, the materials excavated from this construction effort were the first to be loaded into gondolas and shipped from SLAPS to a licensed out-of-state disposal facility.

Keeping Contamination On Site

McDonnell Boulevard motorists may have noticed significant excavation activities underway at the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS). Actually, these activities are a result of the Corps' commitment to the community and stakeholders to protect human health, wildlife, and the environment. Under the Final SLAPS Interim Action Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA), September 1997, and the SLAPS EE/CA, March 1998, the St. Louis District began removal efforts to stabilize the movement of radioactive sedimentation into Coldwater Creek.

The USACE designed and constructed a sedimentation basin (sed basin) on SLAPS (just east of last year's excavated area) to significantly reduce the migration of contaminated material into Coldwater Creek. The sedimentation basin works by collecting stormwater run-off in a basin. As the run-off collects in the basin, it is slowly released through a pipe in the bottom of the basin. The water's speed is significantly reduced as it travels toward the creek. As a result, any sediment suspended in the water has a chance to settle out. The basin greatly reduces the amount of SLAPS material entering the creek.

An emergency overflow channel prevents the west section of SLAPS from being damaged by high,



The USACE constructed a sedimentation trap to manage runoff north of McDonnell Boulevard.

infrequent flows such as in the case of a heavy 25-year storm. If the sed basin fills with water too quickly to be released through the pipe, water will be released into the creek via the emergency overflow channel. In any such emergency, equipment is in place to measure the overflow. Regular sampling will be performed in the sedimentation basin and in any instances in which the water may be released via the regular outfall to the creek.

In contrast, a sedimentation trap has been constructed for the ditches north of McDonnell Boulevard while remediation efforts for this particular area are underway. The sedimentation trap is designed to function much like the sedimentation basin. However, rather than releasing runoff through a pipe at the bottom of the trap, water collects until it can evaporate or infiltrate the trap's soils. If the sedimentation trap becomes too full, the system pumps water into Coldwater Creek after treatment to sedimentation standards that allow for release.

To prevent SLAPS storm water run-off from entering the ballfields, a plug was placed in the culverts connecting these two areas. Although they are difficult to see, dikes are also around the North Ditch Area. These dikes prevent contamination from migrating westward and re-contaminating cleaned areas while workers remove contaminated material between the dike and the sedimentation trap. After the North Ditches are verified to be clean, workers will excavate the sedimentation trap down to clean material and then fill in with clean backfill. The dikes, however will remain in place until the USACE is certain that cleaned areas no longer risk further contamination.

Upcoming Events

Information Releases:

Final Community Relations Plan - December 1998

Winter Newsletter - February 1999

Upcoming Meetings:

Oversight Committee Meeting, FUSRAP Project Offices December 18, 1998 at 11:30 a.m.

Oversight Committee Meeting, FUSRAP Project Offices - January 8, 1999 at 11:30 a.m.

Community Advisement Panel, Bissel Mansion January 12, 1999 at TBD

Oversight Committee Meeting, FUSRAP Project Offices - February 12, 1999 at 11:30 a.m.

What's Next?

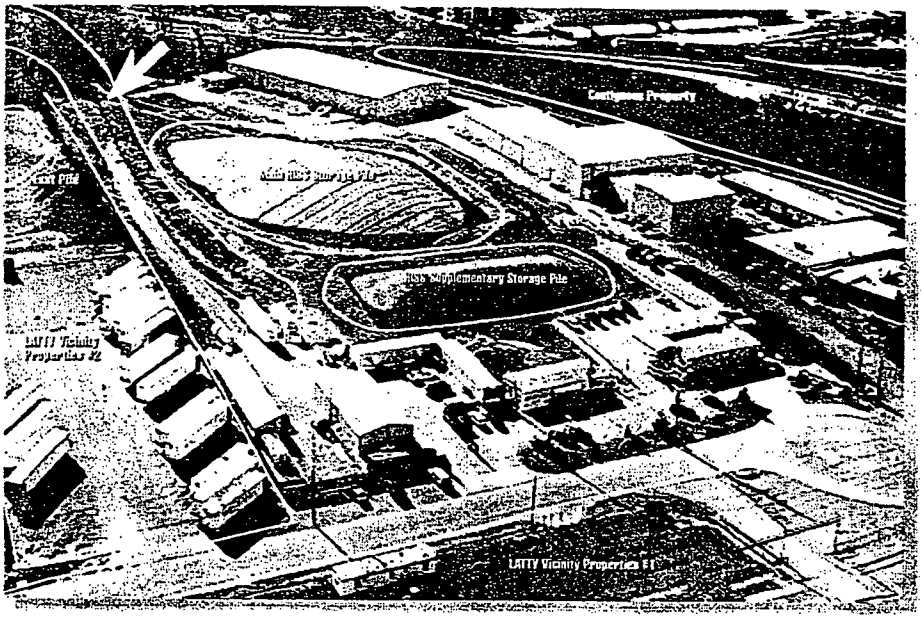
Once the design plan is approved, the radium pits on SLAPS will be removed. Approximately 40,000 cubic yards of material will be removed during this phase of the project.

What did you just say?

Have you ever wondered why environmental cleanup projects describe some excavation efforts as a remedial action and others as a removal action?

A Removal Action is intended to be a relatively quick action designed to address imminent threats to human health and the environment. The resulting cleanup may or may not be the final solution for the site involved. Removal actions can be of three types: Emergency, Time-Critical, and Non-Time Critical. Engineering Evaluations/Cost Analyses (EE/CAs) are performed for Non-Time Critical removal actions, actions that could be taken more than six months after a determination that a response is needed.

Remedial actions are longer-term activities that complete the site cleanup. A Remedial Action may be perfomed at a site after a removal action if the removal action does not or cannot present a complete solution. Remedial Actions implement the final cleanup method(s) selected in the Record of Decision



The HISS rail-loading facility is scheduled for completion and full operation in 1999.

Hazelwood Interim Storage Site

Railspur under Construction

The Hazelwood community and other stakeholders will soon be able to witness implementation of the first phase of the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS) Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA). In March 1998, a Draft HISS EE/CA, which evaluated three alternatives for site cleanup, was issued to the public for review and comment. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) then selected the third alternative, which called for the on-site construction of a rail loading facility, the removal of the three storage piles, and the removal of accessible contaminated soils on two Latty Avenue properties. This final EE/CA was approved in June of 1998.

Construction of the rail loading facility began in late October and is expected to be fully operational for 1999 work. This rail spur will ultimately allow the USACE to ship directly from the site rather than truck material across heavily traveled roads to the Eva Road facility.

What's Next?

Once engineers approve the constructed railspur, workers can begin to remove the contaminated piles of material from the site.

Madison Site

Characterization Activities Begun

This summer, the St. Louis District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) began characterization activities at the Madison Site. The site consists of two buildings owned by a component manufacturer in Madison, Illinois.

The smallest of the five St. Louis FUSRAP sites, the Madison Site processed uranium for the Manhattan Engineer District/Atomic Energy Commission (MED/AEC) in the late 1950's and early 1960's. The site was added to FUSRAP after a 1989 survey found potential evidence of radiological contamination.

The Madison Site consists of two large, interconnected buildings of similar design and shape.

The Corps recently took additional samples of the site to validate previous data. The gathering of sample data will serve to assure the continued safety of production and maintenance personnel during daily operations. The characterization information also allows a strategy to be developed for future remediation. if warranted. The Preliminary Site Characterization Report summarizing the results will be issued this winter after researchers complete their analysis of the sampling data.

What's Next?

The USACE will examine the information collected during the site characterization with regulatory agencies to develop alternatives for remediating the site.

North County Vicinity Properties

SLAPS VP 56 Cleaned

With the additional funds received from the Corps of Engineers Headquarters in Washington, D.C., the Corps can add another North County vicinity property to its list of cleaned properties. Workers removed approximately 1,050 cubic yards of contaminated soils from Vicinity Property 56, which is located along Pershall Boulevard. These soils were loaded into trucks and sent to a licensed out-of-state disposal facility. Restoration activities were completed in mid-November.

Erosion controls were used at VP 56 to prevent offsite flow of contaminated materials.

Keeping in Touch

Our office welcomes the opportunity to speak to the community and to hear from our neighbors. We try to provide different ways to keep you informed. Try any of our resources, as desired, including our homepage on the Web.

Mailing Lists - To receive newsletters and other printed communications, sign up for our mailing list anytime, 24 hours a day.

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Berkeley, MO 63134
Fax: (314) 524-6044

Public Speaking - If your group, school, or association would like to hear from one of our experts, give us a call. We can speak on a variety of fields, including engineering, the environment, and geology.

Homepage - We've gone online with hundreds of pages of documents, digital photographs, maps, and other resources. Updates are posted regularly. An e-mail link is also available. To reach our site, set your browser to www.mvs.usace.army.mil and click on the FUSRAP icon.

If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments, contact our office anytime.

USACE Supports St. Denis Bridge Updates

Recently the St. Louis District assisted the City of Florissant during their construction efforts to replace the St. Denis Bridge over Coldwater Creek. While contractors for the City of Florissant worked to demolish and then replace the existing structure, a separate contractor under USACE supervision removed radioactive contamination along the banks of Coldwater Creek and ensured the safety of the workers. Approximately 450 cubic yards of soil and concrete debris were removed from the Creek.

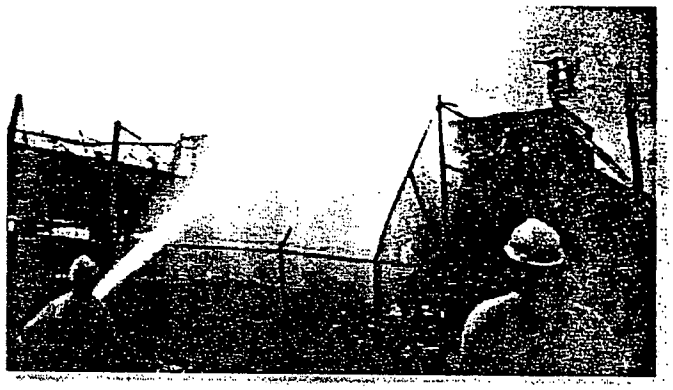
The St. Louis Downtown Site ROD has been issued. To view this or other St. Louis FUSRAP documents, feel free to visit either of our Administrative Record locations.

St. Louis Public Library
Government Information Section
1301 Olive Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103
(314) 241-2288

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
FUSRAP Project Office
9170 Latty Avenue
Berkeley, Missouri 63134
(314) 524-4083

Community Safety Concerns

Protection of human health, wildlife, and the environment is the number one consideration when USACE conducts cleanup efforts. For example, orange safety fencing is placed around open excavation areas to restrict access by unauthorized individuals. The air is continuously monitored at excavation sites and perimeters for possible airborne radiological contamination. Workers wear coveralls and other protective equipment, depending on the level of contamination, for added safety in areas being cleaned up. The USACE also uses a variety of engineering controls and measures, such as spraying water to suppress dust generated by excavation activities.



Engineering controls and measures, such as dust suppression and sediment traps, are utilized to limit migration of contaminants away from cleanup sites.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - St. Louis District
FUSRAP Project Office
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F U S R A P U P D A T E

The St. Louis Sites

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Aerial layout of the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS).

ST. LOUIS DOWNTOWN SITE (SLDS)

Plant 2 Remedial Action Underway

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has completed the remedial design plan for final cleanup activities within the Mallinckrodt Plant 2 area. The plan was developed according to the criteria established in the approved St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS) Record of Decision (ROD).

Plant 2 is located in the middle of Mallinckrodt as indicated in the map above. This area was selected for remediation to minimize disruption to current business operations and permit Mallinckrodt to utilize the site in accordance with their strategic development plan.

The remediation of Plant 2 began with the removal of the concrete slab in January. In preparation for this action, the area was surveyed and staked to mark the limits of excavation. The asphalt was then removed and sheet piling placed to support the foundations of structures close to the excavation area and to prevent cave-ins. A backhoe and excavator will be used to remove contaminated material from under the slab and load it into the onsite railcars for disposal.

The USACE contractor is currently preparing to excavate the subsurface of Plant 2. Once crews complete the excavation, the floor will be surveyed and sampled to confirm that the radiological contamination, as defined in the SLDS ROD, has been removed to the approved criteria. Upon receiving confirmation from a final site survey that the site has been remediated, the site will be restored to grade.

The USACE currently anticipates Plant 2 remediation will be finished in July 1999. Approximately 8,500 cubic yards of contaminated material will be removed from this area.

City Properties Completed

The St. Louis City Properties remediation is nearing completion. These properties are located between the Mississippi River, the Mallinckrodt plant, and the McKinley Bridge. Sampling has verified that above-criteria radiological contamination was successfully removed from the property. Approximately 4,390 cubic yards of contaminated material were removed. The restoration of the site is scheduled for completion in late February, assuming no further weather delays are encountered. Once the restoration is completed, the properties will be released for use to the City of St. Louis.

What's Next?

While the Plant 2 remediation is underway, remedial design work will begin on Plant 1. The USACE anticipates issuing the Plant 1 design in June 1999. The USACE and Mallinckrodt will also begin developing the remedial stragedy and design plans for Plants 6 and 7.

Upcoming Events

Information Releases:
Spring Newsletter – May 1999

Upcoming Meetings:
St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS) Open House, Henry Clay Elementary School Gymnasium, February 25, 1999 from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Oversight Committee Meeting at the FUSRAP Project Office at 11:30 a.m. on March 12, April 9, and May 14, 1999.

ST. LOUIS AIRPORT SITE (SLAPS)

SLAPS East End Removal Underway

In October 1998 under the authority of the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS) Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA), March 1998, the USACE began a two-phase removal action on the East End of SLAPS as part of the site stabilization effort.

The Phase 1-East End work is currently being performed in the wedge between McDonnell Boulevard and Banshee Road. Previously, the area sloped to the northeast sending surface runoff to the McDonnell Boulevard drainage ditches just outside the existing fenceline. The surface water runoff will be collected in the Sedimentation Trap for sampling and, if necessary, treated and released. As part of the site stabilization effort, this removal action will minimize further contamination release into nearby Coldwater Creek through the removal of the source material. Before completion in late-April, approximately 40,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils will be removed from SLAPS.

Phase 2 work will begin in mid-May. Approximately 20,000 cubic yards (including a portion of the Radium Pits) will be moved this year.

Each month, the USACE presents a monthly progress report on the St. Louis Sites to the Oversight Committee. These meetings are open to the public. Exact dates and times are published each quarter in this newsletter.

Radium Pits Removal Design Underway

Under the authority of the previously mentioned EE/CA, the USACE is finalizing a design and planning to remove contamination from an area of SLAPS showing elevated radiological activity. The targeted area, referred to as the "Radium Pits," was used by the Atomic Energy Commission/ Manhattan Engineer District (AEC/MED) as a storage area for residues removed from the manufacturing operations at the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS). An estimated 40,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils will be removed during this cleanup action, which is scheduled to begin in June. The final design document will be completed in April 1999.

St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS) east end during excavation and construction.

What's Next?

While contamination is being removed from the radium pits, the USACE is finalizing its strategy to stabilize the remainder of the site.

HAZELWOOD INTERIM STORAGE SITE (HISS)

Railspur Construction Underway

In October 1998, the USACE began construction of a rail loading facility for the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS) under the authority of the HISS EE/CA. Recently, crews began clearing and grubbing activities near the existing rail line to prepare the area for the installation of the HISS railspur. During the railspur design process, engineers became aware of a sewer line near the proposed construction site. According to railroad requirements, underground utility lines within

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If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments, contact our office anytime.

Crews begin clearing activities for the HISS railspur construction and sewerline encasement.

twenty-five feet of a proposed rail line must be moved or encased to prevent damage and provide access for utility workers. The USACE has finished encasing the sewerline and is progressing with railspur construction.

As construction crews grade the soil for the rail spur, excess soil is temporarily being stockpiled between the main and supplementary storage piles. This temporary pile, which will contain approximately 2,000 cubic yards, is covered with a heavy liner to ensure that soil or dust particles do not move from the site. Air and water resources near the construction area are constantly monitored for the release of contamination from the site.

What's Next?

Upon completion of the railspur construction, a small, woman-owned business will begin removing the Eastern Pile (approximately 5,000 cubic yards) this summer. The removal will be completed in late 1999.

MADISON SITE

Characterization Report Released

In February 1999, the USACE presented the Draft Final Characterization Report for the Madison Site to the property owner and regulators. Last summer and fall, the USACE took samples to validate existing site data. The report defines the site contamination and updates the risk associated with it. Using this document, the USACE will develop a Feasibility Study/Proposed Plan (FS/PP) presenting a range of alternatives for the final action to be taken at the site.

You're Invited!

You are invited to attend the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS) Open House on Thursday, February 25, 1999 from 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the Henry Clay Elementary School Gymnaisum. The USACE will provide information explaining the Remedial Design for the Mallinckrodt Plant 2 area. The Remedial Design is the actual plan that implements the approved cleanup method established in the SLDS Record of Decision.

What's Next?

The USACE will meet with regulators to determine the next step in developing a ROD for the site.

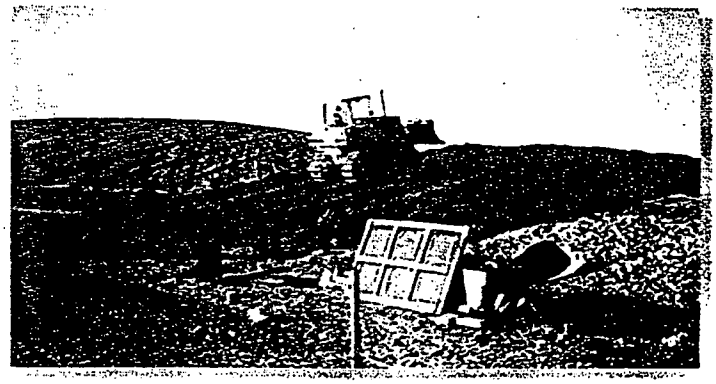
NORTH COUNTY

Document Development Underway for ROD

The St. Louis District recently briefed the regulators and Oversight Committee on the Potential Contaminants of Concern Assessment Memorandum (PAM), which updates the Baseline Risk Assessment. As defined by FUSRAP, the USACE is authorized to remove site contaminants associated with MED/AEC activities of the '40s and '50s. The PAM defines the contaminant levels and associated risks. This information will be used to assist in developing a ROD for the final cleanup of North County sites.

What's Next?

A list of the preliminary applicable, relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs), which are laws and regulations to be enforced during the remedial action, will be coordinated with the regulators. The ARARs enforced during the final cleanup will be directly related to the site's primary contaminants of concern.



Construction crews grade soil for rail spur at the HISS site. Excess soil is temporarily stockpiled between the main and supplementary storage piles.

Are you sure you're ready?

Have you ever wondered how the USACE makes sure crews are ready to perform environmental cleanup work or how the Corps ensures the work is done correctly?

Before entering the site, crews are given site-specific and refresher training for working on a radioactively contaminated site. A key component of this review is how they will comply with the USACE-approved Site Safety and Health Plan. Surrounding the site, fencing and signs are in place to prevent inadvertent and unauthorized access. If necessary, additional barriers will be temporarily installed to further restrict site access. Prior to entering the site, equipment and workers are inspected to certify operability of equipment, verify appropriate wear of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) by workers, and assure compliance with published safety standards and plans. While work is being performed, environmental monitoring devices monitor the surrounding area to ensure no contaminants are released from the site.

The USACE construction management team is physically located on-site to monitor contractor activities and ensure they are in compliance with the contractual requirements. Contractor activities are reported in both weekly and monthly progress meetings between the resident engineer and the construction crew. Additionally, daily inspections are conducted by the Corps to ensure the correctness of work being performed. Data gathered from the environmental monitoring devices is carefully reviewed to ensure the public remains unaffected by operations. Engineering representatives of USACE also perform regular site investigations to verify that individuals' health and safety are protected and to assure contractor compliance with the published Plans and Specifications.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - St. Louis District
FUSRAP Project Office
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F U S R A P U P D A T E

The St. Louis Sites

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program • Spring 1999

The new HISS railspur has the capability of holding nine railroad gondola cars. Workers here are inspecting the new facility to ensure it meets specifications.

Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS)

After six months of work, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has completed construction of the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS) railspur. Nine railroad gondola cars easily fit on the new structure. The increased capacity will safely accelerate the removal of radioactive material from HISS; thus eliminating the need to ship contaminated soils by truck over local roads and public highways.

Railspur construction at HISS began in October 1998 under the authority of an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA). As a result of the construction, approximately 5,000 cubic yards of excess soil was generated and is being temporarily stockpiled between the main and supplementary storage piles. The temporary piles are covered with a heavy liner to ensure that soil and dust particles do not move from the site. Air and water resources near the construction area continue to be monitored for release of contamination from the site.

Pile Removal Being Designed

This summer, the USACE anticipates removing the two small piles lreferred to as the HISS eastern piles, located adjacedt to HISS. These piles contain approximately 8.000 cubic yards of material. The Corps will remove these piles to minimize disruption to business operations and facilitate the use of the property for the current property owner.

The USACE has completed designs for the removal of the Eastern Piles. Presently, the St. Louis District is preparing to negotiate in June with the selected small woman-owned business pursuant to Section 8(a) of the Small Business Administration Act.

What's Next?

Technical issues regarding the pile removals are being addressed through the contracting process. The small business contractor will mobilize on-site and begin removing the Eastern Piles this summer.

St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS)

Sedimentation Basin Completed

The USACE recently completed construction of a Sedimentation Basin on the West End of the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS). Completion of the basin's construction marks a significant step forward in site stabilization efforts, part of the Corps's commitment to the community and stakeholders to protect human health and the environment.

The Sedimentation Basin was built to significantly reduce the migration of radioactive sediments into Coldwater Creek. It works by collecting the site's storm-water run-off. As the run-off collects in the basin, it is slowly released through pipes in beneath the basin. The water's speed is significantly reduced as it

Upcoming Events

Information Releases:
Summer Newsletter – August 1999

Upcoming Meetings:
St. Louis Oversight Committee Meeting at the FUSRAP Project Office at 11:30 a.m. on June 11, July 9, and August 13, 1999.

travels toward the creek. As a result, most sediment suspended in the water will settle and accumulate in the basin rather than entering the creek.

For high infrequent flows such as in the case of a heavy 25-year storm, an emergency overflow channel prevents the west section of SLAPS from being damaged. If the sedimentation basin fills with water too quickly to be released through the pipe, water will be released into the creek via the emergency overflow channel. For any extreme event, a weir has been placed in the outfall to quantify flow volume.

To prevent sediment transport, the basin is lined with a geotextile fabric and crushed stone. The fabric creates a barrier between the contaminated sediments which settle out of the storm-water run-off and the soils below the basin. The accumulated sediment, which will likely be contaminated, can be removed from the basin periodically and disposed of off-site.

Regular sampling will be performed in the sedimentation basin to assess initial accumulated water contaminants. Following verification of the basin's decreased sediment load, discharges will be made to Coldwater Creek. Discharges are analyzed to ensure acceptable limits are met. Thereafter, monthly discharges will be analyzed at the outfall.

Contract Turnover Underway

In June 1999, the USACE will transition to a new remedial action contractor who will both design and perform removal actions. [Under the Final St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS) Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA), March 1999,] efforts to stabilize the site and prevent the migration of radioactive contamination will continue through a transition of contractors. Previously, the USACE used one contractor to design and another to perform the activity. Transitioning to a single contractor for site work is expected to result in a more cost effective and efficient flow of work.

The new contractor will pick up where the current contractor leaves off. The completion of the North Ditch excavation, the East End removal action, the management of the railspurs in North County, and the management of the offsite borrow source will all be handled by the new contractor.

What's Next

Once the removal of contamination is removed from the East End of SLAPS is completed, the USACE will begin cleanup work on the radium pits.

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If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments, contact our office anytime.

To prevent sediment transport, the basin is lined with a geotextile fabric and crushed stone. Workers are shown installing the fabric. the fabric creates a barrier between the contaminated sediments, which settle out of the storm water run-off, and the soils below the basin.

North County

Ecological Risk Being Evaluated

The USACE is reevaluating and collecting additional data to more accurately assess the impact of contamination from FUSRAP on the ecology of the North County sites (particularly Coldwater Creek).

Although the ecological risk was initially addressed in the 1992 Baseline Risk Assessment, substantial changes have been made to risk assessment guidelines. Ecological risk assessment guidelines now require such evaluations be completed in tiers. The initial tier compares contaminant concentrations in soils, sediments and surface water at and near the site to protective ecological benchmarks.

Since such screening levels tend to be very conservative, additional assessments are required if concentrations exceed an ecological screening level. Comparisons are now being made for North County sites in order to determine if additional data is necessary to fully access ecological risk. At this tier risks to certain types of species that might be present in the area would be quantified using contaminant concentration data and anticipated exposure conditions.

What's Next?

Once the ecological risks are fully assessed under current guidelines, the USACE will assure that remedial alternatives addressed in the Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan are fully protective of human health and of the environment.

St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS)

Plant 2 Remediation Continues

In January 1999, the USACE began final cleanup activities within the Mallinckrodt Plant 2 area. Remedial activities are being conducted using the criteria described in the approved St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS) Record of Decision (ROD).

The remediation of Plant 2 began with the removal of the concrete slab, which had covered the footprint of a demolished building. Presently, construction crews are using backhoes and excavators to remove radioactively contaminated material and load it into railcars for offsite disposal in a licensed out-of-state facility. To date, approximately 4,000 out of an anticipated 8,500 cubic yards of contaminated material has been excavated and transported to a licensed disposal facility.

Systematic radiological surveys are also being performed in the Plant 2 area outside of the defined excavation limits to ensure that all radioactive contamination is removed as required. This action will result in the timely release of the Plant 2 area back to Mallinckrodt for their beneficial use. The USACE anticipates Plant 2 remediation will be finished this summer.

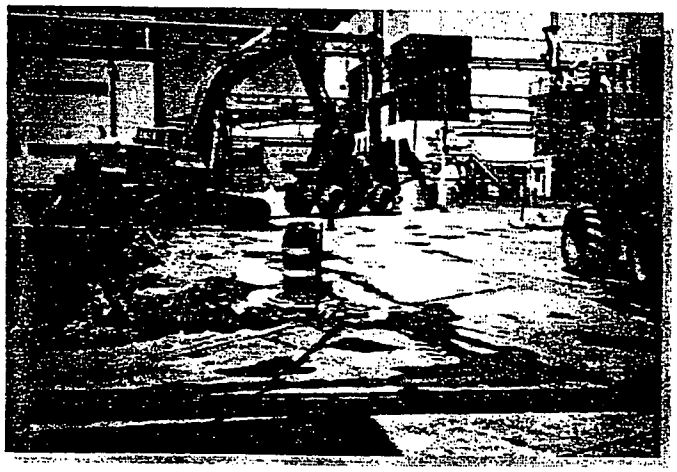
Plant 1 Design Being Developed

USACE engineers are currently developing the remedial design for Plant 1. For this design, radiological surveys are performed to better characterize the extent of contamination in the Plant 1 area. Surveys will also be performed in the area outside of the anticipated excavation limits to ensure the removal of all radioactive contamination from the area.

Although the USACE expects to remove a relatively small volume of contamination (2,800 cubic yards), the Plant 1 remediation will require very careful planning. Excavation activities will be performed in close proximity to on going Mallinckrodt operational facilities. The Corps anticipates issuing the design this summer.

What's Next?

Once the Plant 2 remediation is completed, construction crews will begin remediating the Plant 1 area.



Excavators load material from the Plant 2 remediation work into trucks which transport the covered material to the SLDS railspur.

Is that safe?

Have you ever wondered how the Corps ensures that ponded water released from its sites doesn't endanger human health or the environment?

Occasionally, water will collect in the bottom of the excavation. This ponded water is tested for contamination and treated, as necessary, to meet the substantive requirements of the applicable regulations for each site. Technicians collect water samples in batches, label and forward them to the lab for analysis. Scientists carefully review the data collected from the water samples to determine if the water meets release standards or requires treatment.

If treatment is determined to be necessary for release, the water is pumped into the water treatment plant where it undergoes a process that removes the contamination. The sampling and analysis process are repeated until the USACE is satisfied that the treated water meets release standards that are protective of human health and the environment. Only once these standards are satisfied will the USACE discharge the water.

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The St. Louis Sites

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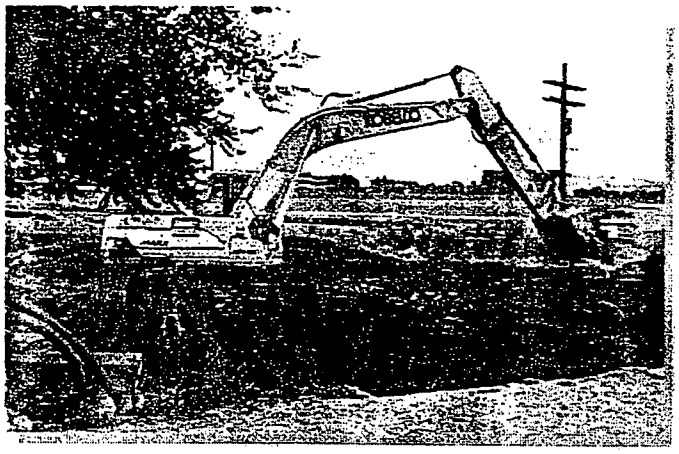

The East End removal action continued through the contractor turnover with the excavation of 5,200 cubic yards.

St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS)

East End Excavation Resumed

In October 1998, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) began a two-phase removal action on the East End of the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS). Work began in the wedge between McDonnell Boulevard and Banshee Road as part of the site stabilization effort to prevent surface water runoff from carrying radioactive contaminants from the site.

The East End removal action was originally designed as a single activity; however, above normal winter rainfall hampered the progress of removal efforts. As a result of the moisture delay, the removal activity was split into two sections –the Northern and Southern Sections.

Under the initial contract, 9,000 cubic yards of contaminated material were excavated from the Northern Section. The new contractor will remove an additional 10,000 to 15,000 cubic yards of soil from the Southern Section and backfill the area as confirmation activities verify the removal of contaminants to established criteria has been accomplished.

Radium Pits Design Continues

The USACE is finalizing the design to remove contamination from the Radium Pits, which are located in the hump of SLAPS next to McDonnell Boulevard. Work in this section of SLAPS is proceeding under the authority of the Final SLAPS Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) reviewed by the public in March 1998.

The Atomic Energy Commission/Manhattan Engineer District (AEC/MED) previously used the Radium Pits to store residues from manufacturing operations at the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS). Presently, it represents one of the most contaminated areas on the site.

Although work was originally scheduled to begin in June, the excavation has been delayed until October because of weather delays (rain and heat). An estimated 40,000 cubic yards of contamination will be removed from the Radium Pits as the USACE works its way from east to west across the site stabilizing it to limit further offsite migration of material.

Contractor Transition Complete

Work at SLAPS and its contiguous properties has been successfully transitioned to a Total Environmental Restoration Contractor (TERC). Picking up where the previous contractor left off, the TERC is drafting designs and conducting removal actions under the direction of the USACE. Using one contractor to design and excavate is expected to result in a more cost effective and efficient flow of work.

Efforts to stabilize the site and prevent the migration of radioactive contamination (such as the East End removal action work) continued through the transition. By the end of July, sixty-eight railroad gondola cars carrying approximately 5,200 cubic yards of material had been shipped to a licensed out-of-state disposal facility since the contractor transition in June.

What's Next?

Once confirmation is received that removal criteria have been met for the East End activity and the area has been backfilled. contractors will move westward toward the Radium Pits.

Upcoming Events

Information Releases:
Fall Newsletter – November 1999

Upcoming Meetings:
St. Louis Oversight Committee Meeting at the FUSRAP Project Office at 11:30 a.m. on September 10, October 8, and November 12, 1999.

US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Louis District

Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS)

Spoil Piles Stabilized

The USACE recently stabilized the HISS Railspur spoil piles by spraying on ConCover®, which encapsulated them with a polymer-type coating.

In April, site inspections revealed that these temporary piles, which were stored in the available space between the main and supplementary storage piles, became geologically unstable creating a potential health and safety risk. In addition, high winds occasionally dislodged the heavy liner weighted with cinder blocks making it difficult for workers to maintain coverage.

To eliminate these concerns, a temporary polymer-type coating that would last six months was applied to stabilize the piles until their scheduled removal in two months. The coating has stabilized the piles, ensuring material won't continue to slide down the slope face or risk dispersal by the wind.

Lab Relocation Started

The USACE is negotiating a lease to relocate the HISS on-site lab. Railspur construction near the lab this spring brought attention to potential production problems with analyzing samples.

Analysis of radiological samples requires a stable environment. The current location at the end of the new rail spur would not be adequate once heavy equipment began removing the nearby piles this fall.

In addition, the current facilities do not support the number of samples that need to be analyzed. As the USACE removes more contaminated material from these sites, the lab will be required to process more samples. Moving the lab to a more stable location will permit work on the rest of the project to continue as scheduled.

The spoil piles were recently sprayed with a gray polymer-type coating, which has stabilized them until their scheduled removal this fall.

What's Next?

Once the negotiations are finished, the woman-owned, small and disadvantaged business contractor will mobilize on-site to begin removing the spoil piles and Eastern Piles.

North County

Ecological Risk Under Review

In mid-July, the USACE released its Ecological Risk Assessment for the North County Sites to the Environmental Protection Agency and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources for review. These regulatory agencies are reviewing the screening evaluation presented by the USACE specifically for Coldwater Creek on FUSRAP's ecological risk (i.e. the impact of contamination on the environment).

In the document, comparisons were made to determine if additional data is necessary to more fully assess ecological risk. Based on the review of this evaluation, these agencies will determine if further sampling is required to establish ecological risk in late August.

What's Next?

While the agencies review and provide input to the assessment of ecological risk, the USACE will continue developing remedial alternatives for the final cleanup of North County Sites. These alternatives will be presented to the public in a Feasibility Study in upcoming months.

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If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments, contact our office anytime.

St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS)

Plant 2 Progress Slows

Final cleanup activities within the Mallinckrodt Plant 2 area are proceeding slowly as workers negotiate their way around utility lines. Remedial activities are being conducted using criteria in the approved St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS) Record of Decision (ROD). Remediation of Plant 2 began in January with the removal of a concrete slab, which had covered the footprint of a demolished building.

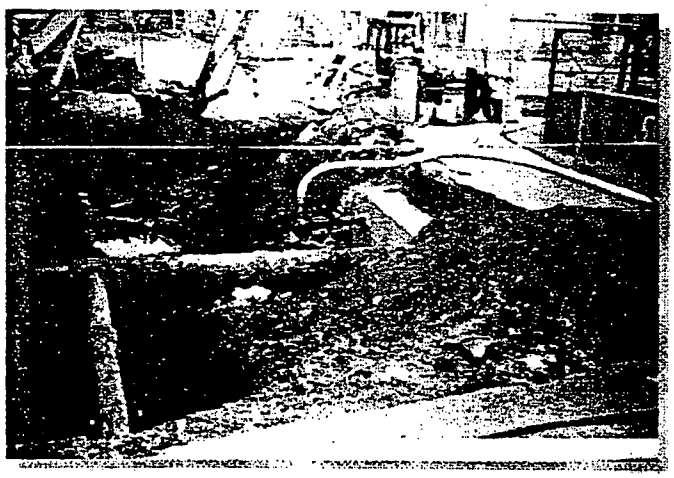
Subterranean utilities from demolished buildings dating back to 1846 are still present in the Plant 2 area and slowing progress. While crews reviewed historical maps before excavating, they have discovered utility lines predating available maps.

Since construction crews continue to encounter utility lines during the remediation, they are proceeding cautiously. As these outdated lines are found, they are shutoff and/or moved before proceeding with the excavation.

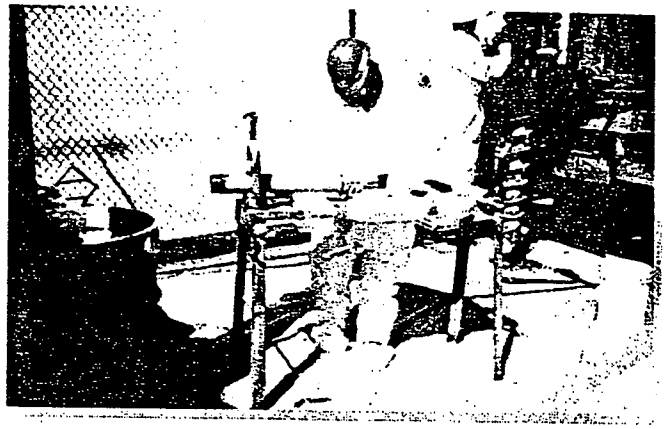
To date, approximately 5,000 out of an anticipated 8,500 cubic yards have been excavated from Plant 2 for disposal in a licensed out-of-state facility. The USACE anticipates Plant 2 remediation will be completed in November pending confirmation that contractors have successfully removed contamination to the criteria established in the SLDS ROD.

Plant 1 and 6 Sampled

The USACE is systematically surveying Plants 1 and 6 to further define the excavation limits to ensure above criteria contaminants are removed as outlined in the SLDS ROD. The data from this sampling effort will establish excavation volumes for the final remedial design for Plants 1 and 6.



Workers cautiously excavate Plant 2 as they continue to encounter outdated utility lines.



Systematically sampling Plants 1 and 6 will establish the excavation area and remediation volumes. The laborer shown here is working with a recently drilled soil sample.

Crews will excavate Plant 1 before starting Plant 6 work. Although a relatively small volume of contamination is anticipated from Plant 1 remediation efforts, it will require very careful planning. Work will be performed in close proximity to ongoing Mallinckrodt operational facilities beginning in October 1999.

What's Next?

Using the final remedial design, crews will begin remediating Plant 1 once Plant 2 has been finished. Engineers will also finalize the Plant 6 Remedial Design plans.

Madison

RI/FS/PP Under Development

With the Final Characterization Report for the Madison Site finished, the USACE is now developing a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study/Proposed Plan (RI/FS/PP). The Characterization Report identified uranium contamination in two buildings owned by a manufacturer in Madison, Illinois. The Characterization Report confirmed the presence of contamination in dust on overhead surfaces, while the floors and equipment were below criteria.

Now that the extent of contamination has been determined, the USACE is developing a plan to address the site. This strategy will be presented to the public for review and comment in the RI/FS/PP scheduled for release late this year.

What's Next?

The USACE will present the RI/FS/PP to the public for review and comment this fall to determine the final disposition of the site.

What is Radioactivity?

Admittedly this question seems pretty elementary until you stop and think about it. If you were trying to explain what radioactivity was to a ten-year-old child, what would you say? Radioactivity is not detectable with five senses. You cannot see, hear, smell, taste, or feel it. Seems a bit harder to answer the question now doesn't it?

In its simplest explanation, radioactivity is a type of energy. Furthermore, radioactivity refers to a specific type of energy produced when an unstable atom tries to stabilize itself by "decaying" or releasing particles. As these particles are released, energy is created.

Radiation may take one of two forms: ionizing or nonionizing. Ionizing radiation consists of high-energy particles capable of creating an electrical charge in substances they pass through. Nonionizing radiation cannot create a charge as it passes through material.

Nonionizing radiation may be found in common household products such as lights, microwaves or televisions. Ionizing radiation can be found in everything in nature in trace amounts – including people. It can be found in carbon and potassium, as well as elements such as uranium and thorium. But if radiation is so natural, why are we spending so much to clean it up? Just like sunlight (another radiation source), radiation poses little harm until you've been exposed to too much of it. The Corps is working on the FUSRAP Sites in order to limit the amount of radiation to which we are exposed.

Naturally occurring ionizing radiation may be one of three types (alpha, beta, or gamma). Alpha particles can only travel approximately one to two inches in air and can be blocked by a sheet of paper. Beta particles can travel 6 – 10 feet in air but can be blocked with Plexiglas® or glass. Gamma particles can travel the farthest but may be stopped with lead.

Many people believe radioactivity is a compound that can be treated by finding the right chemical mixture to neutralize it or "make it go away". Unfortunately, since radioactivity is energy produced by elements, which are already in their simplest form, it cannot be neutralized. We can only control the locations of radioactive material and wait until nature takes its course.

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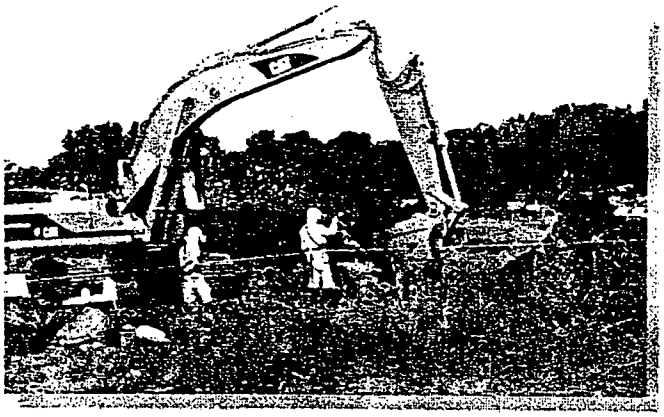


Workers, dressed in the appropriate level of personal protective clothing and respiratory equipment, collected samples from the Radium Pits to verify contaminant information.

North County

Feasibility Study Being Developed

The USACE is currently developing the North County Feasibility Study/Proposed Plan (FS/PP), which will describe remedial alternatives to address contamination on the sites. The North County FS/PP will address contamination at the Latty Avenue/Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS), the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS), the SLAPS Vicinity Properties (VPs) and Coldwater Creek.

By working with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, the USACE hopes to resolve outstanding issues prior to releasing the document to the public for review. The agencies are working together to determine which federal and state regulations apply to these sites and to resolve issues regarding potential contaminants of concern.

In the comming months, the FS/PP will be presented to the public for review and comment. After the review period is over, the final remedial alternative will be selected and identified in the Record of Decision.

One more way to keep in touch:

MDNR FUSRAP Field Oversight Office
917 N. Highway 67, Suite 104
Florissant, MO 63031
phone (314) 877-3250

St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS)

Radium Pits Tested

In September, the USACE dug test pits in an area of the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS), commonly referred to as the Radium Pits, which are located in the curve of the site next to McDonnell Boulevard. The test pits were dug to better characterize the extent of contamination and to develop a geological profile for this portion of the site.

The Atomic Energy Commission/Manhattan Engineer District (AEC/MED) previously used the Radium Pits to store residues from manufacturing operations at the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS).

By investigating the Radium Pits, the USACE gathered valuable radiological and geotechnical data for developing plans, which accurately address the Radium Pit's conditions. While significantly less radium than expected was found, the results of this activity showed that higher levels of thorium exist in this location.

The USACE was concerned that radon, which is a byproduct produced by the decay of radium, would be a problem given the original data that calculations were based on. However, since the actual radium levels were low, radon levels were not an issue.

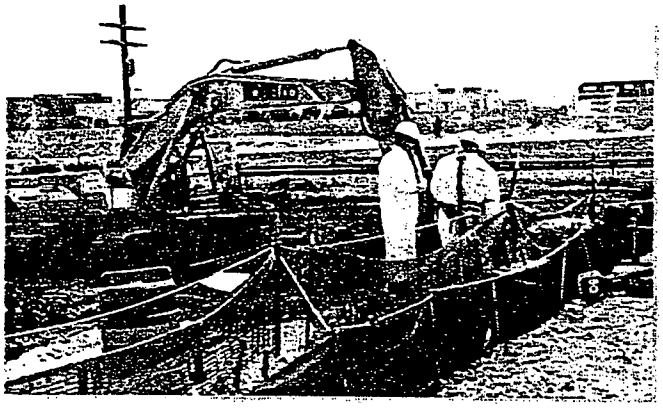
The USACE, in conjunction with state and federal agencies, is currently developing the Plans and Specifications for this removal action. It is anticipated work will begin this spring in the Radium Pits. An estimated 26,000-28,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils are scheduled for removal.

Upcoming Events

Information Releases:
Winter Newsletter – February 2000

Upcoming Meetings:
St. Louis Oversight Committee Meeting at the FUSRAP Project Office at 11:30 a.m. on December 10, January 14, and February 11.

US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Louis District



The workers shown here are in the process of surveying an area to determine if further excavation is required. Once surveys confirm the contamination has been removed, the Corps can direct its contractors to begin backfilling the excavated area with clean material.

East End Excavation Continues

Site stabilization work is continuing at the East End of SLAPS in the wedge between McDonnell Boulevard and Banshee Road. Confirmation surveys have verified that the contamination has been removed from the eastern most survey unit. Under the USACE's direction, contractors have begun backfilling the cleaned areas.

Removal work on SLAPS will progress in a continuous path of excavation from east to west across the site. This progression will stabilize the site and prevent storm-water run-off from re-contaminating cleaned areas as work moves from higher to lower elevations. To date, the contractor has excavated 16,500 cubic yards of contamination from the East End.

What's Next?

Once the confirmation surveys and the backfill of the remainder of the East End are completed, the SLAPS Construction Support Area will be moved to the East End and thus allow excavation activities to continue across the site.

Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS)

Lab Relocation Nearly Completed

The USACE has procured a new site lab to replace the current facility. Production requirements and the HISS Railspur construction this spring brought attention to potential production problems with analyzing samples at the lab's original location.

The analysis of radiological samples requires a stable environment. Once heavy equipment begins removing the nearby piles, the lab's original location at the end of a railspur will no longer suffice.

The relocated facility will better support the number of samples that need to be analyzed. As the USACE removes more contaminated material from the St. Louis sites, the increased capability will enable the lab to process these samples without impacting the schedule of work on the rest of the project. The new lab should be fully operational by mid-December 1999.

Pile Removal Design Continues

In September, the USACE completed technical negotiations regarding the removal of the HISS Eastern Pile and the Spoil Piles from the railspur construction with a selected small, woman-owned business. Together these piles contain approximately 12,000 cubic yards of material. The Corps will remove these piles to minimize disruption to business operations and facilitate the current owner's use of the property.

The contractor has submitted the project plans to the USACE for approval. These plans describe how the contractor will implement the design plans during the actual pile removal. Once the plans are approved, the contractor will mobilize its personnel and equipment on-site, receive site-specific training to ensure personnel are familiar with the site, and begin removing the piles using the new railspur.

What's Next?

Once these preparatory activities have been completed, the piles will be removed under the approved 1998 HISS Engineering Evaluation /Cost Analysis (EE/CA). Until a Record of Decision (ROD) describing the final cleanup method is approved, no subsurface contamination at HISS can be removed.

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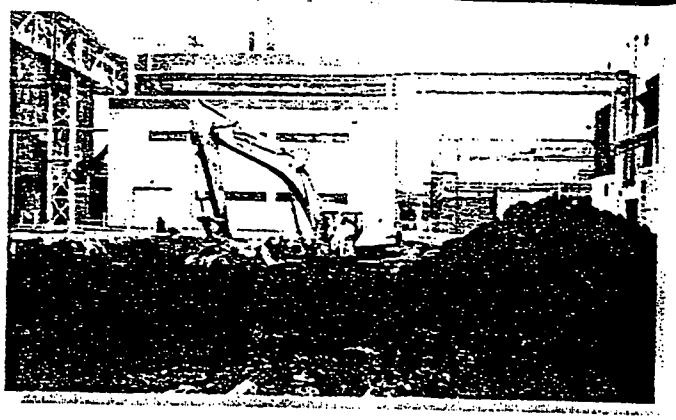
If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments, contact our office anytime.



Excavation in Plant 2's main remediation area will continue once unexploded ordnance plans, which address the presence of the Civil War Ordnance, are approved.

St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS)

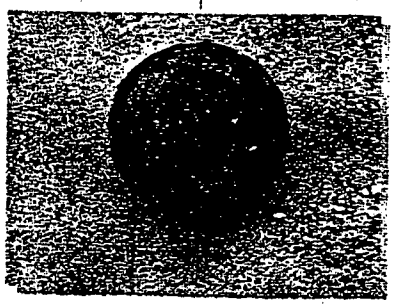
Plant 2 Progress on Hold

Remediation work in Plant 2 stopped when unexploded Civil War ordnance was found during site excavation in late August.

Historians suspect the ordnance originated from a prior land owner (Buck's Stove & Range Company), which manufactured cast iron stoves. After the Civil War, many weapons were decommissioned and sold as scrap iron. Authorities speculate that Buck's Stove & Range Company, which was using the iron from the rounds for manufacturing stoves, discovered the live rounds and buried the rounds rather than disarming them.

Years later, in 1935, Mallinckrodt purchased and demolished the foundry. They discovered and disposed of hundreds of cannonballs left over from the Civil War, unaware of the buried rounds. By 1941 Mallinckrodt erected buildings on that same site to support Manhattan Engineer District / Atomic Energy Commission (MED/AEC) activities during World War II. Now more than sixty years after the demolition of the foundry, the buried rounds have been discovered.

While the USACE will not continue remediation in the main area of excavation until an Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) plan is approved, four small adjacent areas of elevated radiological activity are being remediated. These four areas total approximately 120 cubic yards.



This twelve pound cannon ball made of iron was one of the pieces of ordnance found during the Plant 2 remediation. Originally, the hole in the cannon ball would have been plugged. The ball was filled with black powder.

UXO Plan Under Review

Ordnance experts are working with physicists to finalize a plan that addresses the possibility of encountering more ordnance in the radiologically contaminated soils of the main excavation area in Plant 2. The plan will enable the USACE to backfill the open excavation.

Magnetometers, which can detect buried metal objects four feet below the surface of the soil, will be used to verify the work area is clear of all metal objects. If the magnetometer detects a metal object beneath the surface, a team of UXO specialists will dig up the object by hand. If it is identified as ordnance, it will be turned over to the St. Louis Bomb Squad for disposal. Once the work area is cleared using the magnetometer, an excavator will remove the top 10- to 15-inches of soil for disposal.

This process would be repeated for each layer of soil until the remaining 5,000 cubic yards of contamination in Plant 2 has been removed as described in the SLDS Record of Decision. The USACE hopes that the remedial work in Plant 2 can be completed by February assuming inclement weather does not further hamper remediation efforts.

Plant 1 Remediation Starting

Concurrent with the Plant 2 work, contractors are focusing their efforts on Plant 1. Remediation activities in Plant 1 will begin with the removal of the asphalt and concrete, which presently cover the contaminated soils around the footprint of the demolished Building K.

To prepare the site, crews will survey and stake the excavation area so that it may be fenced off to prevent inadvertent access. Electric, water and sewer lines will be routed away from the area. Due to an elevation difference between the Building K pad and the street, a temporary ramp will be constructed to assist the trucks in transporting material from Plant 1 to the loading facility.

Pre-design characterization data indicate Plant 1 contains approximately 1,500 cubic yards of contaminated material in the main excavation area. Another 500 cubic yards divided between an additional eight areas of elevated radiological activity in Plant 1 will also be remediated.

What's Next?

Once the UXO plan is finalized, remedial work in the main excavation area of Plant 2 will resume while regular construction crews remediate Plant 1.

Why Don't You Just Start Digging?

If you know the contamination is there, why don't you just start digging it up and hauling it away? Once all of the contamination is removed, the problem is resolved and everyone goes home. Why do you keep writing documents?

Although an environmental cleanup project seems very simple, numerous activities must take place before contaminants can be removed. No one wants to go into a contaminated area without knowing what pollutants are there. Unless you know what contaminants are present, it is difficult to protect yourself against its health risks.

In 1980, Congress pessed the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). FUSRAP is conducted according to the processes described in CERCLA.

The first step in the CERCLA process is to conduct a Preliminary Assessment (PA). Historical background information is collected to determine the likely locations of hazardous materials and to determine the initial extent of site contamination. Next, a Site Inspection (SI) is performed to verify historical information through limited soil and water sampling. If substantial amounts of contamination are confirmed present on the site, further study and analysis are needed. The Remedial Investigation (RI) further identifies the types of contaminants present at or near the site, the degree and extent of contamination, and potential risks to the public health and environment. Information gathered during the RI will assist in developing cleanup alternatives, which will be identified in the Feasibility Study (FS). Once the remedial alternatives are identified, the Proposed Plan (PP) is written. The PP compares the alternatives presented in the FS and identifies a recommended cleanup remedy for a site. When the draft FS/PP is completed, the documents are presented to the public for review and a 30-day public comment period begins. While the public can submit comments at any time during this review period, a public meeting is also held to provide an opportunity to discuss the alternatives. After the 30-day comment period has ended, a specific long-term remedial action or cleanup technology is selected.

The selected cleanup alternative is identified in the Record of Decision (ROD), which is the final document in the CERCLA process. The ROD will substantiate the need for a remedial action, describe the proposed action and justify the removal action selected. Public comments, the Corps' replies, and any new information are detailed in a section of the ROD known as the Responsiveness Summary.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - St. Louis District
FUSRAP Project Office
9170 Latty Avenue
Berkeley, Missouri 63134

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US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Louis District®

News Release

Contact: Lou Dell'Orco For Release: 1/31/00

FUSRAP Project Office, 9170 Latty Avenue, Berkeley, Missouri 63134
(314) 524-4083 * fax (314) 524-6044

Corps of Engineers to Request Public Comments on the Proposed Plan for the Madison Site in Madison, Illinois

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), St. Louis District, is issuing the Remedial Investigation, Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan for the cleanup of the Madison Site located in Madison, Illinois for public comment.

The Madison Site, which consists of uranium contaminated dust found on overhead steel beams inside two buildings owned by a component manufacturer, became contaminated as a result of activities supporting the nation's early atomic energy program. During the late 1950s and early 1960s, the site was used to perform extrusions of uranium metal and straightening of extruded uranium rods for the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). The Corps of Engineers is managing the cleanup of this site under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP).

A Public Meeting will be held to provide local citizens an opportunity to directly express concerns to FUSRAP representatives and to ask questions or provide comment on the recommended remedial alternatives. The Public Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 17th, from 5:00 until 9:00 p.m. at the Madison City Hall located at 615 Madison Avenue in Madison, Illinois. USACE representatives will be available during the poster session, which will begin at 5:00 p.m., to individually answer questions. The formal presentation of alternatives, followed by a question and answer period, will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The Remedial Investigation (RI) identifies the type of contaminants present at or near the site, assesses the degree and extent of contamination, and characterizes potential risks to human health and the environment. The alternatives for addressing contamination at this site, which are evaluated in the Feasibility Study (FS), are summarized in the Proposed Plan (PP). Abbreviated, partial descriptions of the alternatives are as follows:

Alternative 1- No Action
Mandated by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), periodic environmental monitoring would be conducted, but no remedial action would be conducted.

Alternative 2 - Institutional Controls
Institutional controls would be implemented to prevent unacceptable exposures to site contamination.

Alternative 3 - Containment
Alternative 3 incorporates containment, institutional controls, and environmental monitoring to reduce further spread of contaminants and potential for direct exposure. Under this alternative, accessible contamination at the 25-foot and 36-foot levels and the beams in the high bay that are accessible from the windows would be fixed in place.

Alternative 4 - Decontamination of Accessible Surfaces and Release of Building
Alternative 4 includes decontamination of accessible contamination at the 25-foot and 36-foot levels and the beams in the high bay that are accessible from the windows. Inaccessible areas are defined as those surfaces that can not be accessed either from the high-bay crane or through windows. Inaccessible areas include the high bay areas above the 36-foot level and select other areas around live power lines.

The Corps of Engineers identifies Alternative 4 as the preferred alternative in the Proposed Plan. Copies of this document and the site's Administrative Record are available during regular business hours at the following locations:

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District
FUSRAP Project Office
9170 Latty Avenue, Berkeley, Missouri 63134
(314) 524-4083

Madison Public Library
1700 5th Street
Madison, Illinois 62060
(618) 876-8448

Written comments will be accepted during the 30-day public review period following FS/PP release at the FUSRAP Project Office at the above address. Oral comments may be provided at the Public Meeting on Thursday, February 17th, from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Madison City Hall at 615 Madison Avenue in Madison, Illinois. Please contact the Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, FUSRAP Project Office for more information. The final remedy for this site will be selected after review and full consideration of all comments received during the public review period.

US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Louis District

USACE Announces the Availability of the Proposed Plan for the Madison Site

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), St. Louis District, is announcing the availability of the Remedial Investigation, Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan for the cleanup of the Madison Site located in Madison, Illinois for public comment.

The Madison Site, which consists of uranium contaminated dust found on overhead steel beams inside two buildings owned by a component manufacturer, became contaminated as a result of activities supporting the nation's early atomic energy program. During the late 1950s and early 1960s, the site was used to perform extrusions of uranium metal and straightening of extruded uranium rods for the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). The Corps of Engineers is managing the cleanup of this site under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP).

The alternatives for addressing contamination at this site, which are evaluated in the Feasibility Study, are summarized in the Proposed Plan. Abbreviated, partial descriptions of the alternatives are as follows:

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Madison, Illinois 62060
(618) 876-8448

Written comments will be accepted during the 30-day period following FS/PP release at FUSRAP Project Office at the above address. Oral comments may be provided at the Public Meeting on Thursday, February 17th, from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Madison City Hall at 615 Madison Avenue in Madison, Illinois. Please contact the Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, FUSRAP Project Office for more information.

Source: Granite City Press Record Date of Publication: 2/03/00 Page: 1 of 1
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USACE Announces the Availability of the Proposed Plan for the Madison Site

US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Louis District®

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), St. Louis District, is announcing the availability of the Remedial Investigation, Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan for the cleanup of the Madison Site located in Madison, Illinois for public comment.

The Madison Site, which consists of uranium contaminated dust found on overhead steel beams inside two buildings owned by a component manufacturer, became contaminated as a result of activities supporting the nation's early atomic energy program. During the late 1950s and early 1960s, the site was used to perform extrusions of uranium metal and straightening of extruded uranium rods for the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). The Corps of Engineers is managing the cleanup of this site under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP).

The alternatives for addressing contamination at this site, which are evaluated in the Feasibility Study, are summarized in the Proposed Plan. Abbreviated, partial descriptions of the alternatives are as follows:

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FUSRAP Project Office
9170 Latty Avenue, Berkeley, Missouri 63134
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(618) 876-8448

Written comments will be accepted during the 30-day period following FS/PP release at FUSRAP Project Office at the above address. Oral comments may be provided at the Public Meeting on Thursday, February 17th, from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Madison City Hall at 615 Madison Avenue in Madison, Illinois. Please contact the Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, FUSRAP Project Office for more information.

Source: Granite City Journal Date of Publication: 1/30/2000 Page: 1 of 1
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 011200A]

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Scoping Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of scoping meetings; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will conduct scoping meetings to receive comments on a Draft Options Paper for Amendment 10 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico (Shrimp Amendment 10).

DATES: Written comments will be accepted until 5 p.m. on March 6, 2000. The scoping meetings will be held from February 2 through February 10, 2000. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301, North, Suite 1000, Tampa, Florida 33619; telephone: (813) 228–2815. Copies of the Draft Options Paper are also available from the Council.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Richard Leard, Senior Fishery Biologist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 228–2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The scoping meetings will be convened to receive comments on the need for additional bycatch reduction requirements for the shrimp fishery in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) south and east of 85°30' W. long. Amendment 9 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico (FMP), approved by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on July 30, 1997, and implemented by final rule on May 14, 1998 (April 14, 1998; 63 FR 18139), required the use of a NMFS-certified bycatch reduction device (BRD) in shrimp trawls used in the EEZ from Cape San Blas, Florida (85°30' W. long.) to the Texas/Mexico border and provided for the certification of the Fisheye BRD in the 30 mesh position. The purpose of this action was to reduce the bycatch mortality of juvenile red snapper by 44 percent from the average mortality for the years 1984–89. Amendment 9 to the FMP exempted shrimp trawls fishing for royal red shrimp outside of 100 fathoms, as well as groundfish and butterfish trawls. It also excluded small try nets and no more than two ridged frame roller trawls that do not exceed 16 feet (4.9 m). Amendment 9 to the FMP did not require BRDs south and east of 85°30' West long. because few juvenile red snapper were found as bycatch in this area. Because of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act's requirement to reduce bycatch to the extent practicable, the Council is considering the need for additional measures to reduce bycatch.

Scoping meetings for the Draft Options Paper on Shrimp Amendment 10 will begin at 7:00 p.m. and end at 10:00 p.m. at all of the following locations:

1. Wednesday, February 2, 2000—Harbormaster's Office, 1407 Main Street, Palacios, TX 77465;

2. Thursday, February 3, 2000—Port Isabel Community Center, 213 Yturria, Port Isabel, TX 78578;

3. Monday, February 7, 2000—Holiday Inn La Concha Hotel, 430 Duval Street, Key West, FL 33040;

4. Tuesday, February 8, 2000—Edison Community College, Hendry Hall—K143—Parking Lot 8—Lee County Campus, 8099 College Parkway, Fort Myers, FL 33919;

5. Wednesday, February 9, City Hall Auditorium, 300 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach, FL 33708; and

6. Thursday, February 10, 2000—Apalachicola Reserve Visitors Center, 261 7th Street, Apalachicola, FL 32320.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**).

Dated: January 27, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 00–2113 Filed 1–28–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–F

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Release of Remedial Investigation (RI), Feasibility Study (FS), and Proposed Plan (PP) for Cleanup of Radiological Contamination at the Madison Site for Public Review

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The St. Louis District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), in consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), propose to clean up contaminants resulting from the extrusion of uranium metal at the Madison Site. This site is one of several being addressed under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Alternatives, which identify the range of cleanup options, have been developed and evaluated in the Madison Site Feasibility Study (FS). USACE has identified Alternative 4 as the preferred remediation alternative described in the Proposed Plan (PP) based on the information available at this time. The final decision on the remedy to be implemented will be documented in a Record Decision (ROD) only after consideration of all comments received and any new information presented.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions regarding the Madison RI/FS/PP may be directed to Mr. Lou Dell'Orco, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, FUSRAP Project Office, 9170 Latty Avenue, Berkeley, Missouri 63134, by phone (314) 524–4083, or by e-mail at *Louis.A.Dellorco@mvs02.usace.army.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Proposed Action

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), St. Louis District, is issuing the Remedial Investigation (RI), Feasibility Study (FS), and Proposed Plan (PP) for public comment. The site became contaminated as a result of activities in support of the nation's early atomic energy program. During the late 1950s and early 1960s, the site was used to perform extrusions of uranium metal and straightening of extruded uranium rods for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). The cleanup of this site is being managed by the Corps of Engineers under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program

(FUSRAP). The alternatives evaluated in the Feasibility Study are summarized in the Proposed Plan.

2. Project Alternatives

a. Alternative 1—No Action

Mandated by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), periodic environmental monitoring would be conducted, but no remedial action would be conducted.

b. Alternative 2—Institutional Controls

Institutional controls would be implemented to prevent unacceptable exposures to site contamination.

c. Alternative 3—Containment

Alternative 3 incorporates containment, institutional controls, and environmental monitoring to prevent contaminants from becoming mobilized and reduce the potential for direct exposure. Under this alternative, accessible contamination at the 25-foot and 36-foot levels and the beams in the high bay that are accessible from the windows would be fixed in place. When use of the building is discontinued, radiological controls would be provided for decontamination prior to demolition.

d. Alternative 4—Decontamination of Accessible Surfaces and Release of Building

This alternative includes decontamination of accessible contamination at the 25-foot and 36-foot levels and the beams is the high bay that are accessible from the window. Inaccessible areas are defined as those surfaces that cannot be accessed either from the high-bay crane or through windows. Inaccessible areas include the high bay areas above the 36-foot level and select other areas around live power lines.

3. Scoping Process

Federal, state and local agencies, and interested individuals are invited to participate in the scoping process to determine the range of issues and alternatives to be addressed. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will hold a public meeting to receive oral and written comments at the Madison City Hall at 615 Madison Avenue in Madison, Illinois on Thursday, February 17th, from 5 to 9 p.m. In addition, written comments will be accepted during the 30-day period following the Remedial Investigation (RI) and FS/PP release by Ms. Sharon R. Cotner, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, FUSRAP Project Office, 9170 Latty Avenue, Berkeley, Missouri 63134. Please call (314) 524–4083 for further information.

4. Availability of the RI/FS/PP

Copies of the RI/FS/PP are available for review starting on or about January 28, 2000 until February 28, 2000 during business hours at the following locations: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, FUSRAP Project Office, 9170 Latty Avenue, Berkeley, Missouri 63134; or the Madison Public Library, 1700 5th Street, Madison, Illinois 62060, (618) 876–8448.

Written comments will be accepted during the 30-day period following FS/PP release at FUSRAP Project Office at the above address. Oral comments may be provided at the Public Meeting on Thursday, February 17th, from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Madison City Hall at 615 Madison Avenue in Madison, Illinois. Please contact the Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, FUSRAP Project Office for more information at (314) 524–4083.

Availability of RI/FS/PP.

Louis A. Dell'Orco,

FUSRAP Project Manager.

[FR Doc. 00–2037 Filed 1–28–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–55–M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Sunshine Act Meeting; Notice of Change in Commission Meeting

January 27, 2000.

Take notice that, pursuant to Section 3(e)(2) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(e)(2), and Section 375.204(a)(3) of the Commission's Regulations 18 CFR 375.204(a)(3), Commission meeting previously scheduled for Wednesday, January 26, 2000, at 10 a.m., Room 2C, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, has been rescheduled for 11 a.m. on Thursday, January 27, 2000, due to the closure of all Federal Government Offices in Washington, DC on January 25 and 26, 2000.

David P. Boergers

Secretary,

[FR Doc. 00–2058 Filed 1–27–00; 11:37 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER–FRL–6250–5]

Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY: Office of Federal Activities, General Information (202) 564–7167 OR www.epa.gov/oeca/ofa. Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements filed January 17, 2000 through January 21, 2000 pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

Due to inclement weather in the Metropolitan Area (DC, MD and VA) the Federal Government was shutdown. The Federal Register (FR) Report which should have appeared in the January 28, 2000 FR was not published. The 45-day comment period and the 30-day wait period are still calculated from January 28, 2000.

EIS No. 200011, FINAL EIS, COE, NY, NJ, New York and New Jersey Harbor Navigation Study, Identify, Screen and Select Navigation Channel Improvements, NY and NJ, Due: February 28, 2000, Contact: Jenine Gallo (212) 264–0912.

EIS No. 200012, DRAFT EIS, FHW, WV, King Coal Highway Project Construction, from the vicinity of Williamson to the vicinity of Bluefield, COE Section 404 Permit, Mingo, McDowell Mercer, and Wyoming Counties, WV, Due: March 31, 2000, Contact: Thomas J. Smith (304) 347–5928.

EIS No. 200013, DRAFT EIS, FHW, MO, US 65 Improvements, from County Road 65–122 South to Route EE Intersection south of Buffalo, COE Section 404 Permit, Dallas County, MO, Due: March 13, 2000, Contact: Don Neumann (573) 636–7104.

EIS No. 200014, FINAL SUPPLEMENT, FTA, PR, Tren Urbano Transit Project, Updated Information for the Minillas Extension, Construction and Operation, San Juan Metropolitan Area, Funding, NPDES Permit, US Coast Guard Permit and COE Section 10 and 404 Permits, PR, Due: February 28, 2000, Contact: Mr. Alex Mc Neil (404) 562–3511.

EIS No. 200015, FINAL EIS, BLM, NM, New Mexico Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management, Implementation, NM, Due: February 28, 2000, Contact: J. W. Whitney (505) 438–7438.

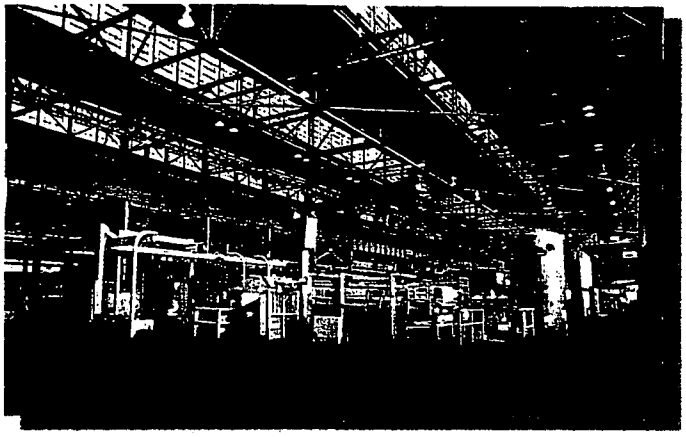
EIS No. 200016, DRAFT EIS, AFS, ID, Whiskey Campo Resource Management Project, Implementation, Elmore County, ID, Due: March 13, 2000, Contact: Dave Rittenhouse (208) 373–4100.

F U S R A P U P D A T E

The St. Louis Sites

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program • Spring 2000

(314) 524-4083 www.mvs.usace.army.mil



The selected remedy addressing uranium-contaminated dust, found on overhead eaves in Buildings 4 and 6, will be identified in the Record of Decision for the Madison Site.

Madison Site

Record of Decision (ROD) Coming Soon

Comments received from the public on the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) are assisting the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in developing a final plan to address the Madison Site.

Four remedial alternatives were developed to address the presence of uranium-contaminated dust on overhead steel beams at the Madison Site. These were presented to the public for review and comment in the Feasibility Study.

The USACE developed remedial alternatives to address uranium-contaminated dust based on detailed site-specific characterization data presented in the Remedial Investigation. The alternatives presented at the public meeting included No Action (for baseline comparison), Institutional Controls, Containment, and Decontamination of Accessible Surfaces. The USACE identified its recommended alternative, Decontamination of Accessible Surfaces, in the Proposed Plan.

The Madison Site RI/FS and Proposed Plan were presented to the public at the Madison City Hall in February. Comments received during the public comment period on these documents are being carefully weighed and considered as the USACE develops the final Record of Decision (ROD), which identifies the approved selected alternative for addressing site contamination.

What's Next?

The USACE will respond to comments received during the public review of the Madison Site RI/FS and Proposed Plan. The approved Madison Site Record of Decision (ROD) is expected in May 2000.

North County

Feasibility Study Nears Release

The USACE has been busy developing a North County Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan (FS/PP) for presentation to the public. These documents will address the presence of low-level, radioactive contamination at the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS), the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS), the SLAPS Vicinity Properties (SLAPS VPs) and Coldwater Creek.

Alternatives for remediating the North County Sites will be described in detail in the Feasibility Study, while the Proposed Plan will identify the recommended alternative to address contamination at the sites.

Over the past several months, the USACE has been carefully reviewing draft documents to ensure they adequately address contamination in the North County area prior to releasing the document to the public for review.

What's Next?

The FS/PP will be presented to the public for review and comment this summer. After the public review, the USACE will consider comments on the FS/PP and select the final remedial alternative, which will be identified in a North County Record of Decision.

Upcoming Events

Information Releases:
Summer Newsletter – July 2000

Upcoming Meetings:
St. Louis Oversight Committee Meeting at the FUSRAP Project Office at 11:30 a.m. on May 12, June 9, and July 14. (The public is welcome to attend.)

US Army Corps of Engineers®
St. Louis District

The first significant removal action at HISS began with the disposal of 5,900 cubic yards of excess soils generated by the construction of the railspur.

Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS)

Pile Removal Underway

The first significant removal action at the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS) is underway. The contractor, a woman-owned small business, mobilized its crew to the site in February.

Removal work began in March with the construction of a haul road alongside the HISS railspur. In the first 20 days, 5,900 cubic yards of excess soil generated last year during the railspur construction was removed from the site. After the excess soils stored between the main and supplementary storage piles were removed, the contractor began to focus on the removal of the Eastern Piles.

The Eastern Piles contain approximately 8,000 cubic yards of material. The Corps is removing these piles under the 1998 Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) for the Latty Avenue/Hazelwood Interim Storage Site.

What's Next?

The USACE is reviewing characterization data and developing designs for the removal of the Supplemental (or Front) Pile immediately behind the Project Offices.

St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS)

Radium Pits Removal Underway

The removal of low-level, radioactive contamination from an area of the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS) commonly referred to as the Radium Pits is underway. In September 1999, the Corps sampled the area to better define geological, chemical and safety issues specific to the Radium Pits.

While historical records indicated that the USACE could reasonably anticipate encountering elevated levels of radium and thorium in the Radium Pits area, data collected from this sampling effort found significantly lower radium levels than expected. The decreased concentrations somewhat eased concerns over exposure to radon, which is a daughter product of the decay of radium. In contrast, sample results found higher levels of thorium than anticipated.

To maintain site safety during this removal action, air monitors are operating continuously in and around the excavated area. Crews regularly spray the area with water to prevent soils from drying and becoming airborne. New fencing and barriers were installed around the perimeter of SLAPS to prevent inadvertent access. Berms and sumps are located around and within the Radium Pits to ensure the water that falls on contaminated soil is collected, sampled and, if necessary, treated prior to release.

Approximately 29,000 cubic yards of contaminated material are scheduled for removal from the Radium Pits to a permitted, out-of-state disposal facility by July 3, 2000.

Keeping in Touch

Mailing Lists - To receive newsletters and other printed communications, sign up for our mailing list anytime.

Phone: (314) 524-4083
Mail: 9170 Latty Avenue
Berkeley, MO 63134
Fax: (314) 524-6044

Public Speaking - If your group, school, or association would like to hear from one of our experts, give us a call. We can speak on a variety of fields, including engineering, the environment, and geology.

Homepage - To reach our site, set your browser to www.mvs.usace.army.mil and click on the FUSRAP icon.

If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments, contact our office anytime.

What's Next?

The USACE hopes to complete the Radium Pits removal action in July 2000. Once the bulk of the excavation is complete, crews can begin surveying the area to verify that it meets the cleanup criteria set forth in the 1998 SLAPS Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA).

East End Removal Complete

Site stabilization work on the SLAPS East End resulted in the removal of approximately 27,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil. Removal work, which began on the East End to create a continuous path of excavation from east to west across the site, concluded in February.

Once radiological surveys confirmed the removal of the contamination, the area was partially backfilled with clean soil. Final backfilling and grading activities will occur after the USACE develops its final site grading plan.

What's Next?

Removal work will continue to move westward across the site from areas of higher to lower elevations in order to stabilize the site and prevent storm-water runoff from transporting contaminated sediments into clean areas.

St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS)

Plant 2 Excavation Complete

The excavation of the Mallinckrodt Plant 2 footprint was concluded in April 2000 with the removal of approximately 10,200 cubic yards of material. Remedial work was delayed temporarily in late August when unexploded Civil War ordnance was discovered during excavation activities.

Ordnance experts developed a plan to address the possibility of encountering more ordnance in Plant 2. The plan enabled the USACE to continue remediation of the site in accordance with the approved St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS) Record of Decision while minimizing safety risks for plant personnel and remedial workers.

Magnetometers, which can detect buried metal objects four feet below the surface of the soil, were used to verify the work area was clear of all metal objects. Once a work area was cleared, excavators removed the top 10- to 15-inches of soil for disposal. Roughly 5,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils were removed this way and resulted in the discovery of additional Civil War ordnance in December and March.

Excavation of Plant 2 concluded in April with the removal of approximately 10,200 cubic yards of material.

What's Next?

The USACE anticipates completing backfill activities in the Plant 2 area in May.

Plant 1 Work Underway

SLDS Plant 1 site preparatory work began in March with the staking of the excavation footprint. Electric, water and sewer lines will be routed away from the area to minimize safety risks to personnel.

Since the Plant 1 remediation area is adjacent to currently operated buildings without the cushioning barrier of a street or walkway, a great deal of care and coordination will be required to protect plant workers. The USACE is working closely with Mallinckrodt personnel to coordinate remedial activities and minimize the impact on daily business operations as much as possible.

Pre-design characterization data indicates that Plant 1 contains approximately 1,500 cubic yards of contaminated material in the main area of excavation. Another 500 cubic yards, divided between an additional eleven nearby areas of elevated radiological activity, will also be remediated.

What's Next?

Sheet piling, which are steel sheets used to reinforce and protect the foundations of nearby buildings during remediation of the Plant 1 area, will be driven into the ground. Once this is complete, the excavation of radiological contamination in Plant 1 will begin.

Am I Protected?

Q. As I pass by your sites, I see workers dressed in moon suits and white garments? Am I protected from the radiation at your site?

A. Radiation presents a hazard if taken into the body. Radioactive particles can be taken into the body through inhalation or ingestion (eating or drinking). Three factors can be used to protect the body from external radiation–distance, time and shielding. Individuals are better protected the farther from the source of radiation, the shorter the time of exposure, or the thicker the shielding.

As you pass by one of the St. Louis Sites, you are protected from its radioactive materials by a variety of protective measures taken by the Corps. First, a fence around contaminated areas reduces the potential for inadvertent entry and distances you from the radiation. Second, water sprayed on the site prevents dust from becoming airborne (or inhaled) as crews excavate contaminated soils. Third, continuously operating air monitors positioned around the excavated area, assess the effectiveness of these protective measures by monitoring the levels of airborne particles present.

Because they may work directly with materials for long periods of time, workers are exposed to the greatest risks posed by FUSRAP contamination. Depending on the levels of radiation and their proximity to the material, workers are dressed in varying degrees of protective clothing. As you pass by one of the FUSRAP sites, you will see workers dressed in varying levels of protective gear.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - St. Louis District
FUSRAP Project Office
9170 Latty Avenue
Berkeley, Missouri 63134

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US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Louis District

USACE Announces the Availability of the Proposed Plan for the Madison Site

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), St. Louis District, is announcing the availability of the Remedial Investigation, Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan for the cleanup of the Madison Site located in Madison, Illinois for public comment.

The Madison Site, which consists of uranium contaminated dust found on overhead steel beams inside two buildings owned by a component manufacturer, became contaminated as a result of activities supporting the nation's early atomic energy program. During the late 1950s and early 1960s, the site was used to perform extrusions of uranium metal and straightening of extruded uranium rods for the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). The Corps of Engineers is managing the cleanup of this site under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP).

The alternatives for addressing contamination at this site, which are evaluated in the Feasibility Study, are summarized in the Proposed Plan. Abbreviated, partial descriptions of the alternatives are as follows:

Alternative 1 - No Action
Mandated by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), periodic environmental monitoring would be conducted, but no remedial action would be conducted.

Alternative 2 - Institutional Controls
Institutional controls would be implemented to prevent unacceptable exposures to site contamination.

Alternative 3 - Containment
Alternative 3 incorporates containment, institutional controls, and environmental monitoring to reduce further spread of contaminants and reduce the potential for direct exposure. Under this alternative, accessible contamination at the 25-foot and 36-foot levels and the beams in the high bay that are accessible from the windows would be fixed in place.

Alternative 4 - Decontamination of Accessible Surfaces and Release of Building
Alternative 4 includes decontamination of accessible contamination at the 25-foot and 36-foot levels and the beams in the high bay that are accessible from the windows. Inaccessible areas are defined as those surfaces that can not be accessed either from the high-bay crane or through windows. Inaccessible areas include the high bay areas above the 36-foot level and select other areas around live power lines.

The Corps of Engineers identifies Alternative 4 as the preferred alternative in the Proposed Plan. Copies of this document and the site's Administrative Record are available during regular business hours at the following locations:

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District
FUSRAP Project Office
9170 Latty Avenue, Berkeley, Missouri 63134
(314) 524-4083

Madison Public Library
1700 5th Street
Madison, Illinois 62060
(618) 876-8448

Written comments will be accepted during the 30-day period following FS/PP release at FUSRAP Project Office at the above address. Oral comments may be provided at the Public Meeting on Thursday, February 17th, from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Madison City Hall at 615 Madison Avenue in Madison, Illinois. Please contact the Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, FUSRAP Project Office for more information.

Source: St. Louis American Date of Publication: Feb 3-9, 2000 Page: 1 of 1

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Posted: Thursday, February 3, 2000 | 5:25 a.m.
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Federal engineers will hold public hearing on radioactive dust removal

By Heather Ratcliffe
Of The Post-Dispatch

MADISON - At a public hearing this month, federal engineers will present a plan to remove radioactive dust from a manufacturing warehouse here.

The dust is on roof beams in a building now owned by Spectrulite Consortium Inc., a manufacturing company that casts and shapes metal products.

Dow Metal Products used the building, located at College and Weaver streets, during the late 1950s and early 1960s as part of the nation's atomic energy program.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is administering the cleanup project under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program. The corps took over the program from the U.S. Department of Energy in 1997.

The dust is not a risk to employees who work about 30 feet below the exposed rafters, said Lou Dell'Orco, project manager for the corps. Someone would have to eat about 250 pounds of the contaminated material to create a health risk, he said.

"The material is not mobile because it's caked on the rafters," he said. "Only a utility worker who was on the rafters for a long period of time would be at risk."

Craig Rathgeb, environmental engineer for Spectrulite, said the company met with the workers several times to discuss the health risks and the corps' plans.

"I think they are taking it well," Rathgeb said. "They are concerned, and would like to have the stuff cleaned up. But they understand the situation."

Spectrulite took over the building in 1986 but didn't discover the contamination until several years later, Rathgeb said.

The company will have to stop production for as much as two weeks during the cleaning.

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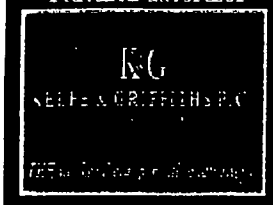

Corps representatives will be on hand to answer individual questions and will formally present plans for the cleanup at a public meeting Feb. 17. The formal presentation begins at 7:30 p.m.

"The meeting is open to anyone," Dell'Orco said. "But I would think the primary people who should attend are the workers at Spectrulite.

The corps proposed four options in the matter. They range from doing nothing to removing the contamination.

The most likely plan will include removing the materials from accessible beams at the 25- to 36-foot levels. The project will cost about $50,000.

The corps is cleaning four other sites in St. Louis as part of this project. Remediation has begun at an operating facility for Mallinckrodt Inc. in downtown St. Louis where the company processed uranium ore to make an atomic bomb in the 1940s and 1950s.

Materials from that process were taken to two sites for storage - at McDonnell Boulevard and Banshee Road near Lambert Field and at 9170 Latty Avenue in Berkeley. The corps will also clean up a three-mile route between these two sites where about 78 pieces of property were contaminated when material blew out of open trucks during transport in 1966, Dell'Orco said.

The corps will finalize clean-up plans for the Madison site this spring. Then remediation will begin, he said.

=====

Public hearingTopic: Cleanup of radioactive dust in Madison

Date: Feb. 17

Time: 5-9 p.m.

Where: Madison City Hall, 615 Madison Avenue

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US Army Corps of Engineers
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FY 2001 Budget *(cont. from p. 19)*

ment that will provide the agency with $10 million. Funds from W.R. Grace Corporation will cover the cost of cleaning up the Wayne Superfund Site in Wayne, N.J., next year, Westphal said.

Beach Policy Will Be Reviewed

Shore protection projects fared about as well as expected with the FY 2001 budget requesting funding for 18 projects totaling $52 million. The administration proposed one beach nourishment project as a new start — Assateague Island, Md. That request is not likely to satisfy advocates of coastal protection, however, because the site is on National Park Service land and does not contain residential or commercial development.

Coastal states agreed last year to let Congress raise the local cost share for periodic nourishment of new projects from 35 percent to 50 percent, but the change, apparently, did not convince the administration to propose any new, traditional shore protection projects. The administration wanted to raise the local cost share up to 65 percent.

The budget contains a national shoreline study, to be funded at $300,000, that is intended to reconcile philosophical differences between the administration and Congress, Westphal said.

The FY 2001 budget proposal would fund 12 new construction starts. The following projects, totaling $31.3 million, are requested:

Environmental Restoration

Hillsboro and Okeechobee Aquifer, Fla. ($4.6 million)
Rio Salado, Phoenix and Tempe, Ariz. ($2 million)

Flood Control

American River – Folsom Dam Modification, Calif. ($5 million)
Ohio River Greenway Public Access, Ind. ($1.5 million)
Rio Grande De Loiza, Puerto Rico ($743,000)
Rio Nigua at Salinas, Puerto Rico ($198,000)

Major Rehabilitation

Ozark Powerhouse, Ark. ($1.2 million)
Lock and Dam 11, Mississippi River, Iowa ($3.2 million)

Navigation

Baltimore Harbor Anchorages & Channels, Md. and Va. ($5 million)
Arthur Kill Channel, Howland Hook Marine Terminal, N.Y. and N.J. ($5 million)

Shore Protection

Assateague Island, Md. ($2.5 million)

Deficiency Correction

Oates Creek, Richmond County, Ga. ($332,000)

Some of the largest projects included in the new budget are deepenings and maintenance dredging at deep draft harbors: Houston-Galveston Navigation Channels, Texas ($61.6 million); Kill Van Kull and Newark Bay Channel, N.J. and N.Y. ($53 million); Delaware River Channels, Del., N.J. and Pa. ($49.4 million); and Wilmington Harbor, N.C. ($49.0 million).

Other large projects include: Mississippi River navigation project, Ill., Minn. and Mo. ($117 million); Mississippi River navigation project, La. ($75.4 million); and the Southeast Louisiana flood control project, La. ($47.3 million). Contact Homer Perkins, Corps, (202) 761-1807.

District News

St. Louis District Proposes Cleaning Uranium Dust from FUSRAP Site

The St. Louis District said last month that decontaminating a Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) site located at an active manufacturing plant in Madison, Ill., would be the most cost-effective option for dealing with the uranium contamination.

The work, estimated to cost $250,000, could start sometime after May if the agency sticks with its proposed plan, Lou Dell'Orco, FUSRAP project manager for the St. Louis District, told *TCR*. IT Corp. would perform the remediation under its Total Environmental Restoration Contract, he added.

The Madison site, formerly owned by Dow Chemical Company, was used for uranium extrusion and rod-straightening in support of the Atomic Energy Commission during the late 1950s and early 1960s. Now the factory makes metal components, including aircraft parts.

Portions of two buildings at the plant's facilities contain uranium dust on trusses and high-beams at the 25-foot and 36-foot levels. The level of contamination on those overhead surfaces exceeds the Comprehensive Environmental Response,

(Continued)

Madison FUSRAP Site *(Cont.)*

Compensation, and Liability Act risk level for a utility worker, Dell'Orco said.

The decontamination option was proposed in a combined remedial investigation/feasibility study/ proposed plan released Jan. 28 by the district. The benefit of that option is that it would free the government from future liability and allow unrestricted use of the buildings, Dell'Orco said. Other options, including containing the contamination and preventing worker exposure to the overhead areas, also were considered.

'Hot Spot' Removal at Airport Site

The district will hold a public meeting later this month and accept written comments through Feb. 28. At that time, the agency will incorporate the responses and prepare a record of decision. The Corps plans on completing that document in May, Dell'Orco said.

Meanwhile, the district will start removing radium pits — a "hot spot" — from the St. Louis Airport FUSRAP site in March. Sometime this spring, the agency will release its feasibility study/proposed plan for the St. Louis Airport, Vicinity Properties and Latty Avenue sites, Dell'Orco said. The district's other FUSRAP site, St. Louis Downtown, already has a record of decision.

Contact Lou Dell'Orco, St. Louis District, (314) 524-6857.

Contract Opportunities

Louisville District Offers $25M+ To Build Cofferdam for McAlpine Lock

The Corps plans to issue a request for proposals **Feb. 14** to construct a cofferdam for the McAlpine Lock Replacement project on the Ohio River at Louisville, Ky.

The Louisville District estimates the cost of the cellular sheet pile structure will range between $25 million and $100 million. The contractor will dewater the cofferdam, excavate rock and demolish portions of existing concrete lock guidewalls. Demolition also will include removing miter gates, culvert valves, machinery and concrete paving.

Proposals for Sol. DACW27-00-R-0013 are due **March 30**. To obtain a free copy of the solicitation on CD-ROM, register at http://www.lrl.usace.army.mil/ebs (click on "Construction/Environmental Solicitations").

Contact Debra Bruner, contract specialist, (502) 582-5926; technical questions can be faxed to Larry Dalton at (502) 582-5108.

Corps Needs Firm to Build $5M-$10M Concrete Culvert in U.S. Virgin Islands

The Jacksonville District is looking for a contractor to build 1,560 linear feet of a reinforced cast-in-place concrete culvert for the Savan Gut Improvements project at Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

The district will issue an invitation for bids for the **unrestricted** procurement around **Feb. 17**. The magnitude of construction is between $5 million and $10 million. The firm will relocate and replace existing utilities; and regrade and pave roads intersecting the project.

Bids for Sol. DACW17-00-B-0013 are due **April 5**. To order plans, send a $50 check payable to "FAO USAED Jacksonville" to USACE, Jacksonville District, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019. Firms also should register on the Internet at http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/ (click on "Business Opportunities").

Contact Griselle Gonzalez, contract specialist, (904) 232-3972.

Galveston Dist. Advertises Over $25M Of Dredging at Houston Ship Channel

The Corps is looking for a contractor to complete maintenance and new work dredging at the Houston-Galveston Navigation Channels, Texas.

The firm will deepen the channel from 40 feet to 45 feet. The job, valued at between $25 million and $100 million, includes earthwork, building an embankment, installing geotextile material, placing stone and constructing drop-outlet structures.

Bids for Sol. DACW64-00-B-0012 are due **March 16**. To request a copy of the plans on CD-ROM, send a fax to (409) 766-3010 or e-mail to lucille.r.smith@usace.army.mil.

Contact Lucille Smith, contract specialist, (409) 766-3845.

(Continued)

Corps details uranium site cleanup plan

By Cheryl Cadue
Belleville News-Democrat

MADISON — The removal of radioactive dust from the roof beams of Spectrulite Consortium buildings may begin this summer.

But the cleanup will not be soon enough or large enough for some.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which is in charge of the $250,000 cleanup, outlined cleanup plans at a public meeting at Madison City Hall on Thursday night.

The dust is left over from uranium extrusion work done at the site as part of the country's atomic energy program in the 1950s and '60s.

Sharon Cotner, corps project manager, assured the 15 people in attendance that the dust is not immediately putting anyone at risk, including Spectrulite Consortium employees who work in the two contaminated buildings.

Cotner said the risk is low because of the dust's location on high roof beams, except in the worst case scenario for utility workers, who changed light bulbs or did other work near the beams for 25 years.

Eugene Bell Jr., a utility worker at Spectrulite for 28 years, said the corps knew about the dust but failed to notify him or the public of the dangers.

"As far as safety equipment, the only things we had was a pair of gloves and wrenches," he said.

The building once housed Dow Chemical Co., a division of Dow Metal Products, which performed extrusions of uranium metal and straightened uranium rods for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

'As far as safety equipment, the only things we had was a pair of gloves and wrenches.'

Eugene Bell Jr.,
Spectrulite utility worker

Glenda Taylor said her father worked in the buildings and died three years ago from a type of leukemia that was likely caused by exposure to radioactive materials.

Taylor said the corps needs to expand its cleanup to include the entire site where she said uranium and possibly thorium may have contaminated the ground.

Cotner said the corps mandate for the cleanup was only for contamination created by the atomic energy program, which is only the dust in the Madison case.

"We can't go to a community and clean up everything that is there," she said.

The site was cleaned but stricter federal guidelines forced the corps to re-examine sites and decide in 1992 to remove the trace amounts of radioactive materials from the Madison site.

It is part of the corps' Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

The radioactive dust, which will remain radioactive for thousands of years, is located on beams 25 to 36 feet high.

The two buildings are located at College and Weaver streets.

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St. Louis District

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The Administrative Record contains information used to make the final decision on how to clean up the site. USACE seeks to inform the public of the availability of the Administrative Record for the Madison Site, which contains the information on which the selected response action is based. The public is welcome to view the complete Administrative Record at the following locations during normal business hours:

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St. Louis District, FUSRAP Project Office
9170 Latty Avenue, Berkeley, Missouri 63134

Madison Public Library
1700 5th Street
Madison, Illinois 62060

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