

# The St. Louis Sites

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program • Spring 2003

(314) 260-3905

www.mvs.usace.army.mil

## ST. LOUIS SITES

### 5-Year Review Initiated

A 5-year review of radiological cleanup actions is underway for local sites that are being addressed by the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP).

FUSRAP activities follow the guidelines established by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), more commonly known as Superfund.

Superfund establishes the process to identify, investigate, and clean up hazardous waste sites. It requires a review at least every five years following the selection of a final site remedy. The purpose of the review is to determine whether the cleanup continues to be protective of human health and the environment.

The five-year review will assess cleanups underway at the St. Louis Downtown Site in northern St. Louis City, and the North County Site in St. Louis County. The North County Site includes: the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS), the SLAPS Vicinity Properties, the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site/Latty Avenue Vicinity Properties, and the Futura Coatings Property.

The cleanups at these sites consist of excavating radioactively contaminated soils. The soils are then



*A five-year review will assess cleanup underway at the St. Louis Sites. Workers here take soil samples to monitor conditions as cleanup progresses.*

loaded into rail cars, covered and shipped to an out-of-state licensed facility for disposal.


A team will inspect each site. The team will be led by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and will include representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. The team will document the conditions of the sites and the surrounding area.

As part of the review process, members of the community will be contacted for their views about the cleanup. Their responses will help the team to better understand the impacts of the work on the local community.

The results of the five-year review will be made available to the public in the *Five-Year Review Report for the St. Louis FUSRAP Sites*. Any problems found at the sites and recommendations to address them will also be documented in the report.

For more information or to participate in the review, please visit our web site at [www.mvs.usace.army.mil/engr/fusrap/home2.htm](http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/engr/fusrap/home2.htm) or call (314) 260-3905.

### What's Next?

Site inspections and interviews will continue until the end of May. In August, the community will be notified of the availability of the Five-Year Review Report and comments on the review will be accepted for 30 days following the release of the document. 

## Upcoming Events

### Information Releases:

**Summer Newsletter - July 2003**

**Draft Five Year Review Report - August 2003**

### Upcoming Meetings (Please come if you are available!):

**St. Louis North County Site Feasibility Study/  
Proposed Plan Public Meeting at the Hazelwood  
Civic Center - East at 6:00 p.m. on May 29, 2003.**

**St. Louis Oversight Committee Meetings at the  
FUSRAP Project Office at 11:30 a.m. on May 9,  
June 13, and July 11.**



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## ST. LOUIS DOWNTOWN SITE

### VP Cleanup Complete

The cleanup and restoration of the first privately-owned vicinity property owned by Midwest Waste and identified as DT-7, was completed in February 2003. Cleanup efforts began under the 1998 St. Louis Downtown Site Record of Decision in Fall 2001. Work progressed slowly as small crews diligently identified and removed numerous small pockets of contamination scattered throughout the property.

In 1942, when work under the Manhattan Project began, the elevation of the property was much lower than its present day level. Efforts to raise the property above the floodplain altered the elevation of the property 4 to 5 feet above its 1942 surface elevation. Subsequent rainfall pooled surface contamination in low-lying areas on the property creating the small pockets of contamination that were subsequently covered during the intervening years.

Sampling has verified that above-criteria radiological contamination was successfully removed from the property. Approximately 4,800 cubic yards of contaminated soils were excavated from the property, which is located at the foot of Angelrodt Street.

### Plant 6EH Approaches Completion

The remediation of Plant 6 East and East Half is almost complete. Nearly 23,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and debris have been removed from the 4.5-acre area since December 2000.

Cleanup of the area was complicated by the discovery of unmapped sewer lines, the difficulty in accessing contamination located near active utility lines, and “capped” contamination covered by the former building foundations. During the Manhattan Project, Plant 6 East Half was the home of former Buildings 102, 112, 115, 116, and 117. Over the years, these buildings were demolished to accommodate ongoing business operations at Mallinckrodt, but their foundations remained.

Crews removed the foundations. The cleanup of impacted soils from beneath these foundations will signal the completed remediation of accessible soils in the Plant 6 East and East Half area. Once remediation is complete, restoration activities can begin.



*Nearly 23,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and debris have been removed from the 4.5-acre Plant 6 East Half since December 2000.*

### What's Next?

Crews will restore Plant 6 East and East Half to its original condition and prepare to begin remedial activities in Plant 7 East, the next area requiring cleanup. ■

## NORTH COUNTY

### FS and PP Available for Public Review

The St. Louis North County Feasibility Study (FS) and the Proposed Plan (PP) are available for public review from May 1, 2003 through May 30, 2003. The FS and PP address the remediation of contamination related to the storage of wastes at the North County Site. The site includes the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS), the Latty Avenue Properties including the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS), the Futura Coatings Property, the SLAPS Vicinity Properties, and Coldwater Creek.

The FS describes six remediation alternatives under consideration to reduce the impact of contaminants resulting from previous uranium manufacturing and processing activities. The PP summarizes the alternatives and provides the rationale for the USACE's preferred alternative.

The alternatives, which identify a range of potential final site remedies from no action to complete excavation, are all under consideration. However, the USACE has identified Alternative 5, Excavation with Institutional Controls Under Roads, Bridges, Railroads and Other Permanent Structures, as the preferred alternative based on the information available at this time. Under this alternative, USACE would excavate all accessible soils

from all locations and place institutional controls, such as land use and zoning restrictions, to control soils beneath roads, bridges, railroads, and other permanent structures.

The public is encouraged to review and comment on all alternatives described in the FS and PP. The preferred alternative can change in response to public comment or to new information. Comments on the proposed remedial action at the North County Site will be accepted for 30 days following the release of the documents. Unless a request to extend the comment period is received, all comments must be received before June 1st. Interested participants should call the main office or check the website.

On May 29, 2003, a public meeting will be held at the Hazelwood Civic Center East, beginning at 6 p.m. with a poster session and technical staff available to answer questions. At 7 p.m., the USACE will briefly identify the alternatives then request verbal comments from the public. Speaker's comments about the alternatives will be recorded, and written comments may be submitted at that time or mailed to the address given in the "Keeping in Touch" box on this page. ■

## ST. LOUIS AIRPORT SITE (SLAPS)

### Removal Actions Still Going

Crews have also been very busy cleaning up the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS) over the past several months. Under the 1998 Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA), two more areas have been completed, one more is approaching completion, and yet another has begun.

The final section of the Radium Pits, identified as Survey Unit 21, was cleaned up in November 2002. Survey Unit 21 served as a temporary sump during the removal of contamination from adjacent areas. The removal of approximately 10,000 cubic yards resulted in the cleanup completion of the Radium Pits.

The USACE was also able to complete the cleanup of contaminated material from the remainder of the East End Extension in April 2003. Successful coordination with St. Louis County's Department of Highways and Traffic allowed the USACE to remove contaminated soil from the southern shoulder of McDonnell Boulevard and drainage ditch. Approximately 11,731 cubic yards of contaminated materials were excavated from the shoulder and shipped to an out-of-state disposal facility.

## Keeping in Touch

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

**Phone:** (314) 260-3905

**Mail:** 8945 Latty Avenue  
Berkeley, MO 63134

**Fax:** (314) 260-3941

**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](http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil) and select District Projects.

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

Crews are nearly finished with the cleanup of the central portion of SLAPS, referred to as the Phase 1 region. Completion of the area was delayed to allow crews to complete the cleanup of the McDonnell Boulevard shoulder and drainage ditch adjacent to the Radium Pits before spring rains seriously impacted the work. Removal efforts are back underway with an anticipated completion date of May 2003. Approximately 97,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils have been removed since December 2001.

The USACE began the remediation of Phases 2 and 3, located in the northwest and north central portion of the site in early December 2002. Over 10,000 cubic yards of material of an expected 75,000 cubic yards, has been remediated to date.

### What's Next?

USACE will continue the cleanup of Phases 2 and 3. ■



Workers finished the McDonnell Boulevard drainage ditch before spring rains impacted work.

## North County Public Review Period


The North County Feasibility Study (FS) and Proposed Plan (PP) are available for public review and comment now through May 30th! Public comments on cleanup alternatives presented in these documents will aid in the selection of the final remedy for the North County Site. Copies of the FS and PP have been placed with the site Administrative Record File and may be reviewed during normal business hours at the following locations:

**St. Louis District, Corps of Engineers**  
FUSRAP Project Office  
8945 Latty Avenue, Berkeley, MO

**St. Louis Public Library**  
Government Information Section  
1302 Olive Street, St. Louis, MO

Additional copies of the FS and PP only are also available for review at select St. Louis City and County Libraries during normal business hours. These libraries include:

- Julia Davis Branch at 4415 Natural Bridge Road in St. Louis, MO
- Prairie Commons Branch at 915 Utz Lane in Hazelwood, MO
- St. Louis County Library Headquarters at 1640 S. Lindbergh Boulevard in St. Louis, MO
- Washington University - Earth & Planetary Sciences Library at One Brookings Drive in St. Louis, MO

Electronic copies of these documents are also available at: [www.mvs.usace.army.mil/engr/fusrap/home2.htm](http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/engr/fusrap/home2.htm). All comments are due to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, FUSRAP Project Office at 8945 Latty Avenue in Berkeley, Missouri by June 1st. 

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - St. Louis District  
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