

The St. Louis Sites

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program • Spring 2004

(314) 260-3905

www.mvs.usace.army.mil

North St. Louis County Sites

Record of Decision (ROD) Processing

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), St. Louis District is preparing the Record of Decision (ROD) for the North St. Louis County Sites. These sites include the Latty Avenue/Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS), the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS), the SLAPS Vicinity Properties (VPs) and Coldwater Creek.

On May 1, 2003, the USACE issued the North St. Louis County Sites Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan (FS/PP) for public comment. The documents present a range of potential alternatives to address contamination at the sites related to the Manhattan Engineer District / Atomic Energy Commission's (MED/AEC) activities. The USACE also prepared a plan for addressing North County structures that have been impacted by MED/AEC operations. When finalized, the plan will provide derived concentration guideline level (DCGL) values to be used during the evaluation, clean-up and release of structures. The DCGL values will ensure compliance with all applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs) as established in the FS/PP. In response to public request, the comment period was extended through July 14, 2003.

Private citizens, property owners, public interest groups, and local, state, and federal officials attended the public meeting at the Hazelwood Civic Center – East on May 29, 2003. A transcript of the meeting, which includes oral comments submitted, may be obtained from the St. Louis FUSRAP website.

Oral and written comments submitted on the alternatives during the comment period and at the public meeting are being used to assist with the selection of the final



Excavation activities have begun in Phase 4 and 5 on the western border of SLAPS.

remedy for the sites, which will be identified in the final ROD. Responses to comments submitted on the FS/PP will be published in the Responsiveness Summary. The Responsiveness Summary is an appendix to the ROD.

Due to the complexity of the comments received, development of the final approved ROD will require more time than originally anticipated. The ROD is expected to be finalized in the summer of 2004.

The USACE completed its first internal review of the ROD in February 2004. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) have begun reviewing the document.

What's Next?

The USACE will work with the USEPA and MDNR to resolve comments regarding the draft ROD. Upon successful resolution of the comments, the document will be finalized and signed by the USACE and USEPA.

St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS)

Removal Action Continues

Excavation activities at the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS) Phases 2 & 3, near the west central portion of the site, have geared down for a while. Two temporary water storage basins have been constructed in this area and will remain there for two more construction seasons. Approximately 83,500 cubic yards of contaminated materials from this area

Upcoming Events

Information Releases:

Summer Newsletter - August 2004

Draft Five-Year Review Report - June 2004

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

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



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
St. Louis District

have been removed and shipped for disposal at an out-of-state permitted and licensed disposal facility.

Work is now focused mainly in SLAPS Phases 4 & 5 (the western border of the site) adjacent to Coldwater Creek between Banshee Road and McDonnell Boulevard. A 220 foot long sheet-pile wall has been installed along the shoulder of McDonnell Boulevard in order to protect the road surface during excavation. The removal along the sheet-pile wall is complete and confirmation is underway. Other areas along McDonnell Boulevard are currently being backfilled to original grade. Also, high-voltage electrical lines along the Coldwater Creek border are in the process of being relocated by AmerenUE to allow the safe excavation of the area.

The USACE negotiated agreements with AmerenUE and Norfolk Southern Railroad to facilitate continuing removal activities. Similar discussions were also held with adjoining property owners (GKN Aerospace Sciences, Inc. and the Metropolitan Sewer District) to minimize disruptions to on-going business activities at neighboring properties.

In December 2003, work was initiated to remove contamination from Phase 6 in the southwest corner of SLAPS where one of the utility poles to remain on the site would be placed. During sampling efforts to verify the area met cleanup goals, a record rainfall event on January 4th caused Coldwater Creek to overflow the protective berm separating the excavation from the creek.

After creek levels returned to normal, some water remained in the excavation trapped behind the berm. Although potentially contaminated portions of the area were covered with weighted tarps, water remaining in the excavation was held onsite and tested. The results of the test showed that there was no hazard to human health or the environment. After the last of the water was pumped from the excavation, the verification sampling was completed and the area was backfilled.

Coldwater Creek Removal Scheduled

Excavation and drainage improvements in Coldwater Creek are currently scheduled to begin in August 2004 as part of the SLAPS Phase 4 & 5 construction activities. August is the start of the next historically low flow period for Coldwater Creek. The Coldwater Creek work is to last approximately twenty days.

Crews will operate seven days a week in two shifts. Work plans include precautions to decrease the potential for contamination to migrate from the excavations. The creek will be diverted between Banshee Road and McDonnell

Boulevard using large pumps to minimize water levels in the excavation.

The work will be performed in segments. The area of the creek that is excavated during the first shift will be backfilled on the second shift of the same day. Should there be rain in the forecast, no excavation will occur in the creek. Creek excavation would resume once the creek has receded to normal levels.

What's Next?

Removal activities in Phases 4 & 5 will continue. Coldwater Creek restoration and removal action is scheduled to begin in August 2004.

St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS)

Mallinckrodt Remediation Progresses

Two more plants have been returned to Mallinckrodt as a result of successful cleanup efforts at the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS). Remediation and site restoration work at Mallinckrodt Plants 6 East/East Half and 7 East are complete. The USACE excavated approximately 24,230 cubic yards of contaminated material from Plant 6E/EH. Another 2,028 cubic yards of material were excavated from Plant 7E.

Remediation and disposal activities were accomplished in accordance with the 1998 Record of Decision (ROD for SLDS). Now that the cleanup of these two areas has been completed, work has begun on preparing a Post Remedial Action Report (PRAR) for each plant. The PRAR will document the current (post remedial) radiological conditions of the plant. The PRAR will also document how those



Collecting PDI samples from test pits allows sampling crews to better investigate any geological features of interest.

conditions meet the cleanup criteria established in the ROD for the St. Louis Downtown Site.

The USACE will combine the PRAR for Plants 6 East/ East Half and Plant 6 West (6W) and issue the combined document after remediation of Plant 6W is completed. Similarly, the PRAR for Plant 7 East will be combined with the Plant 7 North/South document and issued after remediation of Plant 7 North/South is completed.

Vicinity Property Cleanups Progress

In October 2003, USACE successfully completed remedial activities at Heintz Steel (also identified as DT-6). In accordance with the 1998 Record of Decision (ROD) for SLDS, 1,790 cubic yards of material were excavated and shipped to an out-of-state licensed/permitted disposal facility. Site restoration activities were completed in November 2003.

For efficiency reasons, the Post Remedial Action Report (PRAR) for this property will be combined with the PRAR for the adjacent property to the east, Midwest Waste Vicinity Property (DT-7), which was remediated in 2002. A draft copy will be provided for regulator review in June 2004.

McKinley Bridge Status

The USACE supported plans to replace the McKinley Bridge. In 2002, the USACE was notified of pending plans to replace the structure. To minimize impacts of contamination on the proposed construction project, the property was investigated and a design developed for the removal of the contaminated soils.

Remediation of the McKinley Bridge / City of Venice property (also identified as DT-11) began in November 2003. Approximately 2,590 cubic yards of contaminated soil and debris were excavated and shipped to an out-of-



Drill crew collecting soil samples on the City of Venice, Illinois Vicinity Property DT-11 south of the McKinley Bridge to delineate the extent of contamination.

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 and select District Projects.

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

state licensed/permitted disposal facility. Site restoration activities were substantially completed in January 2004.

What's Next?

The USACE will complete the post remedial action reports for Heintz Steel, Midwest Waste, McKinley Bridge / City of Venice and Mallinckrodt Plants 6/6E, and 7E. Investigation and design for Thomas and Proetz (DT-10), Gunther Salt (DT-4) and Mallinckrodt Plants 6W and 7N/S properties will continue.

Five-Year Review Report

In 2003, the USACE initiated a review of cleanup actions underway at the St. Louis FUSRAP sites to ensure that the selected response actions being implemented continue to be protective of human health and the environment. A team, consisting of representatives of the USACE, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), inspected each site. The team also interviewed members of the local community to better understand the impacts of the work on the surrounding area.

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

What's Next?

The USACE anticipates releasing the report in June 2004. Interested parties may view this document on-line at: <http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/engr/fusrap/home2.htm>.

What does it take to design the cleanup of a property?

A property cleanup typically consists of removing contaminated soil, placing it in a railcar and shipping it for disposal at an out-of-state and licensed/permitted facility, verifying that cleanup criteria have been met and restoring the property to its original condition using clean off-site borrow material. This process appears relatively simple but before the removal begins, a design must be completed. So, what does it take to design the cleanup of a property? The following is a listing of some of the steps of our design process:

- **Collect property development historical information** – this provides insight to the various activities that have shaped the character of the site. It discloses material facts about the site, which impact construction methods, equipment, costs, and schedule.
- **Review archival documents** – provides a preliminary assessment of property features to be considered, e.g. ownerships, utilities, and historical land uses.
- **Interview property owners** – gives a verbal recounting of events that affect a site and often reveals latent defects, anomalies, and special considerations peculiar to the property as well as current activities, uses, and coordination efforts required.
- **Perform radiological walkover surveys** – gives a cursory overview and provides decision makers an opportunity to develop a basis for further, more in-depth investigation of a site and the ability to generally assess the magnitude of potentially hazardous conditions.
- **Collect & analyze soil samples** – provides an analysis of the nature and concentration of the specific contaminants of concern.
- **Coordination of design features with current property use** – allows the construction sequence and progress to proceed with minimal disruption to on-going business activities and in a cooperative spirit for the mutual benefit of all stakeholders involved in the process.

Produce design document (including regulatory/property owner reviews) – maintains a living record for posterity of actions taken and rationale used in site development.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - St. Louis District
 FUSRAP Project Office
 8945 Latty Avenue
 Berkeley, Missouri 63134



This newsletter is printed on recyclable paper