

The St. Louis Sites

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program • Summer 2010

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www.mvs.usace.army.mil

North St. Louis County

Latty Avenue Properties

Currently, Remedial Actions (RA) are focused on two adjacent properties – the Vicinity Property (VP)-02(L) and the Futura part of the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS)/Futura property located on the west end of Latty Avenue.

An RA was initiated in December 2009 at the VP-02(L) property. To date, approximately 15,294 cubic yards (cys) of contaminated soil have been removed from the site and shipped to an out-of-state licensed disposal facility. This portion of the RA is scheduled for completion by August 2010. In addition, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the property owner are working together to assess the inside and the outside of the on-site building for possible radiological contamination.

At the Futura property, over 27,700 cys of Manhattan Engineer District/Atomic Energy Commission (MED/AEC) contaminated soil have been removed from the Futura portion of the site and shipped to an out-of-state licensed disposal facility. An estimated 6,200 bank cubic yards (bcys) remain to be removed. (See “Educational Information” on page 4 for an explanation of “bank” versus “shipped” volumes.) The property owner is currently working with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to remove several underground storage tanks. Once this is accomplished, the USACE will remediate all MED/AEC contamination under the tanks. This remaining remediation work should be complete by the fall of 2010. Contamination under the Futura buildings is considered inaccessible, and institutional controls will be established to minimize any health risks.



Restoration of VP-54 along Pershall Road

At the HISS property, over 33,600 cys of contaminated soil have been removed and shipped to an out-of-state licensed disposal facility. An additional 21,000 bcys remain to be removed. Most of the remaining contamination is located under the HISS railspur and will be removed at a future date.

St. Louis Airport Site Vicinity Properties

In February 2010, an RA was started using funds furnished by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Five properties are targeted for remediation under this RA. Most of the work is on road rights-of-way adjacent to Pershall Road and McDonnell Boulevard. To date, work has been completed at VP-63 (the old Ford Automobile Plant) off Lindbergh Boulevard, and remediation has been completed at three properties along Pershall Road (VPs-53, 54, and 55) and at VPs 3, 4, 5, and 6 off of McDonnell Boulevard. The last ARRA property to be remediated is VP-12, a property located on the northwest side of McDonnell Boulevard across from the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS). An estimated 706 bcys will be removed from VP-12. To date, approximately 864 cys of contaminated soil have been removed from the ARRA properties and shipped to an out-of-state licensed disposal facility. Final restoration of the ARRA properties is expected to be completed by the end of the summer.

Upcoming Events

Information Releases: [Winter Newsletter - January 2011](#)
This newsletter is issued twice a year (January and July).

Upcoming Meeting: [The next St. Louis Oversight Meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2010 at noon at the Sunset Park Lodge in Florissant. There will be an optional tour of the Lodge at the end of the FUSRAP meeting for interested participants.](#)



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Work on McDonnell Boulevard

Stay alert this summer and fall when travelling McDonnell Boulevard.

Starting in July, the USACE will be remediating the rights-of-way along McDonnell Boulevard between Banshee Road and Genaire Drive. An estimated 310 bcys of contaminated soil and gravel will be removed from the rights-of-way on both sides of this stretch of road.

The USACE will also be sampling under the surface of McDonnell Boulevard. The results of the sampling activities will identify and evaluate areas of possible radiological contamination under the road. Sampling will be conducted on McDonnell Boulevard from North Lindbergh Boulevard to just north of the intersection with Genaire Drive. To minimize traffic disruption, the majority of this work will be done on weekends. However, drivers need to be alert and anticipate lane closures and traffic delays whenever work is in progress.

The USACE is working with the St. Louis County Department of Highways and Traffic to safely execute these activities.

When driving McDonnell Boulevard, please stay alert and slow down to protect yourself and the workers conducting these activities.

Coldwater Creek

The section of Coldwater Creek (CWC) that pertains to the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) begins south of McDonnell Boulevard adjacent to the SLAPS and continues in a northeasterly direction through Hazelwood, Florissant, unincorporated St. Louis County, and the northern edge of Blackjack before discharging into the Missouri River. CWC, which forms the western boundary of the SLAPS, was contaminated when radioactive residues migrated from the SLAPS during significant rainfall events, primarily as storm water runoff. Prior to the installation of the gabion wall that stabilized the bank, bank erosion on the western end of the SLAPS also contributed to the contamination of the creek. Since the 1980s, the U.S. Department of Energy and then the USACE have conducted several sampling investigations of the creek.

To date, the USACE has cleaned up two areas of the creek. In 1998, the USACE assisted the City of Florissant during their construction efforts to replace the St. Denis Bridge, which is located approximately 3 miles downstream of the SLAPS. During the project,



Coldwater Creek south of Pershall Road

approximately 450 cys of MED/AEC contaminated soils and sediments were removed from the creek and its banks. In 2004, the section of CWC adjacent to the SLAPS, between the Norfolk Southern railroad on the south, and the McDonnell Boulevard Bridge on the north, was also remediated as part of the SLAPS remedial activities. Approximately 11,230 cys of contaminated soils and sediments were removed from CWC and its banks. The remediation of CWC in this area culminated in the reconstruction of the channel and the armoring of the banks and creek bed with riprap.

Sampling is routinely conducted in CWC as part of the FUSRAP Environmental Monitoring Program. The data is evaluated and reported in annual environmental monitoring reports. The USACE has also started characterization sampling in CWC to determine the areas of the creek that need to be remediated. CWC will be remediated in accordance with the North County Record of Decision (ROD).

St. Louis Downtown Sites

Mallinckrodt Plant 6-West Half

Excavation continues in Mallinckrodt Plant 6-West Half. The FUSRAP team previously remediated the southern portion of this plant area, and Mallinckrodt removed their source material from this area under a separate contract. Currently, remedial activities are being conducted adjacent to FUSRAP's Soil Storage and Load-out Facility in the northern area of Plant 6-West Half. Prior to initiating excavation, sheet pile shoring was installed along the eastern side of Building 101 and between some of the excavation areas to protect

the building foundation and to facilitate the staging of the various excavation areas. FUSRAP coordinated closely with Mallinckrodt, who removed additional source material from this area under a separate contract. All Mallinckrodt work has been completed in this area and it is anticipated that the FUSRAP remediation of Plant 6-West Half will be completed by this September. To date, FUSRAP has shipped about 35,000 cys of contaminated material from Plant 6-West Half to an out-of-state licensed disposal facility.

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad Vicinity Property

In May 2010, the USACE released the final remedial design and initiated the remediation for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad property (DT-12). Remedial activity here includes the removal of about 2,620 bcys of contaminated soils in six areas along the railroad right-of-way between Angelica and Dock Streets. The current schedule calls for excavation and backfill completion at this property in September 2010.

7N Hazardous Waste Storage Area

The Plant 7N Hazardous Waste Storage Area, which consisted of a metal canopy and concrete foundation, has been demolished to allow for the removal of approximately 2,900 bcys of MED/AEC contaminated soil at that location. Sheet pile shoring was installed south and east of the planned excavation area to ensure stability of adjacent building foundations and pavement while remediation was underway. Excavation and restoration of this area will begin after the nearby BNSF VP (DT-12) is remediated.

City Property Vicinity Property

Another remedial action area nearing completion is the City Property VP (DT-2), Phase 1 West of the



Plant 6-West Half Excavation

Mississippi River Flood Protection Levee. Sheet pile shoring was installed along the toe of the levee and along sides of the Destrehan Street right-of-way in order to protect the integrity of the levee and to facilitate the removal of the approximately 15-foot-deep sewers and the contaminated soil surrounding the sewers. About 9,200 bcys of soil were excavated, including about 3,900 yards of contaminated soil and about 5,300 yards of clean overburden, which was stockpiled and reused for backfilling some of the area. Both active and abandoned sewer lines were removed or grouted, and the active portions restored to connect to the newer diversion sewer. Final restoration of the area at City Property-West of the levee has been completed.

St. Louis Downtown Sites Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit

The original ROD for the St. Louis Downtown Sites (SLDS) specified a remediation remedy for 'accessible' soils. Accessible soils are those that are not beneath buildings or other permanent structures. FUSRAP is currently investigating and characterizing the remaining areas potentially impacted by MED/AEC contamination. Sewer lines, building surfaces, and inaccessible soils comprise what is designated as the SLDS Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit (OU).

FUSRAP has recently completed most of the sampling required to issue a Remedial Investigation Report for this OU. An internal draft of this document is under preparation and a final document is expected in 2011. A Proposed Plan and ROD will be issued in 2012. Public input and comment, a valuable component of these documents, will be sought and incorporated during the development process.

Keeping in Touch

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

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Homepage - To reach our site, set your browser to www.mvs.usace.army.mil and select Centers for Expertise.

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

Educational Information**Q: What are the differences among various soil volume descriptions?**

A: Readers of the *FUSRAP Update* or of other FUSRAP documents and briefings may be confused by different designations used to describe soil volumes. For example, in some contexts, we refer to “bank” or “*in situ*” volumes of soil and in other situations discuss “loose,” “disposed,” “*ex situ*,” or “shipped” volumes.

Bank and *in situ* volumes are synonymous and generally are used in design or other pre-remediation discussions of contaminated soils prior to excavation. The terms refer to undisturbed soil volumes. After excavation, the synonymous terms loose, disposed, *ex situ*, and shipped volumes of soil may be used to reflect the expanded volume of the soil after it is excavated. Soil is broken apart during the excavation process and is no longer subject to compaction by overburden or surrounding soil. The soil expands to about 1.3 times its *in situ* volume when excavated.

Perhaps a good way to visualize the distinction is to picture a gardener digging a hole to plant an azalea or rose bush in the spring. The volume of the hole itself would represent a bank soil volume, while the pile of soil on the ground would be a disposed or loose volume.

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