

The St. Louis Sites

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program • Summer 2003

(314) 260-3905

www.mvs.usace.army.mil

North County

On May 29th the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District (USACE) held a public meeting on the North County Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan (FS/PP). Seventy-four members of the public were in attendance. Twelve individuals gave comments. Comments centered around the cleanup of areas under roads, bridges, railroads and buildings as well as Coldwater Creek.

The comment period for the North County FS/PP closed on July 14th. USACE is currently in the process of addressing the public comments received on the documents and using those responses to assist in the preparation of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the North County Site. The responses to the public and stakeholder questions submitted on the North County Site FS/PP will be published in the Responsiveness Summary. The Responsiveness Summary will be an appendix to the ROD and is currently scheduled to be completed (signed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and USACE) in early 2004. ■

St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS)

Since the beginning of Fiscal Year 03 more than 85,843 cubic yards of contaminated soil have been removed



More than 80,000 cubic feet of soil was excavated to complete Phase 1.

and shipped from the St. Louis Airport Site to an out-of-state permitted and licensed disposal facility. The shipments have been made in 1,153 lined gondola rail cars. Most of this material came from phase I, located in the center of the site, which is now complete. Phases 2 and 3, which are located west of Phase 1, began in December 2002. USACE expects to remove more than 60,000 cubic yards and ship it out-of-state during this stage of the remediation. Phases 2 and 3 are expected to be about 75% complete by the end of the fiscal year.

After completion of Phases 2 and 3, the next step in the remediation of SLAPS is the remaining western portion of the site, Phases 4 and 5, which are adjacent to Coldwater Creek. This work is currently scheduled to begin in mid 2004.

Most notable to the public is the roadway progress. More than 50% of the contamination along the south shoulder of McDonnell Boulevard has been removed and the roadway surface replaced.

Upcoming Events

Information Releases:

Fall Newsletter - October 2003

Draft Five-Year Review Report - Sept. 2003

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

St. Louis Oversight Committee Meetings at the FUSRAP Project Office at 11:30 a.m. on Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, and Dec. 12.



US Army Corps
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St. Louis District

Water Treatment

You may have noticed the large corrugated steel tanks on the south side of McDonnell Blvd. These tanks help facilitate the de-nitrification process, which allows USACE to more efficiently remove selenium from the water. With the tremendous amount of rain experienced this past June, there was significant water at SLAPS. Any water that comes into contact with our remediation efforts must be treated prior to release to the Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD). So far this year we have treated and released more than 1.8 million gallons to MSD. ■

Five-Year Review Progresses

USACE plans to release the Five-Year Review in November 2003, evaluating whether the response actions implemented on the FUSRAP St. Louis Sites continue to be protective of human health and the environment. The St. Louis Sites consist of the North County Site and the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS).

FUSRAP activities at the St. Louis Sites follow the guidelines established by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) more commonly known as Superfund. Under CERCLA, a review of the response actions must be conducted at least every five years following the start of cleanup.

This five-year review was triggered by the commencement of field operations at SLDS on September 8, 1998. The five-year review began in spring 2003 and will take nine to 12 months to complete.

As part of the five-year review process, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources inspected each site and documented the conditions observed. Members of the community also gave their views about the cleanup to help the team better understand the impacts of the work on the local community.

The results of the review will be published in the "Five-Year Review Report for the St. Louis FUSRAP Sites." The report will also document any problems found and include recommendations to address them. Copies of this report will be available, after comments from the regulators are addressed, on-line at: <http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/enr/fusrap/Home2.htm>.

Hard copies will be placed with the Administrative Record located at the St. Louis Public Library, 1301 Olive St., and at the FUSRAP Project Office at 8945 Latty Avenue in Berkeley. ■

St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS)

Heintz Cleanup Underway

USACE is working on the cleanup of the second SLDS vicinity property this year. The property is identified as DT-6 and is currently owned by Heintz Steel and Manufacturing.

Phase one of the remediation resulted in excavation and disposal of 65 cubic yards of material.

Applying the lessons learned from the cleanup of the adjacent Midwest Waste property USACE chose to further investigate the remainder of the property. The investigation better defined the area of contamination and helped to minimize the impact of the cleanup to on-going business operations.



Excavation begins at Heintz Steel and Manufacturing.

Crews are now working on phase two of the cleanup, which required more extensive excavation on the property.

Contaminated materials will be shipped via rail to a certified out-of-state disposal facility.

USACE estimates that contractors will remove 1,800 cubic yards of material to complete the remediation under this phase of the plan. Remedial activities for this property are scheduled to be complete in September. Restoration of the property will be complete in October.

USACE works on the SLDS vicinity properties in accordance with the 1998 Record Of Decision for the St. Louis Downtown Sites.

Plant 6 East Half (6EH) Complete

In accordance with the 1998 St. Louis Downtown Site Record of Decision, the USACE completed the remediation of Mallinckrodt’s Plant 6 East Half in July 2003. A total of 23,937 cubic yards of material were excavated from the site and shipped to an out-of-state disposal facility. The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) contracted with Mallinckrodt to use Plant 6 for uranium processing from 1946 through 1957. By 1962, the AEC had cleaned the area to criteria then in effect and returned the area to Mallinckrodt. However, since that time buildings have been demolished to facilitate ongoing business operations at Mallinckrodt.



Crews are removing material from Plant 7 East.

Keeping in Touch

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

Phone: (314) 260-3905

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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.


Prior to backfill and restoration the site was verified with a final site survey, which confirmed that the area was free of radiological contamination. Following the completion of restoration activities Plant 6EH was returned to Mallinckrodt for beneficial use.

Plant 7 East Under Construction

Concurrently with Vicinity Property DT-6 cleanup, Mallinckrodt Plant 7E is also being addressed. Plant 7E is located in the eastern portion of SLDS, south of Destrehan Street and east of the Burlington Northern Railroad tracks. Historically Plant 7E was used as a parking lot and coal storage area. Remedial activities began in July. Because there are no buildings or underground utilities USACE expects this area to progress relatively quickly.

With approximately 1500 cubic yards of material slated for removal, the projected end date is in September.

What’s Next?

In the coming months USACE will complete the cleanup of DT-6 (Heintz Steel) and Plant 7E. USACE will also address contamination around the McKinley Bridge as the Illinois Department of Transportation prepares to work on bridge restoration. 

Where does all of that material go?

There are an awful lot of cubic yards of material being removed from the FUSRAP locations here in the St Louis area, but where does it all end up?

Because Missouri does not have any facilities available to accept radiological waste, all of the material generated in the remediation must be shipped to properly licensed facilities out-of-state. At this point, USACE has contracts with hazardous waste facilities in Utah and Idaho. The facilities were selected based upon an evaluation of their safety record, ability to accept FUSRAP materials, and cost effectiveness. The shipments are generally completed by rail. ■



Crews prepare material for shipment from SLAPS.

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