

# The St. Louis Sites

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program • Winter 2010

(314) 260-3932

www.mvs.usace.army.mil

## Fiscal Year 2009 in Review

Fiscal year 2009 (FY09) was a productive year for the St. Louis Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). During FY09 several properties were remediated and/or released and preparations are underway to begin work on properties targeted for cleanup during FY10.

In FY09 a total of 58,847 cubic yards (cy) of contaminated material was shipped from St. Louis FUSRAP sites to out-of-state, licensed and permitted disposal facilities – 39,423 cy from Latty Avenue, 4,915 cy from the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS) Vicinity Properties (VPs), and 14,509 cy from the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS).

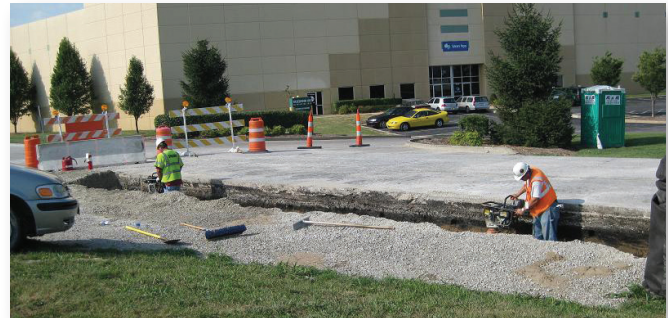
## St. Louis FUSRAP Sites FY 2010 Budget

On October 28, 2009 President Obama signed the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act which provides funding for the St. Louis FUSRAP (among other programs) for FY 2010. \$43.2 million was appropriated for St. Louis FUSRAP. An additional \$2 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds was provided. These funds will be used to continue remediation at the St. Louis District's FUSRAP sites.

## North St. Louis County

### Vicinity Properties

A total of 17 North St. Louis County VPs were released under a Pre-Design Investigation Report/Final Status Survey Evaluation (PDIR/FSSE) report. This means that these properties were investigated and found to meet the North County Record of Decision (ROD) objectives with



*Due to the possible exposure of contaminated soils under the roadway during the City of Hazelwood's road improvement activities, the USACE decided to clean up the inaccessible soils under the road.*

no remediation. All 17 of these properties are located on Frost and Hazelwood Avenues.

Remedial activities continue at VP-40a East with a total of 11,434 cy of contaminated material removed in FY09. The USACE anticipates completion of remediation of this property in FY10. The VP-40a East pump-around area on the Coldwater Creek tributary adjacent to the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS) was completed and restored in late October 2009. Remedial activities continue at the HISS/FUTURA properties with the removal of 27,987 cy of contaminated material in FY09. The USACE anticipates the completion of remedial activities at the Futura part of this property in FY10. Contaminated materials removed from the above-referenced properties have been sent to out-of-state, licensed and permitted disposal facilities.

Plans are also under way to begin work at VP-02L, a property immediately adjacent to the HISS. The USACE currently intends to remove approximately 5,800 cy of contaminated material from this VP.

### Hazelwood Avenue Remediation Complete

The USACE completed remediation of the rights-of-way and under the road for Hazelwood Avenue in August 2009. Hazelwood Avenue became contaminated when it was used as a haul route for transporting uranium-bearing residuals from the SLAPS on McDonnell Boulevard, to the HISS on Latty Avenue. The USACE expedited the remediation of Hazelwood Avenue because the City of Hazelwood is planning to improve and widen the road beginning in the Spring 2010. A total of 1,364 cy of contaminated materials was removed from Hazelwood Avenue and sent to an out-of-state licensed and permitted disposal facility.

## Upcoming Events

**Information Releases:** [Winter Newsletter - December 2009](#)  
This newsletter is issued twice a year in July and December.

**Upcoming Meeting** (Please come if you are available!):  
[St. Louis Oversight Committee Meeting - Date TBD, 11:30 a.m.](#)  
at the FUSRAP office on Latty Avenue.

**2nd 5-year Review:** [See update on page 2.](#)



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During the remediation of Hazelwood Avenue, the USACE sent out traffic updates to business and property owners and posted signs on adjacent roads to enable workers and residents to exit and enter Hazelwood Avenue without running into sections of the road that were closed.

### American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Funding

In early FY10, the USACE St. Louis FUSRAP received funds from the ARRA. These funds will be used to remediate at least five FUSRAP properties located in North St. Louis County. Work was started in the spring of 2009 to complete the Pre-design Investigation and Remedial Design documents to remediate these properties. In keeping with President Obama's request to create jobs, a new contract was awarded to Cabrera Services to perform the remedial activities. The USACE estimates that approximately 2,000 cy of contaminated material will be removed from the ARRA properties.

### Five-Year Review Progresses

The USACE plans to release the second St. Louis FUSRAP Sites Five-Year Review early in 2010. The purpose of this review is to evaluate 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 St. Louis County Site and the 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 the cleanup. As part of the five-year review process, the USACE, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Missouri Department of National Resources (MDNR) work together to inspect each site and document conditions observed. Members of the community are also interviewed and asked to provide 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. The draft report is currently under regulator review. After regulator comments are addressed copies of the report will be placed with the Administrative Record located at the St. Louis Public Library, 1301 Olive Street, and at the FUSRAP Project Office at 8945 Latty Avenue in Berkeley.



*In FY09, the USACE initiated excavation west of the flood protection levee at City Property (DT-2).*

### St. Louis Downtown Site

The USACE proceeded with remediation efforts in three different areas of SLDS in FY09. Remediation was initiated at Plant 6 West Half, Phase 2. The effort was closely coordinated with Covidien, who accomplished Columbium-Tantalum (C-T) pit removal simultaneously. The USACE also initiated excavation west of the flood protection levee at City Property (DT-2) and completed remedial activity at the Terminal Railroad Association VP (DT-9). 3,023 cy of contaminated material from DT-9 was shipped to an out-of-state, licensed and permitted disposal facility.

In addition, the USACE prepared the plan for sampling inaccessible soils, sewers, and buildings and submitted it for regulatory review and comment. This plan is a precursor to a ROD regarding the disposition of inaccessible soils and other media not addressed in the 1998 SLDS ROD.

Finally, a PDIR/FSSE for DT-35 and DT-36, releasing the accessible soils on these properties as having met the SLDS ROD remedial goals without any requirement for soil removal, was published.

#### What's Next?

Preliminary investigation and/or design work is currently underway for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe VP (DT-12) and the City Property (DT-2). These two properties are scheduled for remediation in FY10. In addition, the Plant 6W Phase 2 remediation is scheduled for completion in 2010, including Covidien's removal of two remaining C-T pits. Finally, inaccessible soils sampling will be completed in preparation for the resulting Remedial Investigation Report and Feasibility Study.

## Missouri Department of Natural Resources Role in the St. Louis FUSRAP Process

The MDNR's Federal Facilities Section provides state regulatory oversight to the St. Louis FUSRAP. Section staff coordinate with the EPA, USACE, and other sections within the MDNR to ensure that the selected remedy is implemented in a manner that is protective of public health and the environment. One way MDNR staff carry out this task is by providing independent technical review on major decision documents, work plans, PDIRs, remedial designs, and Proposed Remedial Action Reports. Section staff also regularly collect independent environmental samples (e.g. soil and water). The purpose of independent sample collection includes confirmation of both remedial action results and storm water management practices and investigation of locations of potential concern.

MDNR personnel are available for questions, requests for information, or as a means of submitting comments and concerns. The MDNR encourages community involvement in order to ensure that the concerns of Missouri citizens are addressed. For more information or to submit comments or concerns please contact the following MDNR staff members located at the Florissant Field Office: Daniel Carey, North County project coordinator (314-877-3047 or [daniel.carey@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:daniel.carey@dnr.mo.gov)) and Tiffany Burgess, SLDS project coordinator (314-877-3251 or [tiffany.burgess@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:tiffany.burgess@dnr.mo.gov)).

## St. Louis Oversight Committee

On October 7, 2009, an Oversight Committee meeting was held at the Jana Elementary School in Florissant. Meeting participants included the USACE, MDNR, a Council member from Florissant Ward 4, representatives from

the offices of Congressmen Lacey Clay and Todd Aiken, current members of the Oversight Committee (Sally Price and Jack Frauenhoffer), representatives from the Missouri Coalition on the Environment, and various members of the community. The meeting consisted of a presentation from the USACE on the project's current issues and questions from the community about FUSRAP and how it affects the North County community. Also, interested citizens/stakeholders were encouraged to join the Oversight Committee to replace several of the original members who have recently resigned.

The next meeting is yet to be scheduled, but will take place at the FUSRAP office trailers located at 8945 Latty Avenue, Berkeley, MO 63134. Future newsletters will provide the date and further information on Oversight Committee meetings. Information and dates for the Oversight Committee meetings will also be posted on the FUSRAP Website.

## Comings and Goings

### New St. Louis FUSRAP Engineer

We extend a warm welcome to Vick James, our new St. Louis FUSRAP team Senior Project Engineer. Vick brings 25 years of construction experience working with the USACE to his new role of overseeing activities at both the SLDS and North County Sites.

### St. Louis FUSRAP Team Members Serve on Operation Enduring Freedom

Sonny Roberts, the USACE construction manager for North St. Louis County, recently volunteered to serve his second tour of duty on Operation Enduring Freedom. Sonny will soon be heading for Wardak Province, Afghanistan where he will be working as Lead Construction Representative on numerous construction contracts for the Army. Sonny has been a member of the St. Louis FUSRAP team since January 1999. We will miss him and wish him well.

The St. Louis FUSRAP team also wishes a fond farewell to Gerald Allen, Project Engineer for the SLDS site. Gerald is now serving his second tour of duty with Operation Enduring Freedom. His first assignment was as a Resident Engineer near the city of Baqubah, Iraq. Gerald is now serving as a Resident Engineer of the Bagram Area Office in Afghanistan.

Congratulations are due to Susan Adams, who has been with the St. Louis FUSRAP team for 10 years. Susan has assumed Gerald's responsibilities and is the new SLDS site Project Engineer.

## Keeping in Touch

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

**Phone:** (314) 260-3932

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

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

**Homepage** - To reach our site, set your browser to [www.mvs.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil) and select Centers for Expertise.

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

## Educational Information

**Q:** What is the difference between alpha, beta, and gamma radiation?

**A:** There are three types of nuclear radiation emitted from radioactive atoms: alpha, beta, and gamma.

Alpha particles are the slowest moving and least penetrating of the three forms of radiation. Alpha particles can be stopped by a sheet of paper or the dead layer of a person's skin. Alpha particles are only harmful if ingested or inhaled.

Beta particles travel faster than alpha particles and are more penetrating. These particles can pass through a sheet of paper, but cannot penetrate a sheet of aluminum foil. Beta particles are also harmful if ingested or inhaled.

Gamma rays are not particles but electromagnetic energy. They have a much greater penetration power than alpha or beta particles and require shielding with materials such as concrete, lead, steel, or water. Gamma rays are the most hazardous type of radiation because they can travel up to a mile in open air and penetrate all types of materials, including the human body.

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