Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program Update August 2008

US Army Corps of Engineers®

The crane is loading a 10-ton "supersack" filled with contaminated soil into a truck to be shipped off site from the Shpack Landfill for disposal.

Introduction

The Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program Update provides information about the progress the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is making in cleaning up sites contaminated from work related to the nation's early atomic weapons and energy programs.

FUSRAP focuses on protecting human health, public safety and the environment. To ensure these sites are safe for appropriate future use, public safety is emphasized while investigating and conducting radiological cleanups.

The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), predecessor to the Department of Energy (DOE), created FUSRAP in March 1974 to identify, investigate and take appropriate cleanup action at sites contaminated with low-level radioactive materials.

Since October 1997, the Corps has continued the cleanups the AEC and the DOE began, and cleans up additional sites identified by Congress or designated into the program by the DOE. When cleaning up the sites, the Corps conducts its work in accordance with federal laws, which require the Corps to follow the framework of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (CERCLA). The Corps coordinates its cleanup activities with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and/or state regulators on all sites.

The public is a vital partner in the FUSRAP effort. The Corps has an active public involvement program and encourages people living near the sites to participate in the cleanup activities.

While the DOE retains responsibility for FUSRAP, the Corps implements the program under a Corps/DOE Memorandum of Understanding. Using historical evaluations of site activities, the DOE determines site eligibility for the program, referring eligible sites to the Corps for further evaluation. The Corps' evaluation consists of a CERCLA preliminary assessment (sometimes including a site inspection) and a preliminary legal analysis of government responsibility at the site. Depending upon the results of the Corps' evaluation, the Corps may designate a site for further response action, based on CERCLA requirements.

Two years after completing response actions and final closeout activities at a site, the Corps transfers re-

sponsibility for long-term stewardship, if needed, back to DOE.

The program currently includes 23 active sites in nine states, although site closeout work is being completed at the two Ashland Sites in Tonawanda, N.Y., (Ashland 1, which includes Seaway Area D and Rattlesnake Creek, and Ashland 2) in anticipation of transitioning them to the DOE by the end of October. Each FUSRAP site may include multiple operable units with multiples phases ongoing depending upon the work being done at each operable unit. This year, a new site, Superior Steel in Scott Township, Pa., is being added to the program.

Seven Corps districts work on FUSRAP sites: Baltimore, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, New England, New York and St. Louis. The Corps' Environmental and Munitions Center of Expertise and the Kansas City District also provide program assistance.

Program funding has been relatively level between $130 million and $140 million a year since the Corps began administering FUSRAP. The FUSRAP budget for this year, fiscal year 2008, is $140 million. Progress and the schedule for each site depends upon the level of funding provided.

More FUSRAP information can be found at:

https://environment.usace.army.mil/what_we_do/fusrap/

Site Updates

Combustion Engineering Site, Windsor, Conn.

In 2007, New England District continued work on a feasibility study for this 600-acre site in Windsor, Conn. While that was under way, Combustion Engineering requested an expansion of its Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) license.

The district began working with the NRC to see if the company could take responsibility for the cleanup under its expanded license request. The NRC approved the request and the company now is responsible for addressing any FUSRAP-related waste as part of the company's site decommissioning efforts.

During this fiscal year, the district is using its funding to monitor the company's actions. Once the company completes its site decommissioning, the district will review the decommissioning documents to ensure all FUSRAP issues have been addressed and then will remove the site from the active FUSRAP list.

Iowa Army Ammunition Plant, Middletown, Iowa

The St. Louis District completed the sampling for the remedial investigation and began writing the draft remedial investigation report for this 19,000-acre site near Burlington in southeastern Iowa in fiscal year 2007.

This year, fiscal year 2008, the district intends to provide the draft remedial investigation report to the regulators for review, will finalize that report and then begin the feasibility study, which it expects to complete in fiscal year 2009.

W.R. Grace Site, Baltimore

In 2007, Baltimore District completed the feasibility study for the seven-acre Radioactive Waste Disposal Area, which is in south Baltimore on an industrialized peninsula, located east of the W.R. Grace plant.

This year, the district plans to complete the proposed plan for the disposal area.

Plans for 2009 call for completing the proposed plan and record of decision for the disposal area, and completing the remedial design for Building 23, which housed the thorium extraction process.

Shpack Landfill, Norton/Attleboro, Mass.

In fiscal year 2007, the Corps' New England District continued to remove radioactive material from the Shpack Landfill Site, an eight-acre abandoned domestic and industrial landfill.

This year's funding is being used to continue the soil removal and the district plans to continue the cleanup with fiscal year 2009 funding. Depending upon funding availability, the remedial action is now scheduled for completion in fiscal year 2010.

North County Sites, St. Louis

St. Louis District continued the removal and shipment of contaminated soil in 2007 from the three properties, which comprise the North County St. Louis Sites – St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS), St. Louis Airport Site Vicinity Properties, and the Latty Avenue Properties/Hazelwood Interim Storage Site.

At the SLAPS, which EPA placed

The Corps excavates Survey Unit 10 at the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site property on Latty Avenue at the North County Sites, St. Louis.

New York District completed soils work at the Middlesex Sampling Plant in New Jersey earlier this year.

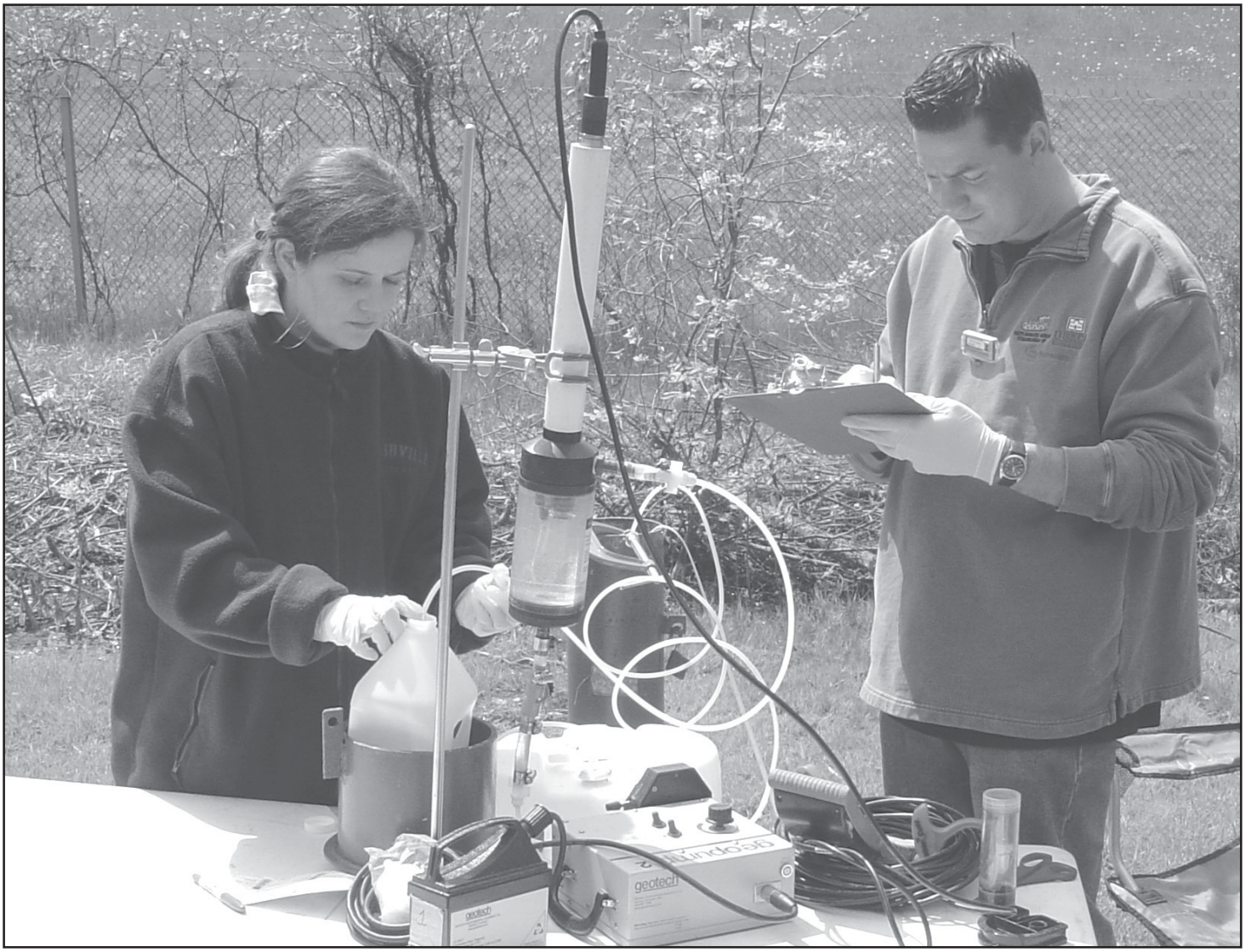
on the National Priorities List in 1989, the district removed and shipped about 16,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil, which completed the excavation required at this property in accordance with the 2005 record of decision. This year the district is preparing a report documenting the remedial action for closeout. Once completed, it will be circulated with the state of Missouri and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for review. The district also is beginning post remedial action groundwater monitoring at the site. In 2009, ground-water monitoring and long-term management activities will continue.

In 2007 at the St. Louis Airport Site Vicinity Properties, the district completed designs for three vicinity properties, began designs for three more, and finished remediation of another property. A total of 7,150 cubic yards of contaminated soil also was shipped during 2007. This year, the district is remediating two properties by removing and shipping approximately 8,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil, beginning design work on two other properties, and issuing the final status survey documents that will release five vicinity properties. The district plans to complete two designs and begin removing contaminated material on another vicinity property in 2009. It is expected that 6,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil will be removed and shipped off site for disposal.

At the Latty Avenue Properties site, the district began designs for the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site/ FUTURA Coatings property and one additional vicinity property. Approximately 27,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil were removed and shipped from two of the Latty Avenue Vicinity Properties. In 2008, the district is completing the design and remediation of one vicinity property and beginning remediation of the Hazelwood site. It expects to remediate 20,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil. The district expects to excavate and ship about 27,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and complete remedial action on one vicinity property in 2009.

St. Louis Downtown Site, St. Louis

In accordance with the record of decision, St. Louis District completed the response action for one Mallinckrodt plant areas and two vicinity properties and began the remedial activity for the PSC Metals vicinity property, all part of the St. Louis Downtown Site work in 2007. The district removed 22,170 cubic yards of contaminated soils and



Workers collect environmental monitoring ground-water samples at the Niagara Falls Storage Site.

initiated the remedial investigation fieldwork for the inaccessible areas at the downtown site. Design work for the Plant 6 West area also was completed.

This year, the district is continuing the remedial investigation field work for the inaccessible soils and remediating about 20,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil at the Plant 6 West area and two vicinity properties.

Fiscal year 2009 funding will be used to remove about 20,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil from the Plant 6 West area and another plant area, and to complete the remedial investigation for inaccessible soils.

DuPont Chambers Works, Deepwater, N.J.

In 2007, Philadelphia District completed the final intrusive site soil contamination investigation and analysis on Operable Unit #3 at this 700-acre active chemical plan on the southeastern shore of the Delaware River. The district then began incorporating the resulting data into a sitewide remedial investigation and risk assessment while continuing ground-water contamination investigations.

This year, the district is completing the draft remedial investigation and risk assessment reports for regulator review and comment, and is initiating a sitewide feasibility study.

During 2009, the district will complete the sitewide feasibility study and began working on the proposed plan.

Maywood Chemical Superfund Site, Maywood, N.J.

A combination of many privately and government-owned properties, this site is listed on the National Priorities List. New York District used its 2007 funding to continue remedial action for the remainder of the soils at the site and to develop the ground-water feasibility study and proposed plan.

This year, the district is working three different actions – continuing the remedial action for the soils under the record of decision, completing the feasibility study and proposed plan, and initiating the ground-water record of decision. The district plans to complete the ground-water record of decision and continue the soils remedial action in fiscal year 2009.

Middlesex Sampling Plant, Middlesex, N.J.

In 2007, New York District continued the soils remediation and the

ground-water feasibility study and proposed plan for this federal government-owned site, which is listed on the National Priorities List.

This year, the district is completing the soils cleanup, the ground-water feasibility study and proposed plan as well as beginning work on the ground-water record of decision. Additionally, the district is working with EPA Region 2 to develop a federal facilities agreement for the work at the site. It expects to use fiscal year 2009 funding to complete the ground-water record of decision.

Colonie Site, Colonie, N.Y.

At the former National Lead Industries site, now called the Colonie Site, New York District used fiscal year 2007 funding to complete the removal action under the revised action memorandum and prepare a draft ground-water feasibility study and proposed remedial action plan for the main site. In 2008, the district is completing the ground-water feasibility study and proposed remedial action plan and preparing a combined soil and ground-water record of decision.

The district plans to use fiscal year 2009 funding to complete the combined soil and ground-water record of decision.

Sylvania Corning Plant, Hicksville, N.Y.

A relatively new addition to FUSRAP, the Sylvania Corning Plant sits atop 10.5 acres divided into three separate properties. The facility was used for two distinct, but similar operations. From 1952 to 1965, the facility operated under contracts with the Atomic Energy Commission for research, development and production primarily in support of the government's nuclear weapons program.

From 1952 to 1967, a second operation concentrated on AEC-licensed work primarily for the production of reactor fuel, and other reactor core components.

New York District used fiscal year 2007 funding to continue a remedial investigation and baseline risk assessment and to coordinate with stakeholders.

These initiatives will continue this year, with completion of both the remedial investigation and baseline risk assessment set for fiscal year 2009.

Ashland Sites, Tonawanda, N.Y.

The Ashland Sites consists of the Ashland 1 Site, which includes Seaway Area A and Rattlesnake Creek, and the Ashland 2 Site, all in the Town of Tonawanda, N.Y. These two sites were contaminated with low-level radiological material, including thorium, radium and uranium. With cleanup work completed, Buffalo District continued to close out the sites in 2007 so it could turn them over to the Department of Energy for long-term stewardship. The District also continued to support the Department of Justice in its potentially responsible party cost-recovery activities. The cost recovery action has just been completed, and the district expects to move forward with returning these sites to the Department of Energy by the end of October.

Seaway Industrial Park, Tonawanda, N.Y.

A closed sanitary landfill, the Seaway Industrial Park is a privately owned 93-acre site, located three miles north of Buffalo. The site became contaminated with FUSRAP-related materials during the 1970's when material that originated from the processing activities conducted by Linde under the Manhattan Engineer District contract that had been disposed of at the FUSRAP Ashland 1 Site was relocated for site renovations. In fiscal year 2007, Buffalo District continued preparing a feasibility study addendum and the proposed plan. As a result of remediation of the sites adjacent to Seaway (Ashland 1 and 2), two additional areas of contamination along the Seaway property (Seaway Southside and Seaway Northside) were identified.

This year, the district expects to complete both the feasibility study addendum and the proposed plan in addition to beginning work on a record of decision for the site. In fiscal year 2009, funding will be used to complete the record of decision.

Former Linde Air Products, Tonawanda, N.Y.

The Linde site, located in Tonawanda, a suburb north of Buffalo, has two distinct areas. The first is the original Linde Site that is now owned and occupied by Praxair, Inc.; and the second is a designated vicinity property, the Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats area that is located about 1.5 miles north of Praxair.

The Buffalo District used fiscal year 2007 funding to complete a record of decision for the Linde Ground-water Operable Unit and to continue remedial action at the Linde/Praxair facility in accordance with a record of decision, signed in 2000. Remedial Action in 2007 at the Linde/Praxair facility resulted in the removal and disposal of 21,300 cubic yards of contaminated materials. To date, the Corps has safely removed and disposed of more than 300,000 tons (200,000 in-situ cubic yards) of contaminated materials from the Linde Site to legally permitted disposal facilities. A proposed plan for the Tonawanda Landfill Vicinity Property also was developed in fiscal year 2007.

The Buffalo District is splitting Linde's Tonawanda Landfill Vicinity Property into two operable units: the Tonawanda Landfill Operable Unit and the Mudflats Operable Unit. Based on the public comments received on the proposed plan for the Tonawanda Landfill Vicinity Property, the Buffalo District intends to conduct additional evaluations of the Tonawanda Landfill Operable Unit to include additional sampling and a re-evaluation of the Baseline Risk Assessment to confirm if a hazard to human health and the environment exists that would require action under CERCLA. Buffalo District is proceeding with a record of decision for the Mudflats Operable Unit.

It is expected that 2009 funding will continue remediation activities at Linde and the investigation of the Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats Vicinity Property.

Niagara Falls Storage Site, Lewiston, N.Y.

In December 2007, Buffalo District finalized the remedial investigation report for this 191-acre federally owned site, 19 miles northwest of Buffalo, N.Y. It also continued to make progress on the feasibility study, perform the yearly site maintenance, monitoring and surveillance activities, as well as community involvement efforts.

This year, the district plans to continue the feasibility study in addition to the yearly site maintenance, monitoring and surveillance activities to assure integrity of the waste-containment repository. Public involvement

Workers do sewer water sampling at Harshaw Chemical Company in Cleveland during the remedial investigation.

activities will continue as well.

In 2009, the district expects to continue the feasibility study as well as the maintenance, monitoring, surveillance and community involvement activities.

Guterl Specialty Steel, Lockport, N.Y.

The former Guterl Specialty Steel site, also known as Simonds Saw and Steel Corporation, encompasses about 70 acres in Lockport, N.Y., about 20 miles north of Buffalo. Buffalo District used fiscal year 2007 funding to continue the remedial investigation of the site. The district mobilized an investigation team to the area for more than six months to perform field sampling and data collection activities that will be used to define the nature and extent of radiological contamination that resulted from past government contract actions.

During 2008, the district will evaluate analytical data necessary to prepare a geologic model, a fate, transport and exposure assessment, and a baseline risk analysis. In 2009, the remedial investigation report will be completed and a feasibility study will be initiated.

Harshaw Chemical Company, Cleveland

Buffalo District completed the 2007 remedial investigation report and the historic aerial photograph analysis while awarding a potentially responsible party analysis contract for this privately owned 40-acre site along the Cuyahoga River, five miles southwest of downtown Cleveland.

This year, the district plans to complete a revised remedial investigation report necessitated by the identification of additional FUSRAP-related contaminants at the site. Buffalo District also will complete the potentially responsible party analysis, dispose of waste from the remedial investigation field activities, and initiate a no further action proposed plan for Investigative Area 06.

In fiscal year 2009, plans call for initiating the feasibility study, conducting an annual safety assessment of Building G1, completing the record of decision for Investigative Area 06, and conducting planning and cost estimation for possible interim removal actions at Building G1.

Luckey Site, Luckey, Ohio

This year Buffalo District completed the record of decision, which was signed in May, for the ground-water operable unit and will conduct the annual ground-water sampling at this privately owned 40-acre site southeast of Toledo, Ohio.

In 2007, the district began preparing the record of design for the ground-water operable unit and conducted annual ground-water sampling. Fiscal year 2009 funding will be used to initiate remedial design for the soils and ground-water operable units and to conduct the annual ground-water sampling.

Painesville Site, Painesville, Ohio

Buffalo District completed the remedial design and began site remediation in 2007 at this 30-acre site 22 miles northeast of Cleveland. To

date, approximately 9,400 cubic yards of contaminated soil have been excavated at the site.

However, during site remediation, the district discovered a significant amount of additional contaminated soil, which exceeded the quantity that could be removed with the available project funding. Excavation activities have been temporarily halted while additional funding is secured to complete the site remediation.

Shallow Land Disposal Area, Parks Township, Pa.

Pittsburgh District completed the proposed plan, the record of decision and began remediation work plans in 2007 at this 44-acre site, northeast of Pittsburgh.

The district is continuing to work on the remediation work plans this year and will begin site remediation in 2009.

Superior Steel, Carnegie, Pa.

The Department of Energy designated the former Superior Steel site in Scott Township, near Carnegie, Pa., as eligible for inclusion in FUSRAP in 2006, pending completion of a preliminary assessment and a preliminary legal liability analysis by Buffalo District. In 2007, the district completed both activities, and the site is in the process of being included in FUSRAP.

Potential New Sites

The Department of Energy considered several hundred sites in the public and private sectors with the potential for residual radioactive contamination as a consequence of work done in support of nuclear energy technology development. Of these sites, DOE designated a limited number for cleanup under FUSRAP and eliminated the others from further consideration at that time. However, new information does become available, and when that happens, DOE notifies the Corps of that information changing the status of eliminated sites to eligible according to FUSRAP criteria.

Following a preliminary assessment and limited sampling of the Scioto Laboratory Complex, in Marion, Ohio, by Buffalo District, the Corps is recommending that the complex not be included in FUSRAP.

The Corps is continuing its site inspection of the former Joslyn Manufacturing and Supply Company in Fort Wayne, Ind., to determine if it should be designated for inclusion in FUSRAP.

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