



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
St. Louis District®

News Release

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Corps Completes Radiological Screening Survey at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant

Middletown, Iowa –The Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP), administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), recently completed a screening survey of areas of concern at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant.

Previous investigations indicated that seven areas at the Plant (Line 1, Firing Sites, three Yard L Warehouses, Building 3-01, Yard C, Yard G, and the West Burn Pads) were used by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) prior to 1975. Additional information was required to assure that all areas of AEC radiological contamination at the Plant were located.

Crews conducted site walkovers and collected samples August 16th through 26th. Areas investigated were: the Demolition Area/Deactivation Furnace, Line 1 Wastewater Impoundment, Explosive Disposal Area (which includes the North Burn Pads Landfill, North Burn Pads, East Burn Pads, West Burn Pads, and the area south of the West Burn Pads), and the Inert Disposal Area.

Preliminary analysis of the screening survey data found one isolated area of radiological contamination in the Inert Disposal Area. This area was limited to a small object and the soils around the object (approximately one square yard). Preliminary analysis indicates this object contains Cesium-137. However, analysis of the confirmatory soil samples and the screening data has not been completed.

A preliminary hazard analysis performed by the USACE confirms that there is little or no risk to personnel or the environment due to the contamination. The levels of radiation associated with the object are less than what an individual would receive during a chest x-ray. In the meantime, steps have been taken to minimize migration of the affected soil and limit personnel exposure.

FUSRAP addresses contamination generated by activities of the Manhattan Engineer District /Atomic Energy Commission (MED/AEC) in support of our nation's early atomic energy program. Data obtained from the screening survey will be used to supplement the Aerial Radiological Survey conducted in 2002.

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