



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
St. Louis District

## Summary of FUSRAP Activities at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant

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# WHAT IS FUSRAP?



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), St. Louis District, is conducting an environmental cleanup program at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant for sites formerly used by the Atomic Energy Commission to process material for national defense activities starting in the 1940s. The program responsible for this work is the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). The FY 1998 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, in which Congress transferred management of FUSRAP to the USACE, was signed into law on October 13, 1997. Prior to the signing of this bill, FUSRAP had been managed by the U.S. Department of Energy.

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The USACE encourages private citizens to participate fully in the cleanup program.

To learn more about the IAAAP FUSRAP areas or to inquire about public involvement opportunities, call

314.260.3905

or write

FUSRAP Project Office, St. Louis District, Corps  
of Engineers Office 8945 Latty Avenue  
Berkeley, MO 63134

The Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) is an environmental remediation program. It addresses radiological contamination generated by activities of the Manhattan Engineer District and the Atomic Energy Commission (MED/AEC) during development of the atomic weapons in the 1940s and 50s.

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## BACKGROUND

The Iowa Army Ammunition Plant (IAAAP) is an active, government-owned, contractor-operated facility that occupies approximately 19,000 acres in Des Moines County near Middletown, Iowa. Less than one-third of the IAAAP property is occupied by active or formerly active munitions production or storage facilities. The current and expected future land use of the IAAAP property is industrial/military.

From 1947 to 1975, portions of the IAAAP facility were under AEC control for weapon-assembly operations. These portions of the IAAAP are now called FUSRAP areas. In March 2000, after performing historical research regarding AEC activities at the IAAAP, investigators determined that some of the FUSRAP areas may contain contamination resulting from AEC activities and warranted additional investigation.

These areas are the structures at Line 1, the Firing Sites area, Yard C, Yard G, Yard L areas surrounding Warehouses L-37-1, L-37-2 and L-37-3. The USACE began investigation in 2000 and characterized soil, sediment, and building contamination in the FUSRAP areas. A Remedial Investigation Report, which was issued in October 2008, identified the existence of depleted uranium on the structures at Line 1, the Firing Sites Area, Yard C, and Yard G.

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## HOW HAZARDOUS ARE FUSRAP SITES?

Even though FUSRAP sites contain levels of radioactivity above current guidelines, none of the sites pose an immediate health risk to the public or environment given current land uses. The contaminated materials have very low concentrations and people are not exposed to them for long periods of time.

Although these materials do not pose an immediate hazard, they will remain radioactive for thousands of years, and health risks could increase if the use of the land were to change. Under FUSRAP, each site is cleaned to levels

of acceptable for the projected future use of the land such as residential development, industrial operations, or recreational use.

## HOW DOES FUSRAP WORK

FUSRAP sites undergo several steps that lead to cleanup. Information about the site is collected and reviewed. A Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study (RI/FS) is conducted to develop cleanup alternatives. The Remedial Investigation identifies the type and location of the contamination. The Feasibility Study develops and evaluates cleanup alternatives.

The public is informed about the development of the RI/FS cleanup alternatives through public meetings and media. Public participation is especially encouraged during the selection of the final remediation, or cleanup, method.

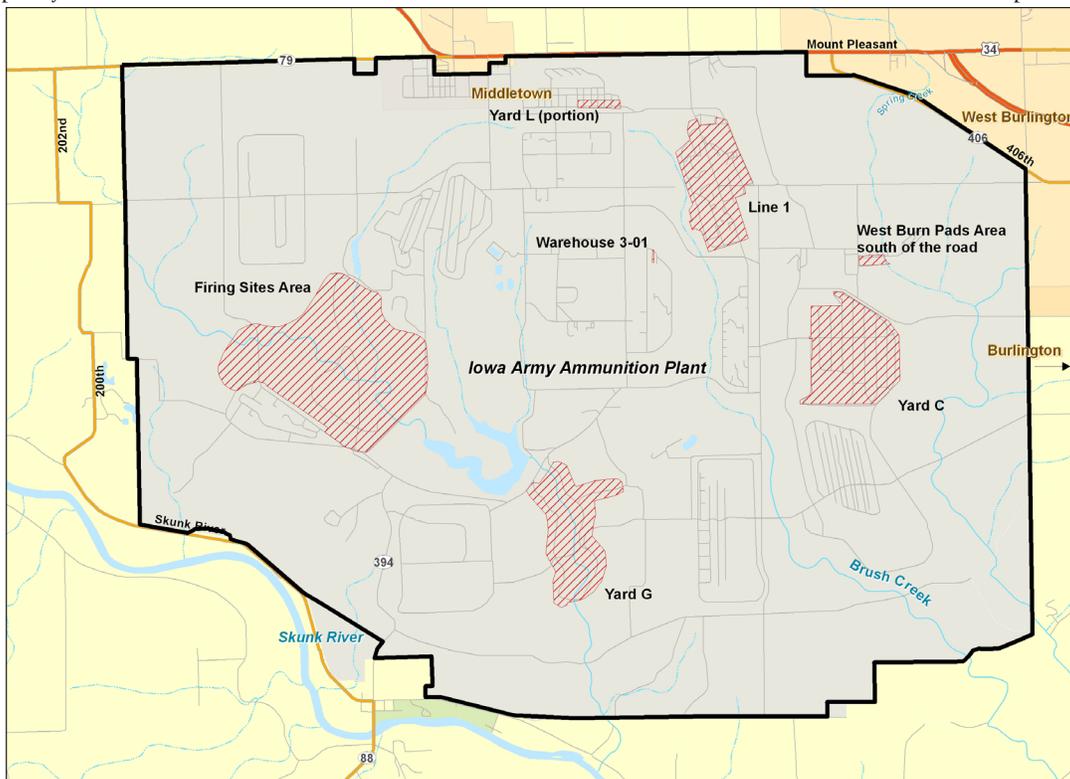
When a cleanup alternative is chosen, a Proposed Plan is written to explain why it was chosen. Members of the public are asked to comment on all the cleanup options, including the selected alternative. After public comments have been considered, a final decision is made and documented in a Record of Decision (ROD). The Remedial Design follows the ROD and includes technical drawings and specifications that show how the cleanup will be conducted.

Cleanup, or Remedial Action, begins after the Remedial Design is complete. This phase involves site preparation and construction activities. When these remediation activities are completed, verification surveys are conducted to ensure that cleanup objectives for the site have been met and are documented in a Post Remedial Action Report.

## What Are FUSRAP's Objectives?

The objectives of FUSRAP are to:

- Protect human health and the environment.
- Execute the approved alternative for cleaning up radioactive contamination above health-based cleanup guidelines.
- Minimize adverse effects on areas business operations.



Former AEC work areas are now under FUSRAP. These areas are identified in red hatchings on this map.