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Department of Energy

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July 27, 1992

Mr. Gregory D. McCabe
Site Assessment and Federal
Facility Section - Superfund Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region VII
726 Minnesota Avenue
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

Dear Mr. McCabe:

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD APRIL-JUNE 1992

The following items represent the significant activities and achievements related to the FUSRAP St. Louis Site for the period April-June 1992:

- All Federal Facilities Agreement milestone activities were completed on or ahead of schedule:
 - 1) The draft final of Baseline Risk Assessment was forwarded to EPA in May.
 - 2) DOE received EPA's comments on the draft Initial Screening of Alternatives (ISA), the draft Field Sampling Plan for the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study-Environmental Impact Statement for the St. Louis Site, and the draft Quality Assurance Project Plan. During the reporting period, DOE initiated work on comment resolution and revision of these documents.
- The Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis-Environmental Assessment (EE/CA-EA) for North County cleanup was issued for a 30-day public comment period during April and May. Numerous positive comments were received from local property owners, utility companies, and others. Some less enthusiastic comments were received from local politicians who would prefer that wastes not be placed in interim storage at HISS.
- St. Louis County Council passed a resolution requesting that the County Executive establish a technical review committee that would work with DOE in guiding interim cleanup work. DOE is currently awaiting the establishment of this group prior to proceeding with any non-emergency interim cleanup work in North County.

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- Work to upgrade HISS to expand the site's storage capacity was completed. These upgrades included construction of: (1) a new decontamination pad; (2) a concrete secondary containment for the water storage tank; (3) a new 1200 square foot storage building; (4) a haul road and dump ramp at the south end of the site; (5) regrading of storm water drainage ditches at the site to accommodate any future construction of a new storage pile.
- During June, FUSRAP field personnel began bar-coding drums and LSA boxes containing radioactive materials at the sites. This barcode inventory control system is designed to provide better field control, inspection, internal reporting, and materials management on FUSRAP.
- In May, an observation platform was constructed on the back of the information center in St. Louis to provide an overview of the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS). The observation platform meets the intent of recommendations in a recently issued EPA guidance document: "Community Relations in Superfund: A Handbook" (EPA/540/R92/009, January 1992).
- FUSRAP personnel met with representatives of Mallinckrodt, EPA, and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) on May 5 to present an overview of past and planned site characterization efforts and a review of radiological and chemical data that have been collected for the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS) under FUSRAP. The presentation was given to provide background information for a RCRA solid waste management unit (SWMU) assessment that Mallinckrodt has been requested to conduct before its hazardous waste storage permit is renewed.
- DOE provided Mallinckrodt with technical assistance in several areas during the quarter:
 - 1) Radiological surveys were conducted in April to support Mallinckrodt's preparations for removal of a condensate tank from Laboratory 25 and a large "pancake" dryer from Building 50. Support was also provided during removal of the concrete base for the dryer; the concrete debris was determined to be uncontaminated.
 - 2) Soil samples were taken for analysis to support disposition of piles of soil and rubble near Buildings 250 and 117 in support of Mallinckrodt's efforts to improve the appearance of the site.
 - 3) FUSRAP provided radiological support to Mallinckrodt during the excavation of a ruptured water main. No new contaminated wastes were produced during this effort.
 - 4) FUSRAP provided radiological support for the drilling of boreholes and limited excavation around Buildings 90 and 91 so that a seismic study could be performed to determine the structural

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stability of the building foundations.

- 5) During May, FUSRAP provided radiological support to Mallinckrodt during preparations to remove a dryer and drum conveyor assembly from Building 51.
 - 6) FUSRAP performed down-hole gamma logging and provided radiological support while Mallinckrodt drilled 12 geologic bore holes around Buildings 50/51. The core samples were intended for analysis to support construction of a new facility.
 - 7) FUSRAP provided radiologic support during excavation at Mallinckrodt for an electrical substation near Building 8. The excavated soil was determined to be uncontaminated; however, drill spoils from two of four pier locations for the substation did contain small amounts of contamination, and these soils were containerized and are stored in Building 116.
- Mallinckrodt informed FUSRAP that it intends to construct a RCRA storage pad in plant Area 7S. Because this location does contain some radioactively contaminated soils, FUSRAP began preparing engineering plans and drawings for excavation of the contaminated soil in this area prior to Mallinckrodt's construction of the RCRA pad.
 - Mallinckrodt expressed the need that it must either perform significant structural improvements to Buildings 50/51, or to move their operations in these buildings to other facilities. They have requested that DOE evaluate the level of support that FUSRAP would provide in helping Mallinckrodt address any radioactive contamination problems that might be encountered during these activities. FUSRAP began work on a scoping engineering study/estimate to evaluate this issue.
 - On May 6, a FUSRAP representative attended a meeting between representatives of the Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Program (WSSRAP) and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) regarding site suitability for a waste storage cell at the Weldon Spring site. The discussion provided FUSRAP with good background material regarding the state's siting criteria and standards, and was directly relevant to FUSRAP's evaluation of whether SLAPS is an appropriate disposal location for waste generated during the cleanup of the St. Louis Site.
 - During June, the community relations specialist and the St. Louis administrative coordinator for FUSRAP met with representatives of the Times Beach cleanup project and WSSRAP to share ideas and strategies for effective community relations activities in the metropolitan St. Louis area.
 - On June 1, a representative from FUSRAP spoke to approximately 60 students in two ecology classes at Clayton High School in Clayton,

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Missouri. The students were briefed on the history of FUSRAP, the process for preparing environmental documentation, and the interim cleanup proposal that DOE has made.

- Representatives from FUSRAP met with State Representative Louis H. Ford and leaders from communities in the vicinity of SLDS on June 11th. The meeting focused on progress of cleanup activities at SLDS. The local officials made a preliminary decision to follow the cleanup schedule more closely and to consider appointing an oversight committee to monitor the cleanup.
- During the quarter, preparations were also underway to conduct the data gap field sampling defined in the Field Sampling Plan (FSP). DOE's objective is conduct and complete this field sampling work at the earliest possible time. This is so that the information can be analyzed and incorporated into the Feasibility Study-Environmental Impact Statement that is scheduled to be submitted to EPA early next calendar year. To that end, DOE hopes to facilitate regular and early communication with EPA as the FSP is finalized so that the negotiated FFA milestones can be met.

During this quarterly period, environmental sampling consisted of the routine quarterly monitoring and some limited radiological surveys and sampling. A summary of these activities is enclosed. As always, all raw data and analyses are available for your review and inspection to the extent that you request.

During the third quarter of 1992 (July-September), DOE will submit the following items for EPA review:

- The final draft of the Initial Screening of Alternatives (ISA) for the St. Louis Site (this has been completed and was submitted on July 7th).
- The final draft of the Field Sampling Plan (FSP) and Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPjP) will be submitted by August 18th.

Please advise if you have questions or comments regarding this quarterly report.

David G. Adler, Site Manager
Former Sites restoration Division

Enclosure

cc: D.E. Bedan (MDNR)
H. Hickman (M&E)

Enclosure

Summary of Second Quarter 1992
Sampling and Analysis
for the St. Louis Site

The following is a summary of the environmental samples taken for the three FUSRAP sites in St. Louis during the second calendar quarter of 1992. The three sites are the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS), the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS), and the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS).

A total of 94 samples were collected during the second quarter of 1992 and submitted for various radionuclide and chemical analyses and exposure measurements. They are grouped by sample type, as follows:

Groundwater

Thirteen groundwater samples were collected from 12 monitoring wells at HISS. The samples were submitted for the following radiological analyses: radium-226, thorium-230, and total uranium. Of the radiological samples submitted for analysis, one was a field duplicate and two were collected from background locations. Basic chemical indicator analyses were performed onsite and included pH and specific conductivity. All analytical results for the groundwater samples collected at HISS were consistent with results from previous sampling efforts.

Eleven groundwater samples were collected from 10 monitoring wells at SLAPS. The samples were submitted for the following radiological analyses: radium-226, thorium-230, and total uranium. Of the radiological samples submitted for analysis, one was a field duplicate and two were collected from background locations. Basic chemical indicator analyses were performed onsite and included pH and specific conductivity. All analytical results for groundwater samples collected at SLAPS were consistent with results from previous sampling efforts.

Surface Water

Seven surface water samples were collected from six locations in Coldwater Creek adjacent to HISS. Each sample was submitted for the following radiological analyses: radium-226, thorium-230, and total uranium. Basic chemical indicator analyses were performed onsite and included pH and specific conductivity. Of the seven samples submitted for analysis at HISS, one was a field duplicate and one was collected from a background location. All analytical results for surface water samples collected adjacent to HISS were consistent with results from previous sampling efforts.

Nine surface water samples were collected from eight locations in Coldwater Creek adjacent to SLAPS. Each sample was submitted for the following radiological analyses: radium-226, thorium-230, and total uranium. Basic chemical indicator analyses were performed onsite and included pH and specific

conductivity. Of the nine samples submitted for analysis at SLAPS, one was a field duplicate and one was collected from a background location. All analytical results for surface water samples collected at SLAPS were consistent with results from previous sampling efforts.

Sediment

Seven sediment samples were collected from six locations along Coldwater Creek adjacent to HISS. Each sample was submitted for the following radiological analyses: radium-226, thorium-230, and total uranium. Of the seven samples submitted for analysis at HISS, one was a field duplicate and one was collected from a background location. All analytical results for sediment samples collected at HISS were consistent with results from previous sampling efforts.

Seven sediment samples were collected from six locations along Coldwater Creek adjacent to SLAPS. Each sample was submitted for the following radiological analyses: radium-226, thorium-230, and total uranium. Of the seven samples submitted for analysis at SLAPS, one was a field duplicate and one was collected from a background location. All analytical results for sediment samples collected at SLAPS were consistent with results from previous sampling efforts.

Radon

At HISS, 12 radon measurements were collected from 11 locations. Of the 12 measurements taken, one was a field duplicate and two were collected from background locations. Analytical results for radon concentrations at HISS had not returned from the lab at the time of preparing this report. This information will be provided in the next quarterly report.

At SLAPS, twelve radon measurements were collected from eleven locations. Of the twelve measurements taken, one was a field duplicate and three were collected from background locations. Analytical results for radon concentrations at SLAPS had not returned from the lab at the time of preparing this report. This information will be provided in the next quarterly report.

Radiological Characterization

Several samples were collected at SLDS for radiological analysis in support of Mallinckrodt's ongoing construction and operations activities at the site. Twelve soil samples and four water samples were collected and analyzed for total uranium, thorium-232, thorium-230, and radium-226. Of the 12 soil samples collected, three were duplicates; and of the four water samples collected, two were duplicates. The analyses were used to segregate those materials that exceeded DOE cleanup guidelines from those that did not. Those materials that did exceed the DOE cleanup guideline were placed into interim storage in Building 116.

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Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for the St. Louis Site, Missouri



U.S. Department of Energy