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Department of Energy

Field Office, Oak Ridge
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January 28, 1993

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

Dear Mr. Wall:

ST. LOUIS SITE - QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER-DECEMBER 1992

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

- All Federal Facilities Agreement activities were completed on or ahead of schedule:
 - 1) The Initial Screening of Alternatives (ISA) and the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPjP) were designated as "final" by EPA.
 - 2) DOE responded to a final set of EPA comments on the "draft final" Field Sampling Plan on November 16th.
 - 3) On November 4th, the DOE and EPA project managers and their respective agency management met in Kansas City to discuss the range of remedial alternatives for the St. Louis Site. The discussions addressed decision-making criteria for selecting an alternative and the impacts of alternatives ranging from beneficial reuse and institutional controls to full excavation and out-of-state disposal. This meeting also served as the quarterly project managers' meeting.
- The majority of the field sampling work associated with "data gap sampling" was completed by mid-September; however, some additional activities continued into the fourth quarter. This included development and sampling of newly installed wells; sampling and surveying of manholes, drains, and sewers at St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS); and collection of background soil and water samples. The samples have been shipped to the analytical laboratories for analysis; results are expected to continue coming in through early 1993.

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- DOE installed automated, continuous water-level monitors in selected wells at the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS), the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS), and at SLDS. Historically, water level measurements have been done manually on a periodic basis in order to assess hydrogeologic conditions at the sites. The automated water-level measurements will provide more accurate data while simultaneously reducing the labor costs associated with any future monitoring that may be performed by DOE. Once baseline data have been collected at the selected wells, and as conditions and circumstances warrant, the equipment can be moved to other wells to collect similar data at those wells.
- In November, DOE submitted a report to EPA summarizing the results of radon flux monitoring conducted at HISS during December 1991 and July 1992. The report indicated that radon flux levels were significantly reduced by the radon abatement work performed on the large pile in late 1991.
- The annual Site Environmental Report (SER) for the HISS was released to the public in November. The report indicated that environmental conditions at the site have remained stable and that there were no releases from the site that posed significant environmental or human health risk. Both EPA and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) received copies of the report.

The report also generated media interest upon its release. David Adler participated in two media interviews during mid-November as a result of distribution of the SER; one with a radio station and the other with the St. Louis County Journal newspaper.

- During October and November, DOE initiated and completed consolidation of small amounts of contaminated material from various locations around SLDS. Over the past several years, Mallinckrodt Specialty Chemical Company (MSCC) construction activities had resulted in local storage of small material stockpiles (containing contaminated roofing debris, soils, etc.). The material, some of which contains asbestos, was placed in LSA boxes and/or bulk storage bags and transferred to Building 116.
- During October and November, DOE completed replacement of the roof and refurbishment of roof structures on Building 116. These modifications have eliminated rain in-leakage that had been occurring prior to this work.
- During the past quarter, MSCC initiated significant construction activity at SLDS. Three major construction projects are underway: two new buildings are being constructed in Plant 2 (one immediately north of the Building 50/51 complex, and one immediately south of the Building 50/51 complex), and one new building in Plant 1 (replacing Buildings 19 and 20 which were demolished). During the course of excavation and drilling in Plant 2, MSCC has generated spoils which it has placed in

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storage "caddies" pending radiological analysis of samples taken by MSCC. Several other smaller MSCC construction and maintenance activities have also been underway at the site.

- DOE has advised MSCC that it will be more selective in undertaking future interim removal actions at SLDS. DOE has continually maintained that it would only undertake removal actions consistent with DOE's long term cleanup objectives for the site. The Feasibility Study-Environmental Impact Statement (FS-EIS) has developed options for leaving inaccessible soils in place at SLDS. Because these options are considered to be technically acceptable remedial alternatives, DOE considers it inappropriate to expend significant dollars to perform interim removal actions to excavate and manage these soils at this time.
- During the quarter there were several interactions with local property owners in the North County area with regard to contaminated vicinity properties. The most significant of these include:
 - a) The owner of the Futura property plans to remove underground storage tanks from that site. Although it is unlikely that there is radioactive contamination immediately around the tanks, DOE has agreed to provide advice and consultation on radiological matters to Futura and the contractor who is performing the tank removal work.
 - b) At the request of the City of Hazelwood, Norfolk & Western Railroad is preparing to refurbish the railroad crossing near the intersection of Hazelwood and Nyflot Avenues. DOE has agreed to consult with the railroad company to identify potential radiological and radwaste management concerns.
 - c) The owners of a Latty Avenue vicinity property on Seeger Drive have been seeking information on the radiological condition of their property during the course of negotiations to sell that property. A potential buyer who is interested in expanding the building on that site has also contacted DOE for information.
 - d) As of late December, at least two other Latty Avenue Vicinity Properties were for sale or lease. DOE will attempt to remain aware of ownership and tenant changes that might affect property utilization or radiological conditions on the properties.
- In early October, a senior member of DOE Assistant Secretary Leo Duffy's staff toured the St. Louis Site. Senior DOE Environmental Restoration officials are evaluating environmental risk and program cost throughout the DOE system in the context of the Department's overall cleanup objectives.
- In early November, a delegation of legislators from the Japanese Prefectural Assembly visited HISS as part of an intergovernmental exchange program hosted by Missouri state legislators and MDNR. MDNR

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representative Bob Eck escorted the visitors to HISS, and David Adler provided the group with a briefing on FUSRAP activities in St. Louis.

- In December, David Adler hosted the Environmental Quality subcommittee of the St. Louis League of Women Voters for a discussion of FUSRAP's plans for the Missouri Sites. Approximately a dozen League members attended the briefing -- which was conducted at DOE's St. Louis Information Center in Hazelwood.
- On December 16th, David Adler met with an Assistant City Counselor for the City of St. Louis to discuss DOE's position with regard to cleanup obligations and potential cost recovery for SLAPS. During the meeting, DOE also indicated that as a result of completion of field investigation at the site, it intends to demobilize from SLAPS and return full control of the site to the City by mid-1993.

DOE has initiated activities to demobilize from the site. This has included removal of an office/storage trailer, equipment and materials. DOE is currently evaluating the feasibility of sending combustible radtrash and PPE generated during remedial investigation and site maintenance efforts for commercial incineration.

- In early December, DOE offered to brief the Hazelwood and Berkeley city councils on the status of the development of remedial alternatives for the St. Louis Site. As a result, DOE and the respective councils have scheduled an informal workshop in early February.

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

During the first quarter of 1993 (January-March), DOE submittals to EPA will include:

- A preliminary copy of the draft Feasibility Study/Environmental Impact Statement (FS-EIS) -- submitted in mid-January. The preliminary copy of the draft allows EPA an opportunity to review this complex document prior to DOE's submittal of the actual draft FS-EIS for the 60-day review provided in the FFA schedule.
- The actual draft version of the FS-EIS will be submitted in March.
- The draft Proposed Plan will be submitted in March.

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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 Fourth Quarter 1992
Sampling and Analysis at the St. Louis Site

The following is a summary of fourth quarter environmental data collected for FUSRAP sites in St. Louis. The three sites are the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS), the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS) and its associated vicinity properties, and the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS). Data was collected in support of the routine environmental monitoring program, regulatory requirements, and characterization of the sites. The intent of the environmental monitoring program is to document compliance with appropriate standards, to provide the public with information, to provide a historical record for year-to-year comparisons, and to identify environmental impacts. The intent of the characterization programs is to delineate areas of contamination for future remediation. A total of 230 samples and measurements were collected during the fourth quarter of 1992 and submitted for various radionuclide and chemical analyses and exposure measurements. Specific information on the locations of sampling and results for HISS from past monitoring events are available in the published annual Site Environmental Report for HISS.

Groundwater

At HISS, five groundwater samples were taken as part of the environmental monitoring program (additional groundwater samples were taken in support of the data gap sampling effort and are discussed in the section on radiological/chemical characterization). Each sample was submitted for the following radiological analyses: radium-226, thorium-230, and total uranium. Basic chemical indicator analyses were performed in the field and included pH and specific conductivity. At HISS, analytical results for total uranium, radium-226, and thorium-230 were less than 11% of the DOE derived concentration guideline (DCG) of 600 pCi/L, less than 2% of the DOE DCG of 100 pCi/L, and less than 2% of the DOE DCG of 300 pCi/L, respectively.

A water quality analysis was performed on groundwater at the sites. Five wells were analyzed in total, three from HISS and one each from SLAPS and SLDS. Samples were analyzed for chloride, sulfate, sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, carbonate, bicarbonate, total dissolved solids and settleable solids.

Surface Water

At SLAPS, eight surface water samples were collected and at HISS seven surface water samples were taken as part of the environmental monitoring and surveillance program. Each sample was submitted for the following radiological analyses: radium-226, thorium-230, and total uranium. Basic chemical indicator analyses were performed in the field and included pH and

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Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for the St. Louis Site, Missouri



U.S. Department of Energy