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Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Field Office
P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831— 8723

July 30, 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:

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD APRIL-JUNE 1993

The following items represent the significant activities and achievements related to the FUSRAP St. Louis Site for the period April-June 1993:

- All Federal Facility Agreement activities were completed on or ahead of agreed-to schedules:
 - 1) DOE submitted the addendum to the remedial investigation report to EPA on May 13, 1993 -- approximately three months ahead of the August schedule that had been agreed to with EPA.
 - 2) DOE received EPA comments on the first drafts of the Feasibility Study-Environmental Impact Statement (FS-EIS) and the Proposed Plan (PP) on May 24, and initiated the comment resolution process to target submittal of the draft final documents within the 60-day timeframe stipulated in the Federal Facility Agreement.
 - 2) DOE and EPA mutually agreed to defer the second quarter project managers' meeting until July 7, 1993 to allow the meeting to focus on a substantive discussion of EPA's comments on the FS-EIS/PP, as well as the proposed DOE resolution of those comments.
- On May 19, the DOE Site Manager and a DOE-HQ management representative met with the EPA Region VII Acting Regional Administrator and regional staff to discuss the proposed remedy for the St. Louis Site. During the meeting, DOE agreed to provide EPA with detailed, technical background information that was developed to support the conclusions in the FS-EIS.

Mr. Dan Wall

2

July 30, 1993

- On June 3, the DOE Site Manager and the Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environmental Restoration met with the Director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to discuss the remedy selection process. The discussion focused on ensuring appropriate coordination during the resolution of open issues between MDNR management and staff, and DOE.
- During May and June, DOE made minor site modifications to the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS) and Public Information Center:
 - A stormwater catch basin and drain pipe were installed at the site's north stormwater outfall. Prior to that, stormwater leaving the site during heavy rain events was backing-up around the outfall because the downstream drain line leading to the Metropolitan St. Louis's Sewer District's stormwater drains had insufficient capacity. The ponding and backup of water at the outfall (where National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit measurements are taken to quantify water volumes leaving the site) had been resulting in erroneously high estimates of the total water volume leaving the site during heavy rain events.
 - A concrete walkway and access area were installed around the Public Information Center stairs to bring the facility into full compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.
 - The security fence around the facility was moved to provide the public with direct access to the information center without passing through a barbed-wire fence and gate. The size of the public parking area was then also increased to accommodate the small public meetings periodically held at the facility.
- Repairs were made to the cover of the small storage pile at HISS during the week of May 17. The need for the repairs was documented during routine weekly inspections of the cover that revealed small holes and separations in the seams of the synthetic cover material.
- On May 13, FUSRAP conducted an emergency response drill at HISS. The drill included emergency medical response to an injured person in a contaminated area, as well as the notifications necessary during an emergency situation. The FUSRAP team participating in the drill performed well.
- As was previously reported to EPA via teleconference, DOE was approached by a company on Latty Avenue that is in the process of closing it's oil processing activities at that location. Small areas on the property contain hydrocarbon residues which the company plans to voluntarily remediate prior to vacating the facility. A small portion of the hydrocarbon-contaminated area overlaps radioactive contamination on the site.

Mr. Dan Wall

3

July 30, 1993

The company intends to remediate the hydrocarbon contamination using either in situ bioremediation (with addition of microbes and limited mixing of the soil) or ex situ bioremediation using a bioreactor. The company has been advised that based on the radioactivity levels present in the soil, there was no significant potential for worker radiation exposure. They were also advised that they should not remove any radioactively contaminated soil from the site. DOE has agreed to provide the company with further advice on dealing with the radioactive contamination should they so request.

- The owner of the Futura property has requested permission to relocate a 100' portion of the HISS fence on the southwest side to facilitate truck traffic on the Futura site. DOE has advised Futura that they can relocate that portion of fence.
- As has been reported in previous quarterly reports, DOE continued its demobilization from the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS). For the past several years, while DOE was undertaking characterization of the site, DOE acted as the site caretaker on behalf of the property owner, the City of St. Louis. Having completed the site characterization, DOE is returning responsibility for the site caretaker role to the city.

On June 9, FUSRAP representatives met with the St. Louis city attorney responsible for environmental issues. Discussions focused on DOE's demobilization from SLAPS and current site conditions. The discussions also included the status of the remedy selection process for the St. Louis sites, including the options for using SLAPS as a permanent disposal facility. The city attorney acknowledged the city's responsibility for oversight, maintenance and access control at the site.

On June 10, FUSRAP representatives met with the St. Louis Airport Authority, including the outgoing Airport Director, General Donald Bennett. The Airport Authority is the city entity that manages SLAPS and the ballfield property on behalf of the city. The discussions focused on the turnover of site management and maintenance responsibilities; and Airport Authority representatives acknowledged the city's responsibility to resume full control of the site.

DOE will be completely demobilized from the site by July 31, 1993. Site activities during the past quarter contributing to this demobilization included the establishment of vegetative cover over investigation derived drill spoils and soils resulting from construction of the gabion wall along Coldwater Creek. All DOE utilities, including electric, water, and telephone were disconnected.

- At the St. Louis Downtown Site, FUSRAP personnel worked with Mallinckrodt personnel to coordinate packaging and storage of radioactive waste generated by Mallinckrodt so that the waste would be acceptable for storage in Building 116. To minimize the potential for

Mr. Dan Wall

4

July 30, 1993

future FUSRAP liability associated with these wastes, Mallinckrodt was provided with specific guidance on packaging and material acceptance criteria. These guidelines were developed in conjunction with Mallinckrodt, and reflect the waste streams they are expected to produce during the next 6-12 months. The guidelines are in compliance with the requirements in the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis for removal actions at SLDS.

Mallinckrodt has been active in undertaking construction activities at the site. They have hired a contractor for work in contaminated areas; and this work has resulted in generation of approximately 400 cubic yards of contaminated soil and demolition debris which has been moved into Building 116. At this time, the total inventory of stored contaminated material Building 116 is approximately 650 cubic yards.

- In the area of community relations, FUSRAP participated in or sponsored several activities designed to educate and inform the public about FUSRAP:
 - On March 31, FUSRAP conducted a presentation for 90 fifth-graders at Walker Elementary School in Berkeley, Missouri. The students had been studying "How the Environment Affects Your Health," and the presentation focused on examples of radiation in the environment as well as a description of FUSRAP activities in St. Louis.
 - On April 7, a FUSRAP representative addressed 14 members of the Berkeley Betterment Commission regarding the current status of the St. Louis cleanup effort and the cleanup alternatives emerging from the feasibility study.
 - On April 8, a class of 22 third-graders from Wedgewood Elementary School in Hazelwood visited the DOE Information Center to learn about radiation and the environment.
 - On April 15, 33 fifth-graders from Grace Lutheran School visited the DOE Information Center in Hazelwood for a presentation on the basics of radiation.
 - On May 10, a FUSRAP representative presented a program overview to the Florissant Kiwanis during their weekly breakfast meeting.
 - On May 10, the DOE Site Manager made a presentation to the St. Louis County Hazardous and Radioactive Waste Commission. The Commission is a group of local elected officials, county government health administrators, members of the academic community, and environmental activists. The group was briefed on the status of the remedy selection process, alternatives being considered, and relative cost of the alternatives. As a whole, the group was fairly neutral; but much discussion focused on the

Mr. Dan Wall

5

July 30, 1993

high cost of all the alternatives versus the relatively low health risk presented by the FUSRAP sites.

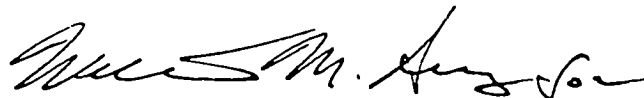
- On June 10, FUSRAP representatives met with ten members of the St. Louis Coalition for the Environment to discuss the status of the remedy selection process for the St. Louis sites. There was a lively, constructive discussion of the Coalition's positions regarding cleanup alternatives.

During this quarterly period, environmental sampling/analysis activities consisted of routine surveillance and limited radiological surveys and measurements. A summary of these activities and the analytical results available 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 third quarter of 1993 (July-September), DOE submittals to EPA will include:

- The reports entitled "Evaluation of Contaminated Sediment Transport in Coldwater Creek, St. Louis, Missouri (July 1992)" and "Site Suitability Study for the St. Louis Airport Site (July 1992)" -- which were provided to EPA during the quarterly Project Managers' Meeting on July 7, 1993.
- The draft final FS-EIS and proposed plan -- which were submitted by letter on July 21, 1993. In addition, DOE also provided copies of the "Letter Report on the Risks Associated with Contaminated Sediments Present in Coldwater Creek" and the "Groundwater Flow and Transport Model for the Airport Area, St. Louis, Missouri" on July 21, 1993.

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 1993 Sampling and Analysis at the St. Louis Site

The following is a summary of environmental data collected for FUSRAP sites in St. Louis during the second quarter of 1993. Data was collected in support of routine environmental surveillance, regulatory permit requirements, and characterization. A total of 41 samples and measurements were collected during the second quarter and submitted for various radionuclide and chemical analyses:

Sediment

Seven sediment samples were collected at HISS in support of the routine environmental surveillance activity at the site. The maximum concentration of radium-226, thorium-230, thorium-232, and total uranium were 1.9, 4.0, 1.3, and 3.5 pCi/g, respectively (all sediment results include background). All of the results were below the Department of Energy (DOE) guidelines of 5 pCi/gm (radium and thorium) and 100 pCi/g (total uranium) above background for residual radioactivity in surface soils.

Groundwater

Seven groundwater samples were collected at HISS in support of the routine environmental surveillance activity at the site. The maximum concentration of radium-226, thorium-230, thorium-232, and total uranium were 2.1, 0.51, 0.09, and 6.84 pCi/l, respectively (all groundwater results include background). All results were below the DOE guidelines of 100, 300, 50, and 600 pCi/l above background for radium-226, thorium-230, thorium-232, and total uranium, respectively.

Surface Water

Seven surface water samples were collected at HISS in support of the routine environmental surveillance activity at the site. The maximum concentration of radium-226, thorium-230, thorium-232, and total uranium were 0.38, 0.31, 0.14, and 8.0 pCi/l, respectively (all surface water results include background). All results were below the DOE guidelines of 100, 300, 50, and 600 pCi/l above background for radium-226, thorium-230, thorium-232, and total uranium, respectively.

Radiological/Chemical Characterization

Three samples were collected from a tank used to hold decontamination water at HISS. Of the three samples, one was a water sample and two were sludge samples taken from the bottom of the tank. The water was analyzed for gross alpha and gross beta levels; the sludge was analyzed for radium-226, thorium-230, thorium-232, and uranium-238. Laboratory results have not been returned at this time, and final disposition of the water/sludge has not been determined.

At SLDS two archive soil samples were analyzed to determine contamination depth at two locations on the site. Both samples were analyzed for radium-226, thorium-230, thorium-232, and uranium-238. Laboratory results have not been returned at this time.

Fifteen asbestos samples were collected from building demolition and renovation rubble at SLDS. Nine of the samples were composite samples obtained from material stored in an LSA box. All nine samples were positive for asbestos, but negative for radioactive contamination; therefore, the material will be disposed of as an asbestos containing material. The other six samples were taken from pipe insulation in Building 116; however, results have not been received from the laboratory.

SL-226

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Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for the St. Louis Site, Missouri



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