

DOE FUSRAP Fact Sheet

St. Louis Sites

August 1990

DOE, EPA sign agreement to coordinate St. Louis cleanup activities

The Department of Energy (DOE) and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) signed an agreement in July that outlines the environmental review process to be used in making a decision on the ultimate disposition of radioactive materials from the St. Louis Airport Superfund Site, and associated contaminated properties. The goal of this process is to reach a Record of Decision which describes the selected cleanup alternative. As a key element of the process, the public is provided opportunities to comment on and participate in the decision-making process.

A range of alternatives, including offsite disposal and onsite disposal will be evaluated. Selection of a disposal site will not be made until completion of a full environmental review, currently scheduled for 1994. DOE will design and

implement the cleanup after a Record of Decision has been reached.

Summary

- DOE has established a program to cleanup residual radioactivity at the St. Louis Downtown Site, the St. Louis Airport Site and the Latty Avenue Properties
- Results of extensive sampling studies conducted at the St. Louis Sites demonstrate that existing contamination poses no health hazard under current land use conditions
- Once appropriate environmental reviews are completed, affected areas will be cleaned up as necessary to ensure long-term protection of human health and the environment.
- In September, St. Louis site information will be available at the FUSRAP Information Office located at 9200 Latty Avenue

For more information or to be included on the mailing list for updates about the site call or write : **David Adler, St. Louis Site Manager**

In St. Louis, MO
FUSRAP Information Office
9200 Latty Avenue
Hazelwood, Mo 63033
(314) 524-4083

In Oak Ridge, TN
Department of Energy
Technical Services Division P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-8723
(615) 576-0948

FUSRAP Program

The St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS) and the Latty Avenue Properties, as well as the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS) are all part of the DOE's Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). The objectives of FUSRAP are to identify sites that were used by the government or its contractors in the early years of the nation's atomic energy program and ensure that those sites meet current environmental standards. FUSRAP presently includes 32 sites in 13 states.

History

During World War II, uranium was processed at a chemical plant operated by Mallinckrodt in downtown St. Louis. Residues from that processing and from the cleanup of buildings at the plant were stored at a 21-acre parcel of land that was owned by the Atomic Energy Commission on McDonnell Boulevard just north of the Lambert-St. Louis International Airport. In 1966, some of the residues were purchased by a private firm for their commercial value and trucked to a site on Latty Avenue, about a half-mile north of the airport site.

As a result of these activities, three FUSRAP sites in the Greater St. Louis area contain levels of radioactivity above current standards and require some type of remedial action. DOE has also identified more than 70 "haul route" properties in the general airport area that may be contaminated as a result of hauling materials from the airport site to Latty Avenue. The low-level radioactivity found at these sites poses no threat to public health or the environment, given current land use. Achieving cleanup standards will ensure that the sites pose no significant risk, even if land use changes significantly.

Work to Date

In the past several years DOE has accomplished a great deal of work at the St. Louis sites. This work consisted primarily of characterization (sampling and analysis to determine the nature and extent of contamination). Characterization has been completed at SLAPS, the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS) and at the St. Louis Downtown Site. Recently completed work focused on Coldwater Creek and about 70 "haul route" properties. Work on Coldwater Creek involved collection and analysis of soil samples from the creek between Pershall Road and Old Halls Ferry Road. Contamination, at low levels, was found at some sampling locations. Work along the haul routes indicated some contamination on road shoulders and adjacent properties. In general, where contamination was found the levels were low and at shallow depths (less than one foot). While the characterization is essentially complete, some additional investigation in the creek and along the haul routes will be needed.

Site Information

In September, DOE will establish a FUSRAP Information Office at 9200 Latty Avenue in St. Louis. Additionally, DOE has established an Administrative Record containing the body of information upon which decisions about the cleanup will be based. This record and a general information repository are available for review, during normal business hours, in the Government Information Section at the St. Louis Public Library, 1301 Olive Street, St. Louis, MO 63103, and at the St. Louis County Library, Prairie Commons Branch, 915 Utz Lane, Hazelwood, MO 63042.