



**THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT ON
AN ENGINEERING EVALUATION/COST ANALYSIS
FOR DECONTAMINATION
AT THE ST. LOUIS DOWNTOWN SITE
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) invites public comment on an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) for Decontamination at the St. Louis Downtown Site, St. Louis, Missouri. The EE/CA report has been prepared in support of DOE's proposed interim decontamination and removal activities at the St. Louis Downtown Site, which is owned by Mallinckrodt, Inc.

DOE is implementing these measures under its Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). DOE established FUSRAP to identify and cleanup or control sites where radioactive contamination (exceeding DOE guidelines) remains from early years of the nation's atomic energy program.

The St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS) contains radioactive residues from uranium processing activities conducted at SLDS during and after World War II. The radioactive contamination present at SLDS poses no immediate risk to the public health or the environment. The decontamination and removal activity at SLDS is being proposed as a near term remedy because plant activities involving excavation or renovation could result in the generation of dust and other materials and inadvertent spread of contamination.

The proposed decontamination activities at SLDS are intermediate actions related to the overall remedial action planned for radioactively contaminated materials at SLDS. Implementation of comprehensive cleanup measures will be preceded by a complete environmental review process including preparation of Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study reports as required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.

Waste control alternatives considered included removal, reprocessing/treatment, interim storage, disposal, access restriction, and no action. The three alternative strategies analyzed are as follows:

- Alternative 1: No action
- Alternative 2: Decontamination and/or removal of contaminated soil, with interim storage off site and/or disposal off site
- Alternative 3: Decontamination and/or removal of contaminated structural material and excavation of contaminated soil, with interim storage at SLDS. This alternative includes the use of site access restrictions

Based on available information, the alternative preferred by DOE for SLDS is Alternative 3. This alternative includes decontamination with removal of contaminated structural material, removal (excavation) of contaminated soils, consolidation of the wastes, and placement of these wastes in prepared areas on the site for controlled interim storage until the environmental review process is complete and a long-term waste management plan is approved.

The EE/CA report summarizes the analysis of the waste control alternatives and the rationale for the selection of Alternative 3 as the preferred measure. The EE/CA report is available for public review in the administrative record for the St. Louis Downtown Site. The administrative record is located in the Government Information Section of the St. Louis Public Library, 1301 Olive Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63103; the St. Louis County Library, Prairie Commons Branch, 915 Utz Lane, Hazelwood, Missouri 63042; and the DOE Public Information Office, 9200 Latty Avenue, Hazelwood, Missouri 63042.

The public may comment on the proposed plan by submitting written comments through July 10, 1991, to David G. Adler at the address below. For more information contact:

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Former Sites Restoration Division

St. Louis
Post Dispatch
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