

The U.S. Department of Energy is seeking public comment on an

Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis-Environmental Assessment (EE/CA-EA) for the

proposed decontamination of properties in the vicinity of the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site (HISS).

The EE/CA-EA report has been prepared in support of the removal of radioactively contaminated soil from residential, commercial, and municipal properties in the communities of Hazelwood and Berkeley in the North County area.

The report analyzes the waste control alternatives for cleanup of the Hazelwood and Berkeley properties and the rationale for selection of removal/excavation of the contaminated soil as the preferred action.

The removal action currently being oposed is an interim action pending completion in 1995 of a comprehensive environmental review of the St. Louis sites that were contaminated during the early days of the government's atomic energy program. The interim plan and the long-term review are part of DOE's Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

Implementation of comprehensive cleanup measures will be preceded by a complete environmental review process including preparation of a remedial investigation/feasibility study-environmental impact statement. This review is required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The properties slated for cleanup pose no immediate threat to the public or the environment, but DOE is concerned that contaminated soil could be inadvertently moved by property owners. The targeted properties are those where business expansion, development, or even routine maintenance has been slowed because of the possibility of further spread of contamination.

The properties included in the cleanup were contaminated during the 1960s and 70s when uranium processing residues created during World War II were bought by a private company and transported between the St. Louis Airport Site and the Latty Avenue properties.

The DOE proposal includes transporting

the contaminated soils to the Hazelwood Interim

Storage Site for temporary storage until the environmental review process is completed. Following approval of a long-term waste management plan, the waste would then be shipped to an appropriate facility for permanent disposal.

During the next 30 days through May 8,

1992, DOE is looking forward to receiving written comments. The address is:

> David G. Adler, Site Manager U.S. Department of Energy Oak Ridge Field Office Former Sites Restoration Division P.O. Box 2001 Oak Ridge, TN 37831-8723.

The FE/CA-EA report may be viewed by the public in the administrative record along with other documents related to the environmental review process. The administrative record is available during normal business hours at the following locations:

> Government Information Section St. Louis Public Library 1301 Olive Street St. Louis, MO St. Louis County Library

Prairie Commons Branch 915 Utz Lane Hazelwood, MO

DOE Public Information Center 9200 Latry Ave. Hazelwood, MO

Copies of the EE/CA-EA may also be requested through the DOE Public Information Center at 9200 Latty Avenue, Hazeiwood, MO 63042, telephone (314) 524-4083. Or requestors may call the DOE toll-free information number, 1-(800)253-9759, and leave a message which will be answered promptly.