FUSRAP ST. LOUIS DOWNTOWN SITE PROPOSED PLAN FOR INACCESSIBLE SOILS OPERABLE UNIT GROUP 1 PROPERTIES

PUBLIC HEARING
JANUARY 30, 2014
CLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
3820 North 14th Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63107

Celeste D. Nicolls, CSR, RPR, CCR CSR #084-002795

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MS. HUCKSTEP

- MS. HUCKSTEP: Good evening. Oh, he's
- 2 taping. Stop. Good evening and welcome to the public
- 3 hearing for the FUSRAP St. Louis Downtown Site Proposed
- 4 Plan For Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit Group 1
- 5 Properties. Glad you could all come. As most of you
- 6 know, I'm Ramona Huckstep. I'm with the Missouri
- 7 Department of Natural Resources. I was not scheduled to
- 8 speak tonight. I am filling in for the regular
- 9 facilitator who's stuck-in a snowstorm somewhere. But
- 10 since I like talking to people, they're going to let me
- 11 do it.
- Let's see, I wanted to introduce our various
- groups that are present here tonight. We have some
- 14 folks from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.
- Raise your hand. That would be me, (inaudible) and
- 16 Jake. Other agencies might be the Army Corps of
- 17 Engineers. Raise your hands, stand up. Okay. Anybody
- 18 else? Who am I forgetting? Contractors, citizen folks,
- 19 all right.
- Thank you for all coming. I did want to
- 21 point out there are some cameras around the room. They
- 22 are not affiliated with the Army Corps of Engineers or
- 23 the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. They're
- 24 filming for themselves.
- If you haven't signed in, please make sure

- 1 you sign in. And if you are going to make a comment
- this evening, make sure that you signed in back there
- 3 also to make a comment. It's at the registration table.
- 4 If you want to send in written comments after this
- 5 hearing, you can do that. And there's an address, fact
- 6 sheets that have the address on it. Or lots of people
- 7 that will gladly give it to you as well.
- 8 Exits, I need to point out those -- there,
- 9 there and there. Restrooms, there's a main one there.
- 10 There's, a ladies' room is down there. Men's room is
- 11 down there. Water fountains are right out the door.
- 12 Also, if you could mute your cell phones, which I don't
- 13 think I did, but just ignore it. And making sure that
- 14 you can hear. If at any time point throughout the
- 15 meeting, you can't hear, just raise your hand or holler
- 16 or something. Sometimes, if I get soft or Steve, you
- 17 know, wanders away from the mic, we want to make sure
- 18 you can hear.
- The objective of what we're doing today is in
- 20 a respectful and fair manner, that all participants get
- 21 their point of view, ask their questions or pose their
- 22 comments, provide an opportunity for the public to
- 23 provide comments concerning FUSRAP and this particular
- 24 project with the Proposed Plan For Inaccessible Soils.
- 25 I will be facilitating both the spoken and written

- 1 comments.
- When you do come up to the mic, and you ask
- your question or your comment, it will be so noted by
- 4 Cindy, our transcriptionist, who's been brought out
- 5 tonight. She may ask you to ask, to spell out your
- 6 name. Or if she can't hear you, because she's kind of
- 7 making sure that we get all that information down.
- The questions you may ask will not be
- 9 answered tonight. They will go in a Responsiveness
- 10 Summary if they're substantive and be responded to in
- 11 writing at that point. So, don't expect, you know,
- 12 Steve to go, "Oh, well..." He's not supposed to.
- 13 They're just going to record it for posterity and then,
- 14 answer it later on.
- For the agenda that we'll be doing tonight,
- 16 Mr. Steve Hamm with the Corps of Engineers, will be
- 17 providing a brief overview briefing of the process used
- 18 to reach the conclusions at the site for the proposed
- 19 plan. And then, there'll be the comment, public comment
- 20 session. Public comments may be spoken or written in
- 21 writing. Or both if you really want to.
- All comments, whether spoken or provided in
- writing throughout the 30 day public comment, which will
- end on February 13th of this year, and they'll be given
- equal consideration in defining the Record of Decision.

- 1 Those giving spoken comments will be called
- 2 up in the order that they signed in. Speakers are asked
- 3 to come to the microphone right there. And invited to
- 4 give your full name, organization or affiliation, if you
- 5 would like to, for the court reporter.
- 6 Speaking times are about three minutes. I
- 7 have my little cards. At about 30 seconds, I hold up a
- 8 yellow card when you have 30 seconds left. And red
- 9 means hope you're done soon. I think they have a hook
- 10 somewhere, but I think that's still optional. No hooks.
- 11 Just kidding, just kidding. But again, if you could
- 12 keep it to three minutes, that will be helpful. But if
- it's a little bit longer, that's okay.
- 14 For those who did not sign up to speak,
- 15 you're still welcome to speak after those who signed up.
- 16 Sometimes, you think of something afterwards. You're
- 17 welcome to come up and ask your questions. We do, will
- be here and have this room till about 7 o'clock.
- 19 Public comments on the proposed plan will be
- 20 recorded and become a, a part of the hearing record. To
- 21 be more helpful with your comments, if possible, you can
- 22 be specific. It helps to state the particular reason
- 23 for the concern rather than making a broad statement.
- 24 And also, if it can be focused on particular human or
- 25 environmental concerns that you have with the St. Louis

- 1 Downtown Site Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit Group 1
- Properties since that's why we're here tonight.
- So, we'll go ahead and get underway. First
- 4 up, we have Steve Hamm. He's the project manager with
- 5 the US Army Corps of Engineers. And he'll be giving us
- 6 his update.
- 7 MR. HAMM: Thank you very much, Ramona.
- 8 Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for coming to our
- 9 public hearing for the proposed plan for the St. Louis
- 10 Downtown Site Group 1 Properties associated with the
- 11 Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit. My name, of course,
- 12 is Steve Hamm. I work for the US Army Corps of
- 13 Engineers FUSRAP Project Office.
- This presentation will cover the following
- 15 topics: The purpose of this public hearing, what is
- 16 FUSRAP, the background and history of the St. Louis
- Downtown Site, the different operable units at the St.
- 18 Louis Downtown Site, as well as the Inaccessible Soils
- 19 Operable Unit, the remedial investigation and baseline
- 20 risk assessment for the Inaccessible Soils Operable
- Unit, a discussion of what is risk, different receptor
- 22 scenarios utilized in this risk assessment, the
- 23 different property groups within the Inaccessible Soils
- Operable Unit, the proposed plan for Group 1 properties,
- 25 a conclusion of these topics, as well as a description

- of where we are now in the CERCLA process. I will then
- 2 describe how your comments will be addressed in the
- 3 Record of Decision. We will finish by discussing
- 4 community involvement at the St. Louis Downtown Site.
- 5 There are two objectives to this public
- 6 hearing tonight. The first is to present the proposed
- 7 plans for the Group 1 properties associated with the
- 8 Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit at the St. Louis
- 9 Downtown Site. This proposed plan identifies the
- 10 preferred remedy for these properties. The next is to
- 11 receive comments on this proposed plan.
- 12 For those of you who are not familiar, FUSRAP
- is an acronym for the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial
- 14 Action Program. This program was initially managed by
- 15 the Department of Energy. In October of 1997, Congress
- 16 transferred FUSRAP execution from the Department of
- 17 Energy to the US Army Corps of Engineers. FUSRAP is
- 18 legally required to follow the CERCLA process, which is
- 19 an extensive method for identifying and addressing
- 20 contamination. In FUSRAP's case, investigations
- 21 identify and address contamination resulting from the
- 22 nation's early atomic weapons programs.
- This next slide will provide you with a brief
- 24 summary of the background and history of the St. Louis
- 25 Downtown Site. From 1942 to 1957, under contract with

- the Manhattan Engineer Districts and the Atomic Energy
- 2 Commission, Mallinckrodt processed uranium feed
- 3 materials in support of the nation's early atomic
- 4 weapons program. This work that was conducted by
- 5 Mallinckrodt including, included the development of
- 6 uranium processing techniques and the production of
- 7 uranium metal. As a result, process residues, including
- 8 radium, thorium and uranium, as well as their decay
- 9 products were inadvertently, inadvertently released in
- the environment. Shutdown of the remaining Manhattan
- 11 Engineering District projects and Atomic Energy
- 12 Commission operations at Mallinckrodt began in 1958.
- 13 The St. Louis Downtown Site consists of land owned by
- 14 Mallinckrodt. And the surrounding land is owned by
- various private and government entities. The properties
- 16 that are not owned by Mallinckrodt are referred to as
- the St. Louis Downtown Site Vicinity Properties.
- The St. Louis Downtown Site is made up of two
- 19 operable units. Once the execution of the FUSRAP
- 20 program was transferred, transferred from the US Army
- 21 Corps of Engineers to the Department of Energy, the
- 22 accessible portions of the St. Louis Downtown Site were
- 23 carried through the Record of Decision process
- 24 immediately in order to accelerate the start, the start
- of the removal of the contaminated materials at the

- 1 site. This is the reason why there are two different
- 2 operable units at the St. Louis Downtown Site. The
- 3 Accessible Soil and Groundwater Operable Unit Record of
- 4 Decision was signed in 1998. The Inaccessible Soils
- 5 Operable Unit is divided into two subgroups, Group 1 and
- 6 Group 2. The Group 1 properties are the subject of
- 7 tonight's public hearing. The Group 2 Properties will
- 8 be addressed in the future in a feasibility study.
- 9 The Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit
- 10 addresses all inaccessible soil not covered by the
- 11 Accessible Soils and Groundwater Operable Unit. The
- 12 Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit includes soil that is
- inaccessible due to the presence of buildings or
- 14 permanent structures, soil located under active roadways
- and rail lines, soil on the exteriors or interiors of
- 16 buildings or permanent structures as well as soil
- 17 adjacent to sewers and interior sediments.
- The main purpose of the remedial
- 19 investigation and baseline risk assessment is to define
- 20 the extent of Manhattan Engineer District and the Atomic
- 21 Energy Commission soil contamination present in the
- 22 Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit and assess the
- 23 associated risk to human health and the environment.
- 24 This remedial investigation sampling began in June of
- 25 2009 and ended in August of 2010. A total of 8,000

- 1 samples were collected during the remedial investigation
- 2 sampling campaign. The data, combined with other data
- 3 from US Army Corps of Engineers investigations, were
- 4 used to evaluate the nature and extent of Manhattan
- 5 Engineer District and Atomic Energy Commission
- 6 contamination in the Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit in
- 7 the baseline risk assessment. This baseline risk
- 8 assessment was performed to estimate the potential risk
- 9 to human and ecological receptors from the Inaccessible
- 10 Soils Operable Unit. This remedial investigation and
- 11 baseline risk assessment report for the Inaccessible
- 12 Soils Operable Unit at the St. Louis Downtown Site is
- 13 available for, for review on the FUSRAP website, under
- 14 the St. Louis Downtown Site's document section and in
- 15 the administrative record file for the St. Louis
- 16 Downtown Site Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit.
- The potential contaminants of concern
- 18 selected as the starting point in the remedial
- 19 investigation were the same radionuclides identified as
- 20 contaminants of concern in 1998 Record of Decision. The
- 21 potential contaminants of concern includes specific
- 22 isotopes of actinium, protactinium, radium, thorium and
- 23 uranium.
- Risk is determined as an increase in lifetime
- 25 probability of one additional cancer case occurring over

- 1 the baseline cancer rate for a specific population. The
- 2 Environmental Protection Agency methods and a Department
- 3 of Energy model are used to calculate radiological
- 4 cancer risk at the St. Louis Downtown Site.
- 5 Radiological risks are modeled over a 1,000 year period
- of evaluation. The risk model requires the input of
- 7 certain pieces of information. That information is
- 8 based on numerous assumptions regarding the site, such
- 9 as future land use.
- There is a vast amount of information that
- 11 goes into the risk model. One example is the level of
- 12 specific contaminants found at the site. Another
- 13 example is the toxicological factors associated with
- 14 these contaminants. These factors are based on
- 15 published standards and data. Some more risk model
- 16 parameters include identification of potential receptors
- 17 and identification of exposure pathways. An exposure
- 18 pathway is the course that a contaminant takes from a
- 19 source to an exposed person or animal. Exposure
- 20 scenarios combine the levels of contaminants, their
- 21 effects, the specific receptors involved and the way in
- 22 which they would be exposed to create the hypothetical
- 23 exposure situation and to calculate a risk value for
- 24 those conditions.
- 25 Exposure pathways evaluated for radioactive

- 1 contamination at the St. Louis Downtown Site are
- 2 accidental ingestion of contaminated soil, inhalation of
- 3 contaminated soil particles in the air and external
- 4 radiation from contaminated soil. Land use scenarios
- 5 evaluated in the human health risk assessment include
- 6 industrial, recreational and residential land uses. The
- 7 risk reported for each receptor at a property is the
- 8 maximum risk level modeled over a 1,000 year period.
- 9 Here are some different examples of receptor
- 10 scenarios. In the industrial worker scenario, an
- individual works full-time for 25 years at the property
- 12 and is assumed to be exposed directly to soil and
- 13 interior building surfaces.
- 14 The recreational user scenario evaluates an
- adolescent who walks, jogs or bikes along the St. Louis
- 16 Riverfront Trail. The recreational user is evaluated
- 17 for external radiation exposures to soil beneath the
- levee of 1 hour per day, 75 days per year. The levee is
- 19 assumed to be ground cover in this current situation.
- The hypothetical residential gardener scenario was
- 21 evaluated as the worst case scenario to determine the
- need for no action at the Group 1 properties. This
- 23 scenario considers a young child and adults living on a
- property for 350 days per year for 30 years. In this
- 25 scenario, there are exposures from soil with no ground

- 1 cover, from eating fruits and vegetables grown in a
- 2 garden on this property.
- 3 The St. Louis Downtown Site is divided into
- 4 the Accessible Soils and Groundwater Operable Unit and
- 5 the Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit. The Inaccessible
- 6 Soils Operable Unit is divided into two subgroups. The
- first group of properties is the Group 1 properties.
- 8 These properties are the subject of tonight's public
- 9 hearing. The proposed plan for the inaccessible soils
- on the Group 1 properties was issued in January 2014.
- 11 The Group 1 properties pose no unacceptable risk to
- 12 human health and the environment. Proceeding with our
- 13 recommendation for no further action on Group 1
- 14 properties is consistent with CERCLA and will follow us
- 15 to focus future resources on evaluating appropriate
- 16 remedies for Group 2 properties. The Group 2 properties
- 17 include all the remaining inaccessible areas not
- addressed in this proposed plan for the Group 1
- 19 properties. The Group 2 properties are currently being
- 20 addressed in a separate feasibility study, which will be
- 21 addressed in the future.
- This slide shows a map of the St. Louis
- 23 Downtown Site. The gold property areas on this map are
- 24 the Group 1 properties. If you're having a hard time
- 25 seeing this map, there's a large poster that shows all

- 1 these areas in detail. This map can also be found on
- the proposed plan fact sheet as well as the proposed
- 3 plan document as Figure 4.
- The proposed plan for the Group 1 properties
- 5 associated with the Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit
- 6 recommends no further action. The inaccessible soils on
- 7 these properties qualify for no further action for
- 8 either one of two conditions. The first condition is
- 9 that the inaccessible soils on these properties were
- 10 determined to be nonimpacted because the structures were
- in place prior to Manhattan Engineer District and the
- 12 Atomic Energy Commission operations, and the surrounding
- accessible soils were not contaminated.
- 14 The second condition is that the inaccessible
- soils on these properties have no complete exposure
- 16 pathways and/or do not pose an unacceptable risk to
- 17 human health or the environment. This recommendation
- was based on the results of remedial investigation and
- 19 baseline risk assessment that indicate the risk due to
- 20 Manhattan Engineer District and the Atomic Energy
- 21 Commission contamination did not exceed the
- 22 Environmental Protection Agency's acceptable risk range
- 23 at the Group 1 properties. Under CERCLA, the
- 24 Environmental Protection Agency acceptable cancer risk
- 25 range is ident, is defined as risk falling somewhere

- between one additional cancer in 10,000 and one
- 2 additional cancer in 1,000,000.
- As a conclusion, the US Army Corps of
- 4 Engineers proposes no further action for the
- 5 inaccessible soils on the Group 1 properties. Another
- 6 point to take away from this evening is that the public
- 7 comment period will end on February 13th, 2014. Please,
- 8 please, feel free to mail written comments to the US
- 9 Army Corps of Engineers until the end of the public
- 10 comment period. We will be recording oral comments in
- 11 the next portion of this public hearing.
- The public comment period will conclude on
- 13 February 13th, 2014. The Record of Decision for the
- 14 Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit is expected to be
- completed in 2014 as well. The US Army Corps of
- 16 Engineers will respond to comments received during this
- 17 review period. The comments and responses will be
- 18 captured in the Responsiveness Summary. After
- 19 consideration of these comments, the U.S. Army Corps of
- 20 Engineers, in coordination with the Environmental
- 21 Protection Agency, will make a final decision on the
- 22 Group 1 properties associated with the Inaccessible
- 23 Soils Operable Unit. The Responsiveness Summary will be
- 24 included in the Record of Decision for the St. Louis
- 25 Downtown Site Inaccessible Soils Operable Unit Group 1

- 1 properties. We anticipate that the Responsiveness
- 2 Summary will be available to the public in 2014.
- 3 The US Army Corps of Engineers welcomes your
- 4 input. One of the first things that you can do is visit
- our website to learn more about the FUSRAP sites. On
- 6 this website, you can view an electronic copy of this
- 7 proposed plan under the St. Louis Downtown Site document
- 8 section. Paper copies of this proposed plan are located
- 9 in the administrative record file locations for you to
- 10 review along with the administrative record file. You
- 11 still have time to review the proposed plan and send us
- 12 your written comments.
- Written comments are due to US Army Corps of
- 14 Engineers by February 13th, 2014. Written comments can
- be mailed to the FUSRAP Project Office at 8945 Latty
- Avenue, Berkeley, Missouri 63134. This address is also
- 17 provided on the proposed plan fact sheet, which is
- 18 available at our table. Written comments can also be
- 19 turned in to the comment table on the, inside of the
- 20 comment collection box. The US Army Corps of Engineers
- 21 will be available to answer any questions after this
- 22 public hearing. And we will now begin the oral
- 23 commenting portion of this public hearing. Thank you
- 24 very much.

25

- 1 PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION
- 2 MS. HUCKSTEP: Now, it's time to begin -- oh,
- 3 he's taller than I am. Now, it's time to begin the
- 4 public comment session. And as I mentioned earlier,
- 5 it's not really a question and answer. You can ask your
- 6 question, and it will be so recorded.
- 7 So far, I believe we have two people who have
- 8 signed up to speak. And I'll call them in the order
- 9 that they signed up. And again, if you can, speak
- 10 within three minutes and give, if there's other folks
- 11 that would like to speak, you'll be welcome to at that
- 12 time as well. Beth Pross, would you like to --
- MS. PROSS: I concede my time.
- MS. HUCKSTEP: You concede your time? Susan
- 15 Folle, would you like to speak? Ask your question? So
- 16 note a comment?
- MS. FOLLE: Susan Folle.
- 18 MS. HUCKSTEP: Are you affiliated with anyone
- 19 or --
- MS. FOLLE: Oversight Committee for FUSRAP.
- 21 But I have two questions is all. DT22, the resident was
- 22 grandfathered in, but future, future residential use is
- 23 prohibited. I would like to know how that conclusion
- 24 was reached.
- 25 And there are long term plans that are to

- 1 encourage a wholesale produce district. And I would
- like to know how safe that's going to be, beings that
- 3 thorium is just a little bit of, little bitty critter.
- 4 Another question real quick -- it's dealing
- 5 with Section 5.2.1.13. FUSRAP has decided that
- 6 residences and gardens will not be constructed for the
- 7 foreseeable future, and that existing buildings will be
- 8 razed before construction. I would like to know what is
- 9 the basis for this decision. That's it.
- MS. HUCKSTEP: Thank you, Susan. At this
- 11 time, I would like to call up anyone else who might have
- of guestions. Lots of time. Anybody? Going once.
- 13 Beth, would you like to? Beth Pross?
- MS. PROSS: Good evening. And thank you. My
- name is Beth Pross, P-R-O-S-S. And I'm with the St.
- 16 Louis Oversight Committee for FUSRAP. And I guess I'm
- 17 wanting to know, I recently discovered that there is a
- 18 redevelopment group here on the near north side on the
- other side of the highway from here, I believe, is where
- their area starts. And they've invested a lot of time
- 21 and a lot of capital and certainly in the communities to
- 22 redevelop this area into commercial, I don't think
- residential, per se, but mostly commercial areas. And I
- don't know if they're aware of this area and how this
- 25 may impact them. I would be concerned if anybody here

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

Page 20 has been in contact with them outside of me. 2 curious. 3 MS. HUCKSTEP: Thank you very much. At this time, I'll take any other comments, questions. The mic 5 is open. Going once, going twice. Then, I will officially close this comment period if that's okay with 6 everybody. No objections? All righty. And thank you 7 -8 for those comments and for your interest. This meeting's recorded oral comment session 10 is now closed. Remember, you still have an opportunity to submit any comments in writing. There's forms in the 11 12 back table back there and lots of things that have the 13 address on it that you can mail in questions or concerns 14 or comments that you may have. I would like to thank you for your time for 15 16 coming tonight. I know it's kind of chilly, maybe far 17 from your homes, so again, thank you very much for 18 coming. And we'll be around to answer any other questions at the posters back here from the Corps, from 19 20 the Department of Natural Resources. So, we'll stay 21 around and chat with you. Thank you. 22

23 (At this point in the proceeding, the Public 24 Meeting was concluded.)

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