



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Buffalo District

News Release

FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM

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Responsiveness Summary and Action Memorandum Released for the Painesville (FUSRAP) Site

PAINESVILLE -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Buffalo District, has released the final Responsiveness Summary for the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis and Action Memorandum for the removal of low-level radioactively contaminated soil from the Painesville, Ohio Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) Site.

These documents will be placed in the Administrative Record File for the Painesville FUSRAP Site which is available to the public at the Moreley Library located at 184 Phelps Street in Painesville, Ohio, and at the Fairport Public Library located at 335 Vine Street in Fairport Harbor, Ohio. The final Responsiveness Summary and Action Memorandum are also available on the USACE, Buffalo District, website at <http://www.ncb.usace.army.mil>. Copies may be obtained by calling the USACE toll free number at 1-800-833-6390 or 716-879-4438.

The removal action recommended in the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis for the Painesville FUSRAP Site, Alternative 4 Partial Removal and Commercial Disposal, will be performed under this Action Memorandum as an interim remedial action. Approximately 790 cubic yards of soil containing Ra-226 contamination greater than 27 pCi/g will be excavated and transported to a properly licensed/permitted offsite facility for disposal. The current plan calls for shipping the material to Envirocare in Utah for disposal. The excavated areas will be backfilled, graded, and revegetated.

The Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis for the Painesville FUSRAP Site was released for public comment from June 24, 1998 until August 7, 1998. Comments received during this time period were taken into consideration and will be implemented where applicable. The interim remedial action will be undertaken while the process for the selection of a final remedy and development of a Record of Decision proceeds.

The Painesville FUSRAP Site is located at 720 Fairport-Nursery Road in Painesville, Ohio. In the early 1940's, the Defense Plant Corporation constructed a magnesium reduction facility in Painesville, Ohio on property owned by the Diamond Magnesium Company (DMC). In support of the war effort and later government operations, DMC operated this facility through the early 1960's. During the 1950's DMC received approximately 1,650 tons of low-level radioactively contaminated ferrous metal scrap. The scrap was generated from discarded iron drums and other items used to store uranium compounds involved with pitchblende operations. The scrap was added to the digester tanks of hydrochloric acid or stored on the ground on the north side of the buildings. The ferrous metal was used to control chlorine emissions generated during the magnesium production process.

The Painesville Site is being addressed under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program. FUSRAP was created in 1974 to study sites where work was performed during the 1940's and 50's as part of the Nation's early atomic energy program. Most sites that became contaminated during the early atomic program were cleaned up under the guidelines in effect at

that time. Trace amounts of radioactive materials remained at some of the sites because past guidelines were not as strict as today's. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is managing the cleanup of these sites under the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 1998, signed into law by Congress on October 13, 1997. The Buffalo District is responsible for eight of these sites including the Painesville FUSRAP Site.



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