US Army Corps of Engineers

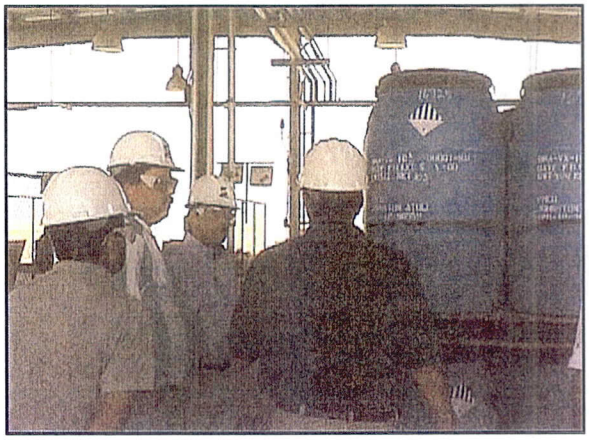
FACT SHEET

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Role in the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program

FUSRAP
Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program

"Public Health and Safety are the U.S, Army Corps of Engineers' Highest Priorities"

The Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) was created by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) in the 1970's to clean up radioactive contamination at sites used in the nation's early atomic energy program. Congress transferred responsibility for managing clean-up of the sites to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) in October 1997. Immediately following transfer of these responsibilities, the Corps began an assessment of the costs, schedules, and planned activities required to complete cleanup of the 21 remaining program sites and issued its findings in a report to Congress. As part of its management responsibility, the Corps determines program requirements and requests funding each year in the annual Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act.



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officials routinely inspect the handling, storage and transportation of hazardous materials.

The sites transferred to the Corps are in various stages of cleanup. While some were being cleaned others required additional investigation before a final cleanup decision could be made. The Corps is performing its investigation and cleanup of these sites in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan. The procedures outlined in the law and contingency plan require the Corps to seek public participation throughout the cleanup decision-making process.

At those sites requiring additional investigation, the Corps performs field surveys and a review of the site history. The information that is gathered is compiled by the Corps and published in documents that become part of the administrative record for the site. An important step in the investigation process is the determination of the potential risk to human health and the environment from the disposal items at the site. If preliminary cleanup activities are required during the investigation to remove contaminants that pose an immediate exposure threat to human health or to control the spread of contamination, the Corps will take the necessary actions and provide for public participation opportunities.

To determine the preferred cleanup method for a site, the Corps' team of experts studies many alternatives that are protective of human health and the environment and compliant with applicable regulations as required by law. The Corps develops cleanup proposals that balance effectiveness, technically sound action steps and cost. The final cleanup method is determined after public and other government agency comments are considered. The Corps then issues a Record of Decision to document the

Restoring the Environment is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Ultimate Goal.

For more information, call (202) 761-1806, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers–Office of Public Affairs.

final cleanup. The Corps designs the cleanup activities to meet the commitments made in the Record of Decision. Upon completion of cleanup activities, the Corps documents that the site can be considered for closeout.

Two years after closeout, the Corps is responsible for any needed monitoring or site maintenance. After two years, the responsibility for the site is transferred back to the Department of Energy (DOE).

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers site worker prepares to inspect an air quality monitoring device.