Hello from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Buffalo District:

Excavation of contaminated soil from the Phase 1 cleanup area of the Luckey FUSRAP site began late yesterday afternoon. Excavation will proceed slowly to ensure that all systems and procedures (including environmental/health and safety monitoring, contamination control, waste transportation [on-site], stockpiling, soil sorting, wastewater treatment, loading the roll-off containers, and sampling and segregating below criteria soils) are working properly. Adjustments will be made to these systems and procedures, as necessary, to ensure the remediation is conducted in a safe and efficient manner. The material will be stockpiled until enough material is excavated to begin the soil sorting process. It is estimated that there are approximately 14,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil to be addressed in the Phase 1 area. We will let you know when transportation of material for disposal begins.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ priority during the Luckey Site cleanup is the protection of human health and the environment and the safety of our workers and the community. Many different methods will be implemented at the Luckey FUSRAP Site to prevent the spread of contamination during the soils cleanup.

1. The Corps will implement dust control measures during the excavation, sorting, and stockpiling of site soils to ensure FUSRAP-contaminated soils do not become airborne during cleanup activities. These methods include spraying water on the roads, applying a fixative to the soil stockpiles, using a hose to dampen the materials as they are being excavated, and using several machines to spray a mist on the materials as they are being sorted.

2. We have a weather station on-site and will stop work as necessary based on the conditions.

3. The area where the cleanup is occurring will have limited access (the exclusion zone).

4. Workers entering the area will be wearing protective clothing and personal breathing zone air monitors.

5. When the workers exit the work area their protective clothing will be removed and disposed of. Workers will then shower to ensure they are not inadvertently carrying contamination out with them.

6. We will be conducting routine surveys of the on-site office trailers to verify that contamination has not spread.

7. We will conduct air sampling in and around the excavation areas during active excavation, and continuously around the perimeter of the site, to monitor for potential airborne FUSRAP contamination, including beryllium, lead and radionuclides.

8. The air monitors are set to go off at a level that is below the level that would present a problem so that we are able to stop work, determine the cause of the monitor going off, and implement controls to alleviate the condition.

9. A notification system has been established should the perimeter air monitors go off during non-working hours. The site contractor will receive the notification and will be able to call in people as necessary to investigate and alleviate the condition.
10. Materials that are being transported for disposal will be bagged and loaded into intermodal containers. A tarp will also be placed over the containers.
11. We will be surveying the soil transportation vehicles and other equipment prior to leaving the site to ensure that they are not inadvertently carrying FUSRAP contamination off site.
12. Each driver will be briefed on the transportation route, speed limits, and procedures to be followed at the disposal facility before the truck leaves the site.

Thank you to those that attended our information session last month. The presentation and posters from the meeting are available on the web at http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/Missions/HTRW/FUSRAP/Luckey-Site/ in the Public Presentations/Posters/Transcripts section.

As we progress through the cleanup of the site, we will keep you informed. If you know someone that would be interested in receiving these emails, please ask them to contact us at fusrap@usace.army.mil.