Program History

In the midst of World War II, the Manhattan Project was established within USACE to prevail at creating the world's first atomic bombs. Since the government did not have the capability to develop the bombs on its own, the Manhattan Project contracted out certain tasks to private companies. As the government developed its own nuclear production sites under the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), the contracted facilities were no longer needed and they were cleaned up to the standards of the day.

In the early 1970s, the U.S. government strengthened cleanup requirements. Radiological and chemical contamination that remained at some of the formerly contracted sites exceeded the new standards. FUSRAP was established in 1974 to identify, investigate, and clean up or control sites that were contaminated above the new guidelines.

FUSRAP personnel reviewed the radiological conditions at more than 600 sites that were potentially involved in early atomic weapons and energy activities, and they identified 46 sites that met the requirements to be included in FUSRAP. A descendent of the AEC, DOE began cleanup projects in 1979 and completed 25 sites. In 1997 Congress assigned responsibility for cleanup of remaining sites – and any subsequently added sites – to USACE. After USACE cleans up a site, DOE takes over the site's long-term stewardship and maintenance.



Colonie National Lead Industries plant, 1983. Colonie, New York, Site, 2020.



Scan for additional information and to view the interactive FUSRAP display.

FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM

A LEGACY OF SERVICE

Additional Information and Contacts

Website: www.energy.gov/lm/long-term-stewardshipremediated-fusrap-sites Email: FUSRAPinfo@lm.doe.gov Telephone: (970) 248-6070

A complete description of FUSRAP and a list of cleanup sites are available in the FUSRAP Stakeholder Report at www.energy.gov/lm/articles/fusrap-stakeholder-report

Photo Caption: (Above) USACE and LM personnel at Maywood Chemical Superfund active site, NJ. (Cover) Manhattan Project Scientists, Colonie site NY groundwater sampler, DOE LM Director and staff.



FUSRAP SITES

What is FUSRAP?

FUSRAP stands for Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

What are formerly utilized sites?

Formerly utilized sites are locations once used for and contaminated by the nation's early atomic energy program.

What is remedial action?

Remedial action means responding to or addressing contamination.

Who is in charge of the program?

FUSRAP is a partnership between the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

How Does FUSRAP Work?

Eligibility Determination

DOE Office of Legacy Management

- Evaluates sites for eligibility under FUSRAP; each site must meet all four eligibility criteria.
- Refers eligible sites to USACE for final determination.
- Provides information to the public about legacy sites that are evaluated to determine whether they were eligible for remediation under FUSRAP.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

 Examines referred sites and determines whether they meet the conditions for inclusion into USACE FUSRAP.



Remediation

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

- Takes necessary remedial action at FUSRAP active sites to ensure protection of human health and the environment — in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act and National Contingency Plan process — from contamination resulting from the early atomic energy program.
- Transfers completed sites back to LM for appropriate future use.

Long-Term Stewardship

DOE Office of Legacy Management

- Manages long-term stewardship of completed sites to protect human health and the environment.
- May refer completed sites back to USACE to evaluate and potentially respond if changing conditions or new information reveals accessible contamination.
- Preserves historical knowledge by maintaining and indexing legacy site records for future custodial and stakeholder use.
- Responds to stakeholder inquiries and provides information to the public on FUSRAP completed sites.