

United States Government

IL.32-1

Weston

Department of Energy

FUSRAP 7607

IL.32

1.21-1

# memorandum

DATE: AUG 12 1991  
REPLY TO ATTN OF: EM-421 (J. Wagoner, 3-8147)  
SUBJECT: Elimination of the Kankakee Ordnance Plant Site  
TO: The File

I have reviewed the attached site summary and elimination recommendation for the Kankakee Ordnance Plant Site in Kankakee, Illinois. I have determined that there is little likelihood of radioactive contamination at this site.

Based on the above, the Kankakee Ordnance Plant Site is hereby eliminated from further consideration under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.



W. Alexander Williams, PhD  
Designation and Certification Manager  
Off-Site Branch  
Division of Eastern Area Programs  
Office of Environmental Restoration

Attachment

FILE COPY

bcc:  
Weston  
EM-40 (2)  
EM-42 (3)  
Williams Reader

*[Handwritten initials]*

EM-421:wagoner:djn:353-8147:8/12/91:elim.waw

P. Hevner Review: \_\_\_\_\_

Williams  
EM-421 *cut*  
8/12/91  
Wagoner  
EM-421  
8/12/91

OTS NOTE

DATE: July 15, 1991  
TO: Alexander Williams  
FROM: Dan Stout <sup>DS</sup>  
SUBJECT: Kankakee Ordnance Plant Elimination Recommendation

The attached memorandum and supporting documents are the basis for our recommendation to eliminate the Kankakee Ordnance Plant site from further consideration under FUSRAP. The site is located in Kankakee, Illinois.

The principal record discovered discussing the Kankakee Ordnance Plant is a Manhattan Engineer District (MED) letter which suggests using the plant for radioactive material disposal instead of "Site A". Site A, or Palos Park, was used by the MED and Atomic Energy Commission into the fifties. There is no record of a response to the initial disposal suggestion, nor is there any evidence of any disposal at Kankakee.

Since there is no specific evidence of involvement with radioactive material, the potential for residual radioactive contamination in excess of current DOE guidelines is considered highly unlikely. Therefore, we recommend that this site be eliminated from further consideration as a candidate for remedial action under FUSRAP and be removed from the FUSRAP considered sites list.

cc: C. Young  
E. Mitchell  
file FUSRAP IL.32

MEMORANDUM

TO: FILE , IL. 32

DATE 6/21/91

FROM: D. Stout

SUBJECT: Elimination Recommendation For the Kankakee Ordnance Plant

SITE NAME: Kankakee Ordnance Plant

ALTERNATE NAME:

CITY: Kankakee STATE: IL

OWNER(S)

Past: U.S. Government Current: unknown

Owner contacted [ ] yes [x] no; if yes, date contacted

TYPE OF OPERATION

[ ] Research & Development

[ ] Facility Type

[ ] Production scale testing

[ ] Manufacturing

[ ] Pilot Scale

[ ] University

[ ] Bench Scale Process

[ ] Research Organization

[ ] Theoretical Studies

[ ] Government Sponsored Facility

[ ] Sample & Analysis

[ ] Other

[ ] Production

[x] Disposal/Storage (candidate)

TYPE OF CONTRACT

[ ] Prime

[ ] Other information (i.e., cost + fixed fee, unit price, time & material, etc)

[ ] Subcontractor

[ ] Purchase Order

Contract/Purchase Order #

CONTRACTING PERIOD: No evidence of contract

OWNERSHIP:

AEC/MED OWNED

AEC/MED LEASED

GOVT OWNED

GOVT LEASED

CONTRACTOR OWNED

CONTRACTOR LEASED

LANDS

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No evidence of radioactive material having been shipped to Kankakee.

AEC/MED INVOLVEMENT AT SITE

Control

- AEC/MED managed operations
- AEC/MED responsible for accountability
- AEC/MED overviewed operations
- Contractor had total control
- unknown

Health Physics Protection

- Little or None
- AEC/MED responsibility
- Contractor responsibility

*No Involvement*  
MATERIALS HANDLED:

Type (on basis of records reviewed)

- No Radioactive
  - Natural Radioactive from Feed Materials Production
    - Ore
    - Refined Source Material
    - Residue
  - Natural Radioactive Material from Non-Nuclear Activities
  - Man-Made
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Comment \_\_\_\_\_

Quantities (on the basis of records reviewed)

- None
  - Production Quantities
  - Small Amounts
- Comment \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER PERTINENT FACTS:

- Facility was Licensed
    - During AEC/MED-Related Operations
    - For Similar Activities
    - For Other Activities
- Comment \_\_\_\_\_

Commercial Production Involving Radioactive Material during AEC/MED Operations

Facility was Decontaminated and Released

Availability of Close Out Records

None

Some

Sufficient

Radioactive Status:

	YES	MAYBE	PROBABLY NOT	NOT
Contaminated Potential for Exposure (accessible)	---	---	---	X
	---	---	---	X

QUANTITY OF RECORDS AVAILABLE:

- Very Little                       Some                       Sufficient

PROBABILITY OF FINDING ADDITIONAL RECORDS:

- Low                       Possible                       High

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Eliminate  
 Consider for Remedial Action  
 Collect More Data

Comment \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

REFERENCES: MED letter, E. Murphy to F. Trent, 6/7/45, Disposal  
of Radioactive Waste.

SUMMARY The reference letter suggests using the Hanford  
Ordinance Plant for Chicago waste disposal instead  
of "Site A" (Palos Park). There is no evidence that  
the suggestion was followed up, and operations  
continued at Palos until the 1950's.

~~SECRET~~

THIS DOCUMENT CONSISTS OF 1 PAGES  
NO. 5 OF SERIES A

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED OR  
CHANGED TO Declassified  
BY AUTHORITY OF FED. DAVIS  
BY K.A. Walters DATE 6/3/81

RDNY-a  
100.7

7 June 1945

EJW/m  
EJW

Subject: Disposal of Radioactive Waste.  
Memorandum to: Major Floyd P. Trent.

1. The following comments are offered regarding the disposal of the radioactive waste materials described in the inclosed letter from the Chicago Area Office, dated 25 May 1945, above subject, and the Extracts from MUC-CAY-11 and the copy of letter from Jones to Furney, dated 23 May 1945, Subject: Disposal of Product 49:

a. It has been suggested that the waste material be moved by truck from Chicago to the Clinton Engineer Works for burial. To do this would require a great deal of time and expense to haul these large quantities of waste such a great distance. It is my recommendation that an effort be made to locate some government-owned land in the vicinity of Chicago and arrangements be made for the disposal of the waste material there. One possibility would be the Kankakee Ordnance Plant, if it is to be maintained in standby condition after the war.

b. Presently the contaminated waste material is being buried at Site X. It is my understanding that this land was obtained on a rental basis under a lease which expires six months after the cessation of hostilities. It is not unreasonable to believe that it will be necessary to remove this material some day at government expense. Furthermore, the health hazards which may arise in the meantime in the vicinity where it is now being stored should not be overlooked.

c. Regarding the 18 gallons of solution containing a small amount of Product, described in paragraph 2 of the inclosed letter, it should, in my opinion, be shipped to Site X and disposed of through the regular disposal system in the usual manner. This represents a relatively small amount of Product and its recovery from such a dilute solution is not justified in view of our present production rate.

2. The undersigned will be glad to discuss this matter with you further when convenient.

1 Incl  
Orig of ltr dtd 5/23/45  
w/Incl: Copy #1 MUC-CAY-11  
Copy #2 MUC-OTE-1667, dtd 5/23/45.

cc: Major, Corps of Engineers, Chicago Area.  
Major Murphy  
Classified Files #5 and #6

~~SECRET~~

100-100-100-100

TRAC Has this

B.I  
CAO

Handwritten signatures and initials, including 'J. P. Trent' and 'EJW'.