

FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM

ELIMINATION REPORT

FOR

SENECA ARMY DEPOT

ROMULUS, NEW YORK

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Department of Energy
Office of Nuclear Energy
Office of Remedial Action and Waste Technology
Division of Facility and Site Decommissioning Projects

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INTRODUCTION

The Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Nuclear Energy, Office of Remedial Action and Waste Technology, Division of Facility and Site Decommissioning Projects (and/or predecessor agencies, offices, and divisions) has reviewed the past activities of the Manhattan Engineer District (MED) at Seneca Army Depot, Romulus, New York. Based on the review of Army decontamination operations, DOE has determined that the conditions at this site are in compliance with current DOE radiological guidelines and standards. Therefore, this site requires no DOE remedial action and will not be included in the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

This report presents information supporting the determination that the radiological conditions at Seneca Army Depot site are in compliance with current DOE radiological guidelines and standards¹ and provides assurance that use of the site will not result in any significant radiological hazard to site occupants or the general public.

¹U.S. Department of Energy Guidelines for Residual Radioactivity at Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program and Remote Surplus Facilities Management Program Sites (Rev. 1, July 1985).

This elimination report will be archived by DOE through the Assistant Secretary for Management and Administration. A copy of this package will be available for public review between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays), at the DOE Public Reading Room located in Room 1E-190 of the Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C.

BACKGROUND

Site Function

About 2000 barrels of pitchblende ore were stored in 11 munitions bunkers during a short period in the early 1940s. The bunkers have since been used for storage of nonradioactive materials and are occupied for only brief periods by Army personnel.

Site Description

The depot covers about 10,000 acres and is west of the town of Romulus, New York. The area where the ore was stored consists of 11 munitions bunkers, and the surrounding area includes a rail spur over which the ore was transported (Figure 1).

Radiological History and Status

From September 10 to 23, 1976, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) personnel surveyed the 11 munitions bunkers and their surroundings. Residual radioactivity appeared to be confined almost entirely to the interiors of eight of the bunkers and to the outdoor areas near the entrances to those bunkers. The levels measured did not appear to represent a radiation safety problem to personnel under current conditions of use and limited occupancy. The nature of the

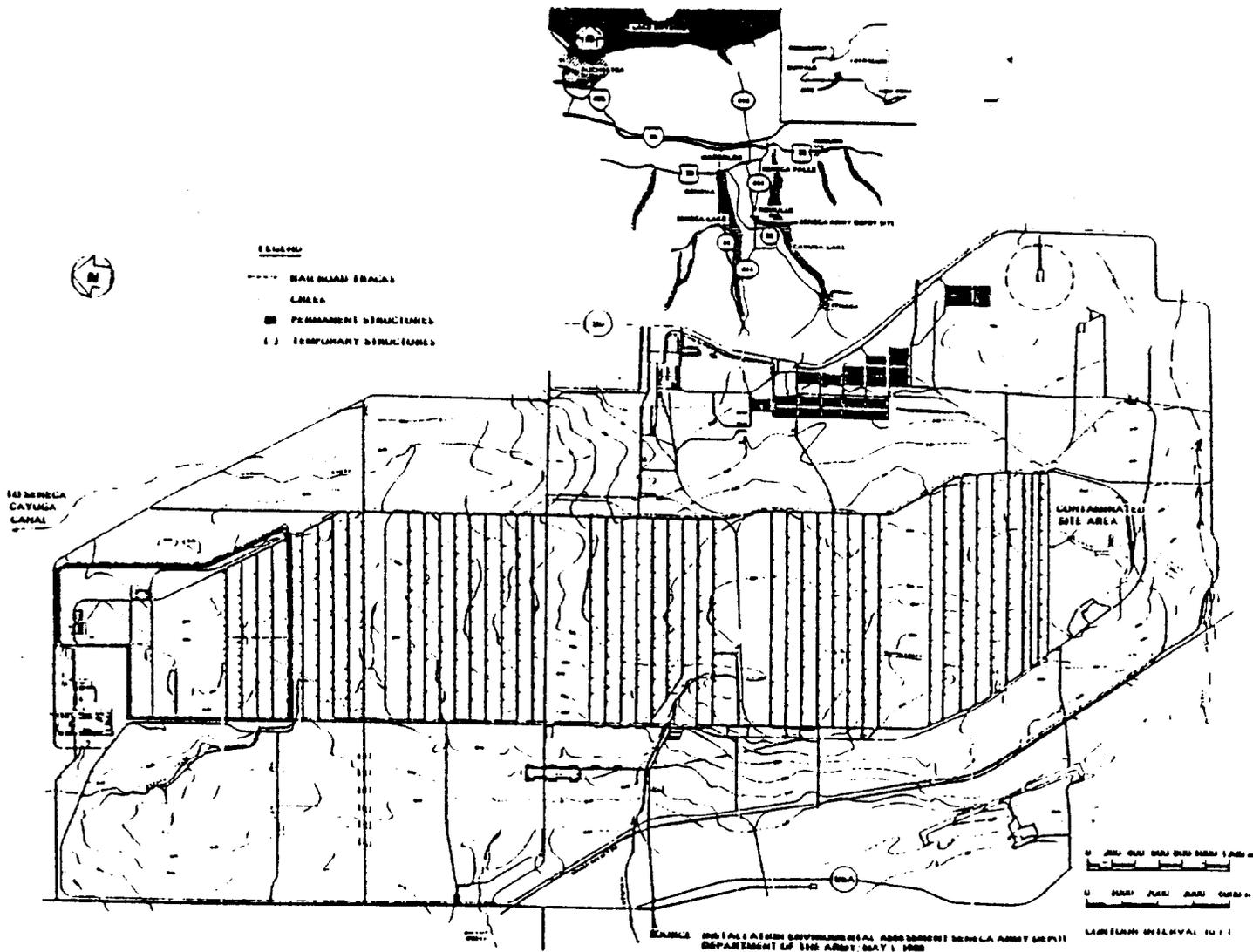


Figure 1. Topographic Map of Seneca Army Depot

radionuclides present, however, required their long-term control in the event of significantly altered use or demolition and disposal of these structures in the future. An additional radiological survey performed by personnel from the U.S. Army Environmental Hygiene Agency in 1978 resulted in readings similar to the ORNL survey.

Personnel from DOE's Mound Facility monitored levels of radon concentration in and around several of the bunkers during August 1980 for the Seneca Army Depot in order to provide additional data to further characterize the bunkers for future remedial actions.

The Department of the Army completed decontamination at the site and a post-remedial action survey was conducted in July 1985 to verify final site conditions.

ELIMINATION ANALYSIS

A radiological survey performed after completion of Army decontamination operations has demonstrated that the facility is in compliance with applicable guidelines for unconditional release. Radiation doses to persons using this facility or the general public resulting from the residual material will not exceed standards for either occupational or nonoccupational exposure.

Based on the information summarized in this report, DOE's Division of Facility and Site Decommissioning Projects has determined that no further remedial action is necessary at this site and has eliminated Seneca Army Depot from further consideration under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

REFERENCES

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- o Department of the Army, Post-Remedial Action Survey Report (not yet received).