



Adrian, Michigan, Site

FACT SHEET

*This fact sheet provides information about the Adrian, Michigan, Site.
This site is managed by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management.*

Site Description and History

The Adrian, Michigan, Site (formerly the General Motors Site) is located at 1450 E. Beecher Street, on the eastern side of Route 52 in Adrian, Michigan. The town of Adrian is approximately 20 miles southwest of Ann Arbor and 30 miles northwest of Toledo, Ohio. The site comprises the General Motors (GM) plant, a large complex covering approximately 17 acres.

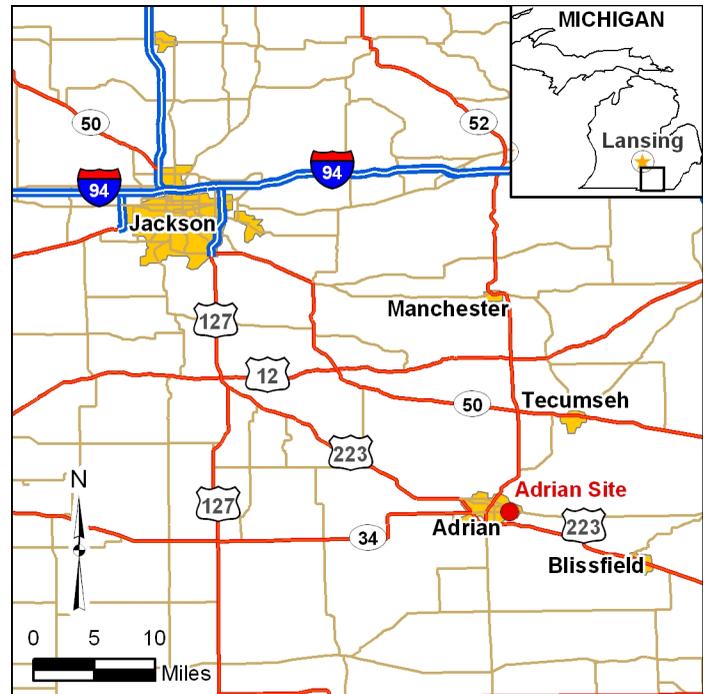
During the 1950s, the previous owner of the site, the Bridgeport Brass Company, machined and shaped uranium metal under contract with the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) for the fabrication of reactor fuel elements in the Hanford, Washington, and Savannah River, South Carolina, nuclear reactors. The site was sold to Martin Marietta in the early 1960s and then to GM in 1974. At the end of the contract, the site was decontaminated to comply with radiological protection standards in effect at the time.

In 1977, Oak Ridge National Laboratory conducted a radiological survey at the site and identified residual uranium contamination in areas underneath the floor. Contaminant levels exceeded the current guidelines, and remediation was deemed necessary. The area that required remedial action comprises approximately 41,000 square feet of the plant.

During excavation for new construction at the site in 1985, additional contamination was identified in a tile drain line. The portion of the drain line directly under the manufacturing area was subsequently removed, placed in 55-gallon drums, and shipped to a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) facility in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, for disposal. In addition, oil, scale, and sludge contained within the pipe chase and oil collection system contained concentrations of uranium exceeding the current guidelines.

The Adrian Site was designated for remedial action under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) in July 1988.

In 1994, DOE conducted a detailed radiological survey at the site. Results from that survey showed that the manholes, sumps, pipe chases, and associated piping were contaminated.



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Location of the Adrian, Michigan, Site

Decontamination at the Adrian Site included a high-pressure water wash to remove water, oil, sludge, and scale from the sumps, manholes, and associated piping; pumping liquids into lined drums to remove oil/water and sludge; wiping the floors and walls to remove oil and scale; and excavating a 3-square-foot area.

Some materials with contamination that exceeded the guidelines were left in place in the piping system because of the high costs of complete remediation and the economic impact that would result from shutting down the GM plant to accomplish the remedial action. A hazard assessment concluded that contamination left in the piping system would not result in risk to the general public. Supplemental limits were approved for the contamination left in place. Supplemental limits may be applied in place of the primary limits established in DOE guidelines in situations where the cost of remediation would be unreasonably high compared to the long-term benefits, and the residual contamination

does not pose a present or future risk to workers or members of the public.

Remedial action at the site was completed in July 1995.

Regulatory Setting

The AEC, a predecessor agency to DOE, established FUSRAP in March 1974 to evaluate radioactive contamination at sites where work was performed to develop the nation's nuclear weapons and early atomic energy program. After reviewing records and radiometric surveys for more than 600 sites connected with the nuclear weapons program, DOE identified 46 sites that required cleanup, including the Adrian Site. Congress transferred responsibility for FUSRAP site characterization and remediation to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1997. DOE retains responsibility for long-term surveillance and maintenance of remediated FUSRAP sites.

The Adrian Site was remediated to criteria in *Guidelines for Residual Radioactive Material at Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program and Remote Surplus Facilities Management Program Sites*. A notice of cleanup certification for the site was published in the *Federal Register* on January 29, 1997.

In fiscal year 2004, DOE transferred responsibility for the Adrian Site from the DOE Office of Environmental Management to the DOE Office of Legacy Management.

Current Site Conditions

Post-remedial action survey data indicate that the radiological condition of the Adrian Site is in compliance with applicable DOE standards and guidelines for cleanup of residual radioactive contamination. DOE certified that reasonably foreseeable future use of the property will result in no radiological exposure above current guidelines established to protect members of the general public as well as occupants of the site.

Legacy Management Activities

No monitoring, maintenance, or site inspections are required for the Adrian Site. Legacy Management responsibilities consist of managing site records and responding to stakeholder inquiries.

Contacts

Documents related to the Adrian Site are available on the DOE Legacy Management website at <http://www.lm.doe.gov/Adrian/Sites.aspx>.

For more information about DOE Legacy Management activities at the Adrian Site, contact:

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