



Columbus East, Ohio, Site

FACT SHEET

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

Site Description and History

The Columbus East, Ohio, Site (formerly B&T Metals) is located at 425 West Town Street in southwest Columbus, Ohio. The site consists of a main building, a storage building, and an aluminum extrusion building and covers most of a city block.

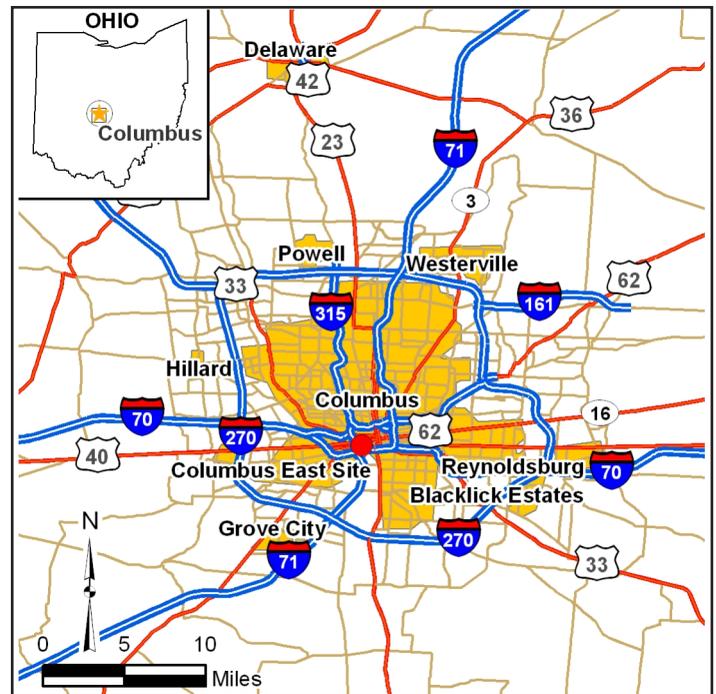
From March through August 1943, B&T Metals extruded uranium fuel rods from uranium metal billets (bars or ingots of uranium formed as an intermediate product) under contract to E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company (DuPont). The rods were manufactured in support of Manhattan Engineer District (MED) operations and were destined for use as fuel in the Hanford, Washington, nuclear reactor. It is estimated that more than 50 tons of uranium were extruded.

The work performed for MED occurred in the northwest corner of the main building, the largest of the three site structures. Upon completion of the extrusion project, representatives of MED and DuPont visually inspected the site to verify that all sweepings, turnings, solid scrap, and other remnants of the operation had been shipped off site.

In 1988 and 1989 Oak Ridge National Laboratory, a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) facility in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, conducted initial screening surveys to evaluate the radiological conditions at the site. The surveys identified elevated concentrations of uranium inside the main building in several floor, sump, and drain locations and in dust on building support beams. Elevated gamma radiation was also detected in soil samples taken from the outdoor area where process fluids or shavings from the MED activities reportedly were disposed of. The site was recommended for remediation as part of the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). Decontamination of the facility was conducted from March through June 1996 under the direction of Bechtel National, Inc., the project management contractor for FUSRAP.

Regulatory Setting

The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, a predecessor agency to DOE, established FUSRAP in March 1974 to evaluate radioactive contamination at sites where work



M:\LTS\111\0001\10\S03055\S0305500.mxd carverh 4/26/2007 3:12:31 PM

Location of the Columbus East, Ohio, Site

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, including the Columbus East Site, that required cleanup. 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 Columbus East Site, formerly called the B&T Metals 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 June 26, 2001.

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

Current Site Conditions

An independent verification survey conducted after the completion of remedial action detected no residual radioactivity at the site that exceeded current guidelines. DOE released the site for unrestricted use. Site buildings are currently unused and in disrepair.

Legacy Management Activities

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

Contacts

Documents related to the Columbus East, Ohio, Site are available on the DOE Legacy Management website at http://www.lm.doe.gov/columbus_east/Sites.aspx.

For more information about DOE Legacy Management activities at the Columbus East Site, contact

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 B³/₄ Road, Grand Junction, CO 81503
(970) 248-6070 (monitored continuously), or
(877) 695-5322 (toll-free)



*Main Manufacturing Building of the Former B&T Metals Facility
(2006 photo)*