U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Legacy Management

Indian Orchard, Massachusetts, Site

FACT SHEET

This fact sheet provides information about the Indian Orchard, Massachusetts, Site. This site is managed by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management.

Site Description and History

The Indian Orchard, Massachusetts, Site (formerly the Chapman Valve Site) is located at 203 Hampshire Street in Indian Orchard, which is a suburb of Springfield, Massachusetts.

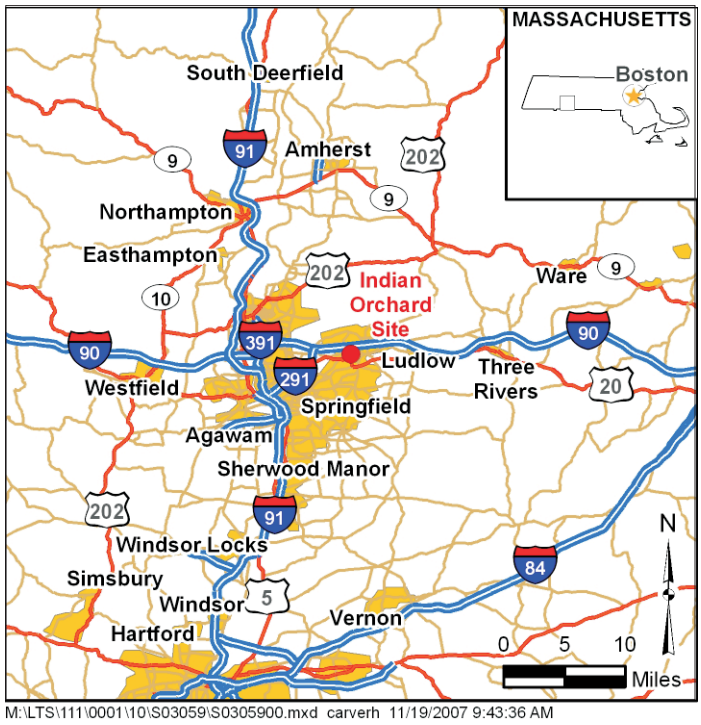
In 1948, Chapman Valve Manufacturing Company used one-third of Building 23, an area that measured approximately 60 feet by 200 feet and was separated from the remainder of the building by a floor-to-ceiling partition, to machine uranium rods for the Manhattan Engineer District. Uranium operations ended in November of that year, leaving the company with more than 27,000 pounds of metal scraps, oxides, and refuse on site. This material was removed several months after the contract was completed, and the building was decontaminated to standards in effect at that time.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) conducted a radiological survey at the site in 1991. Survey results identified residual uranium contamination that exceeded DOE criteria on surfaces and in the west end of the building. As a result, DOE designated the site for remediation under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). DOE conducted site characterization in late 1994 and early 1995.

Remedial action of the Indian Orchard Site began in July 1995 and consisted of brushing, scrubbing, and vacuuming to remove contaminated material. Remedial action was completed in August of that year and a total of 20 cubic yards of low-level radioactive waste was shipped to a licensed disposal facility in Utah.

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 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 Indian Orchard 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.



Location of the Indian Orchard, Massachusetts, Site

The Indian Orchard 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 20, 2004.

In fiscal year 2004, DOE transferred responsibility for the Indian Orchard 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 Indian Orchard Site is in compliance with applicable DOE standards and guidelines for cleanup of residual radioactive contamination. An independent verification survey conducted after the completion of remedial action detected no residual radioactivity at the site that exceeded current guidelines. Therefore, DOE released the site for unrestricted use.

Legacy Management Activities

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

Contacts

Documents related to the Indian Orchard Site are available on the DOE Legacy Management website at http://www.LM.doe.gov/land/sites/ma/indianorchard/indianorchard.htm.

For more information about DOE Legacy Management activities at the Indian Orchard Site, contact

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