U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Legacy Management

Springdale, Pennsylvania, Site

FACT SHEET

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

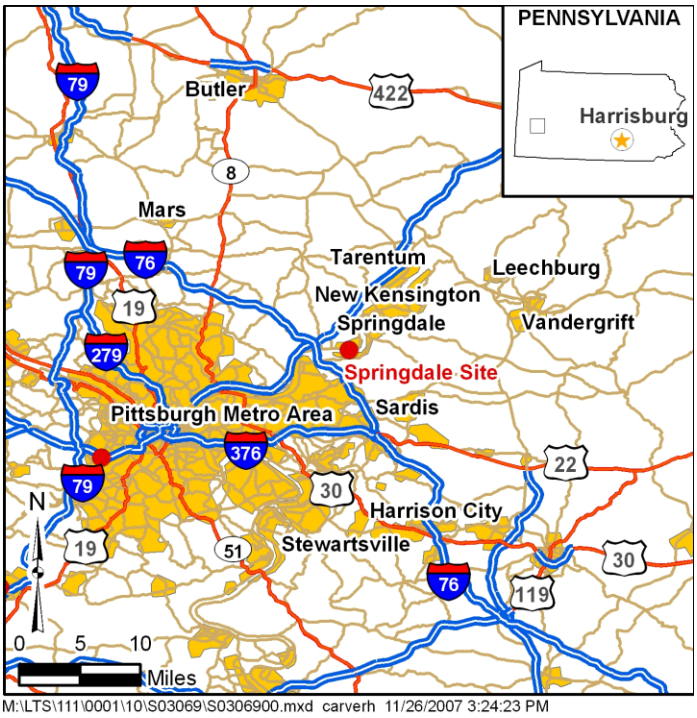
Site Description and History

The Springdale, Pennsylvania, Site (formerly the C.H. Schnorr Site) is located at 644 Garfield Street in Springdale, Pennsylvania, just northeast of Pittsburgh. Records indicate that in 1943 the address for that location was 643 Railroad Street.

During the mid-1940s, C.H. Schnorr & Company, under contract with the Manhattan Engineer District, machined uranium metal rods for the Hanford Reactor in the state of Washington. At that time, the site consisted of a concrete block building and a loading dock, where uranium spills may have occurred.

A 1980 radiological survey identified elevated radiation levels over a small area inside the building where uranium was machined. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) performed follow-up surveys in 1989 and 1990 that confirmed the presence of uranium contamination underneath the building floor at elevated concentrations. The site was designated for remedial action in 1992 as part of the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). DOE returned to the site twice in 1993 and identified contamination under the concrete floor in the northern half of the building and on concrete that had been placed next to a newly constructed loading dock. At the end of 1993, DOE used borehole sampling to identify contamination in the soil beneath the concrete slab, but no contamination was detected outside the building.

Remedial action at the Springdale Site was conducted from August to October 1994, with decontamination of the building, removal of concrete, and excavation and removal of soil and debris. A volume of 97 cubic yards of concrete was removed, of which 56 cubic yards was transported to a licensed disposal facility in Clive, Utah. The remaining 41 cubic yards of material, with agreement from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, was crushed, sampled (and determined to be well below cleanup guidelines), and used on site as fill material. In addition, a track excavator, bobcats, and picks and shovels were used to excavate a total of 626 cubic yards of soil and debris from beneath the building floor. This material was placed in 37 waste containers and also shipped to the Utah facility for disposal. Finally, approximately 915 square feet of surface area in the loading dock room and on the base of two cement block columns were decontaminated using grinders and a needle gun.



Location of the Springdale, Pennsylvania, Site

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 Springdale 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 Springdale 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 September 11, 1996.

In fiscal year 2004, DOE transferred responsibility for the Springdale 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 Springdale 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 Springdale Site. DOE Legacy Management responsibilities consist of managing site records and responding to stakeholder inquiries.

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Contacts

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

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

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