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ST. CHARLES COUNTY

Public Can Tour Old Chemical Plant

Saturday will be the last chance for the public to tour the old Weldon Spring Chemical Plant before the Department of Energy begins razing the contaminated buildings.

The department is holding an open house from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the site, which is in St. Charles County on Highway 94, about two miles south of U.S. 40-61.

The plant was operated by Mallinckrodt Chemical Works for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission from 1955 to 1966. It was used to process uranium.

For the past five years, the Energy Department has been stabilizing the site and soon will begin razing the buildings.

The open house will include exhibits and presentations on various aspects of the cleanup, which may cost as much as $800 million. Bus tours will be given of the plant grounds, but visitors will not be allowed off the bus once inside the contaminated area.