9/87

THE WELDON SPRING PROJECT

FACT SHEET

INTERIM RESPONSE ACTIONS

The following is a description of nine interim response actions designed to ensure the health and safety of on-site personnel and to minimize or preclude off-site releases of contamination. They are:

I. ELECTRIC POWER LINE AND POLE REMOVAL: This action consists of removing all of the de-energized exterior power and telephone lines, estimated to be 150,000 linear feet of cable and wire, as well as 300 timber poles, their cross beams and support. All materials will be surveyed and classified. Non-contaminated material will be disposed off-site. Contaminated material will be stored on-site. Removal of these items will improve the safety conditions for workers on the site and prepare the area for further dismantling of buildings.

II. OVERHEAD PIPING/ASBESTOS REMOVAL: The action consists of removal of 33,000 linear feet of overhead piping and 500 structural supports holding the 13,000 linear feet of asbestos containing material. This asbestos containing material will be wrapped and dismantled, and soil contaminated with asbestos will be cleaned up. Removal of this potential threat to the health and safety of outside workers will improve the site and prepare it for future dismantling activities. Collecting of these materials will mitigate any potential for off-site airborne releases of asbestos containing materials. All materials will be surveyed and classified. Non-contaminated material will be disposed off-site. Contaminated material will be stored on-site.

III. PCB TRANSFORMER REMOVAL: An estimated 6,500 gallons of PCBs exist on-site in 21 transformers. Removal of these radiologically clean, out of service transformers from the site will comply with existing regulations and prevent leakage of the PCBs during remedial action activities on the site. Approximately 13,000 gallons of PCBs and flushing solutions will be removed and transported to a licensed disposal facility and the flushed units will also be transported off-site to a licensed disposal facility. Fourteen (14) additional non-PCB transformers will also be removed.

IV. DISPOSAL OF CONTAINERIZED CHEMICALS: There are 300 different kinds of containerized chemicals on-site, which are held in 4,000 individual containers. These contain about 5,000 gallons of liquid and 2,500 cubic feet of solids. Under this action, the chemicals will be stabilized for consolidation. Radiologically contaminated material will be separated out for on-site storage. The others will be sampled and tested for compatibility and bulk shipped off-site by a licensed hauler to a licensed disposal facility. This will prevent exposure to workers on-site of the chemicals and minimize any leaking/rupture of the containers during other remedial activities.

V. ASH POND ISOLATION DIKE: Surface water runoff is flowing into Ash Pond, the lowest level on the site; this runoff water flowing into Ash Pond is contaminated with uranium at levels up to 440 pCi/L. However, water discharged from the pond is going into the Busch Wildlife Area and is contaminated with uranium at levels up to 3500 pCi/L. By constructing a dike around Ash Pond, the surface water will be isolated from Ash Pond and erosion control provided. The action will reduce the amount of radiological contamination leaving the site via this pathway.

VI. DEBRIS CONSOLIDATION: Following the inventory and characterization of containerized chemicals and the scanning of major items for radiological contamination, action will be taken to consolidate debris (pipe, steel, rubble, etc) randomly scattered throughout the site. Placing this debris in one controlled area will improve conditions for environmental health and safety surveys of the site, as well as clearing the area for improved groundskeeping and for future dismantling and construction activities.

VII. ARMY VICINITY PROPERTY: More than 1,400 yards of radiologically contaminated material is present on the Weldon Spring Army Reserve property. Though it is low-level radiation (up to 281 pCi/g of uranium and up to 38 pCi/g of radium) the materials must be cleaned up to allow construction to get underway at the Army Reserve. This action will remove the contaminated material, haul it to an on-site staging area, verify and certify that the properties are cleaned up to meet excavation criteria, and then proceed to backfill, regrade and reseed.

VIII. DISMANTLING OF BUILDING 401-STEAM PLANT: The steam processing plant, is a 17,000 square foot building which contains asbestos. The asbestos from the building can be removed and transported to off-site disposal. Once the asbestos has been removed, the equipment and building can be dismantled and transported to off-site disposal.

IX. DISMANTLING OF BUILDING 409-ADMINISTRATION: The 2-story, 38,000 square foot former administration building has no known radiological or chemical contamination, but has some minor asbestos contamination. The asbestos will be removed and transported off-site, and the internal equipment, walls, and the superstructure will be dismantled and transported to off-site disposal.

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