



Granite City, Illinois, Site

A FUSRAP site

This fact sheet provides information about the **Granite City site**. Long-term stewardship responsibilities for this site are managed by the **U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management** under the **Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program**.

Site Information and History

The Granite City, Illinois, Site (formerly the Granite City Steel site) is located at 1417 State Street, approximately 10 miles northeast of St. Louis, Missouri. The site consists of the Betatron Building, a two-story concrete and metal building.

From 1958 to 1966, General Steel Castings Corporation, under purchase orders from Mallinckrodt Chemical Works, X-rayed uranium ingots in the Betatron Building to detect metallurgical flaws in the uranium metal. This work was performed for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), a predecessor agency of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). At completion of the AEC activities, the site was remediated to comply with radiological protection standards in effect at the time.

In 1989, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) conducted radiological surveys at the Granite City site to determine current radiological conditions in and around the Betatron Building. Survey results indicated that AEC-related activities had resulted in uranium concentrations that exceeded DOE guidelines on and near an industrial vacuum cleaner and on a few localized spots on the ground-level floor.

In 1991, ORNL surveyed a second Betatron Building (referred to as the New Betatron Building) because information indicated that it also may have been used to examine uranium ingots. However, survey results showed no contamination.

On the basis of contamination identified in the 1989 surveys, DOE designated the Granite City site for remedial action under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action

Program (FUSRAP) in 1992 and recommended an expedited remediation because the radioactive contamination was limited to small amounts in the interior of the Betatron Building.

Decontamination included packaging the industrial vacuum cleaner and its contents in a 55-gallon galvanized steel drum. The 107-square-foot contaminated area of the floor was decontaminated by vacuuming, washing with a light abrasive mixture, and where necessary, scabbling, which is a more aggressive technique that involves removing the top surface of the concrete. In addition, the ventilation duct was removed and compacted for waste disposal. Asphalt and soil were also removed for disposal at two floor locations along the railroad track. Cleanup was completed in June 1993.

After post-remedial action surveys verified that the site was remediated to levels below DOE guidelines, the waste was shipped to a licensed disposal facility in Clive, Utah, for permanent disposal.

Regulatory Setting

AEC established FUSRAP in March 1974 to evaluate radioactive contamination at sites used in the development of the nation's nuclear weapons and atomic energy programs. DOE has the legislative authority under the Atomic Energy Act (AEA) of 1954, as amended, to perform radiological surveys, monitoring, and maintenance at sites used to support the nuclear activities of DOE's predecessor agencies. DOE also has legislative authority under the AEA to remediate FUSRAP sites identified as requiring some form of response action. In 1997, Congress transferred responsibility for FUSRAP site characterization and remediation from DOE to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The DOE Office of Legacy Management (LM) retains responsibility for long-term care of remediated FUSRAP sites. For more information about the program, please see the [FUSRAP fact sheet](#).

The Granite City site was remediated to criteria in DOE Order 5400.5, *Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment*. On June 7, 1994, DOE certified that the property was in compliance with applicable DOE standards and criteria developed to protect health, safety, and the environment. A notice of cleanup certification for the site was published in the *Federal Register* June 14, 1994.

In fiscal year 2004, DOE transferred long-term stewardship responsibilities for the Granite City FUSRAP site from the DOE Office of Environmental Management to LM.

Current Site Conditions

Post-remedial action survey results indicate that the radiological condition of the Granite City site is in compliance with applicable DOE standards and guidelines for cleanup of residual radioactive contamination. Therefore, DOE released the site for unrestricted use.

Legacy Management Activities

No monitoring, maintenance, or site inspections are required for the Granite City site. LM's responsibilities consist of managing site records and responding to stakeholder inquiries.



CONTACT INFORMATION

**IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AT THE SITE,
CONTACT 911.**

Site-specific documents related to the **Granite City, Illinois, Site** are available on the LM website at www.energy.gov/lm/granite-city-illinois-site.

For more information on FUSRAP site history or current long-term stewardship activities, contact:

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