



Issue 9

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New York District

#### Autumn 2004

The Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) was initiated by the Atomic Energy Commission (now the Department of Energy) in 1974 to identify and remediate contaminated sites used in the early years of the United States' atomic energy program. Management of the program was transferred to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in October 1997. This fact sheet is one in a series of fact sheets providing information on FUSRAP activities at the Colonie Site.

www.fusrapcolonie.com

## **Patroon Creek Site Investigation Completed**

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) conducted a Site Investigation of Patroon Creek in the fall of 2003 on the unnamed tributary and the portion of Patroon Creek from the site downstream to 3-Mile Reservoir. The Patroon Creek Site Investigation Report, which summarizes field sampling results, was placed in the Colonie Site information repository in September 2004. Results confirm prior sampling by the Department of Energy (DOE) in-



dicating limited sediment impacts related to the former National Lead Site at the outfall of the stormwater drain near the CSX railway. Depleted uranium contamination was found in the sediment between 1.5 and 2.5 feet beneath the ground surface. At these depths, there



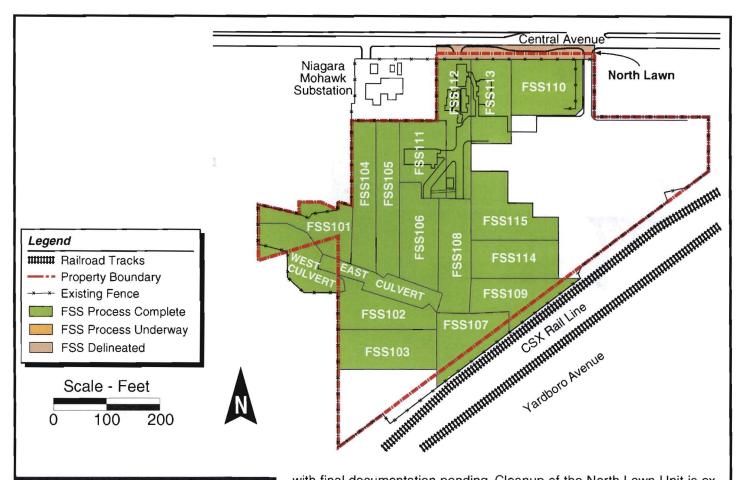
is no current risk of human exposure. The results of the comprehensive sediment sampling investigation were all below the site cleanup criteria of 35 picocuries/gram. Therefore, no further action is recommended for Patroon Creek and 3-Mile Reservoir, with the exception of the outfall area. The outfall area will be addressed in coordination with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

# Soil Removal Update

After encountering a trend of greater volumes of contaminated soil in the northern and central areas of the site, USACE conducted additional characterization sampling across the remaining portion of the site in fiscal year 2004. The sampling data indicated both radiological and lead contamination of the soil at significantly greater depths than originally planned based on previous site characterization work performed by DOE. As a result of these findings, the Colonie FUSRAP Site soil removal is now estimated to be completed in fiscal year 2006.

Fifteen areas of the site have undergone final closure in accordance with the Final Status Survey (FSS) Plan. FSS Units 101 through 113 and the East and West Culvert Units have been backfilled to final grade and seeded. Units 114 and 115 are currently being backfilled

<b>Cleanup Statistics</b>	Totals to Date	Mar 04–Aug 04
Soil Disposed Off-site	134,112 tons	13,333 tons
Soil Treated On-site	97,424 tons	9,128 tons
Soil Excavated	125,242 tons	13,255 tons
Backfill Received On-site	126,493 tons	91 tons
Water Treated On-site	23,465,131 gallons	1,227,737 gallons





with final documentation pending. Cleanup of the North Lawn Unit is expected next spring. The cleaned areas of the site are shown in green on the Final Status Survey Unit Map above.

# **CSX Vicinity Property Investigation**

A draft Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (EE/CA) report has been prepared and is currently undergoing internal review by USACE. The main purpose of the EE/CA is to evaluate a limited number of removal action alternatives for remediating the CSX property adjacent to the Colonie Site. As part of the EE/CA, a comparative analysis has been conducted to assess the relative performance of each cleanup alternative in relation to its

effectiveness, implementability, and cost. Although a removal action is typically a short-term action to mitigate the threat posed by a potential release of hazardous substances, each alternative has been evaluated to determine its long-term effectiveness. The EE/CA is scheduled to be released for public comment in the spring of 2005.

## **Groundwater Progress**

## Semi-Annual Monitoring

Comprehensive groundwater sampling of all monitoring wells on and off-site is conducted on a semi-annual basis. These results are summarized in reports and are available in the local information repository (William K. Sanford Town Library). The groundwater in and around the site is not being used for drinking or other potable purposes. The City of Albany supplies drinking water to area residents. Semi-annual monitoring is expected to continue through 2008.

### Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment

The draft final Risk Assessment for the Colonie FUSRAP Site was released to NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health for review in early April 2004. The final Risk Assessment was released to the public in September 2004.

## Feasibility Study

The groundwater Feasibility Study (FS) is currently on hold. The groundwater at the site is in constant flux due to the on-going soil removal action. Any feasibility study generated at this time would not reflect actual site conditions. Recent groundwater monitoring reports are showing that chlorinated volatile organic solvent concentrations on-site have been decreasing, as the soil source areas are being removed. The FS has been postponed until the soil removal has been completed, so that the appropriate remedial alternatives can be evaluated consistent with current groundwater contamination levels. The FS Report is now expected to be released to the public in fiscal year 2006.



## Proposed Plan

Upon completion of the groundwater FS phase, USACE will prepare a Proposed Plan (PP) that will clearly identify to the public what the preferred groundwater cleanup alternative is for the site. The main purpose of the PP is to obtain public participation in the remedy selection process and to ensure that regulatory requirements are fulfilled. The PP provides a brief summary of all alternatives studied in the detailed analysis phase of the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, as well as the key factors that lead to the selection of the preferred alternative. The PP does not select the remedial action; it merely sets forth the preferred alternative. The PP is now scheduled to be released in fiscal year 2006 upon completion of the FS Report and will be made available for public comment.



### **Record of Decision**

USACE will prepare a site-wide Record of Decision (ROD) that will take into consideration new information and comments received during the PP public comment period. The ROD will document the selected remedy for the groundwater, as well as serve to certify that the current soil removal action is the final remedy for the main site and vicinity properties. The ROD is expected to be submitted to NYSDEC for review and written approval in fiscal year 2007. Once signed, USACE will publish a notice of availability and make the ROD available to the public before beginning the response action for groundwater.

## **ATSDR's Health Consultation**

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) issued a Health Consultation report for the Colonie FUSRAP Site/National Lead Industries in August 2003. In September 2003, ATSDR presented information from its report at the Army Corps' community meeting. The responses to comments/questions received on the report and the revised report is expected to be completed and made available to the public in the fall of 2004. For further information or to relay health concerns, contact Ms. Aimee Treffiletti at ATSDR at 404-498-0389, or call ATSDR's toll-free line (1-888-422-8737) and mention that you are calling about the Colonie FUSRAP Site.

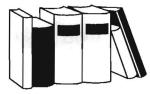
# **Upcoming Public Meeting**

USACE will hold an Open House from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 29, 2004, at the Town of Colonie Community Center at 1653 Central Avenue. The Corps will present information on the status of the cleanup of the Colonie FUSRAP Site (formerly National Lead Industries). The USACE presentation will also include information on the Patroon Creek and adjacent CSX vicinity property investigations, as well as the groundwater risk assessment. Interested members of the community are encouraged to attend to learn about the progress toward project completion and express any concerns or questions about the cleanup. Health concerns related to past activities at National Lead fall under the purview of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and the New York State Department of Health.

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#### Colonie FUSRAP Site Information Repository

William K. Sanford Town Library 629 Albany Shaker Road Loudonville, NY 12211 518-458-9274



Web Site: http://www.fusrapcolonie.com

#### Call the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New York District Project Manager

Contact James Moore at 732-435-0079 or 212-264-4023 or James.T.Moore@nan02.usace.army.mil with any questions or comments.



#### Join the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Mailing List

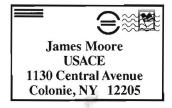
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USACE

James Moore

1130 Central Avenue

If you are not already on the Corps' mailing list, sign up at the Open House or write to the Corps contact at the address below.



#### **Upcoming Community Meeting**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers invites you to a Colonie FUSRAP Site Open House on Wednesday, September 29, 2004, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Town of Colonie Community Center at 1653 Central Avenue. The Open House is an opportunity for community members to learn about the status of cleanup activities and the progress toward site closure; the Patroon Creek and CSX vicinity property investigations; and the groundwater risk assessment. Please contact James Moore, the New York District Corps' Project Manager, at 732-435-0079 or 212-264-4023 or James.T.Moore@nan02.usace.army.mil with any questions.