



EPA Outlines Cleanup Plan for Radiation Areas

Ottawa Radiation Areas Site
Ottawa, Illinois

December 2002

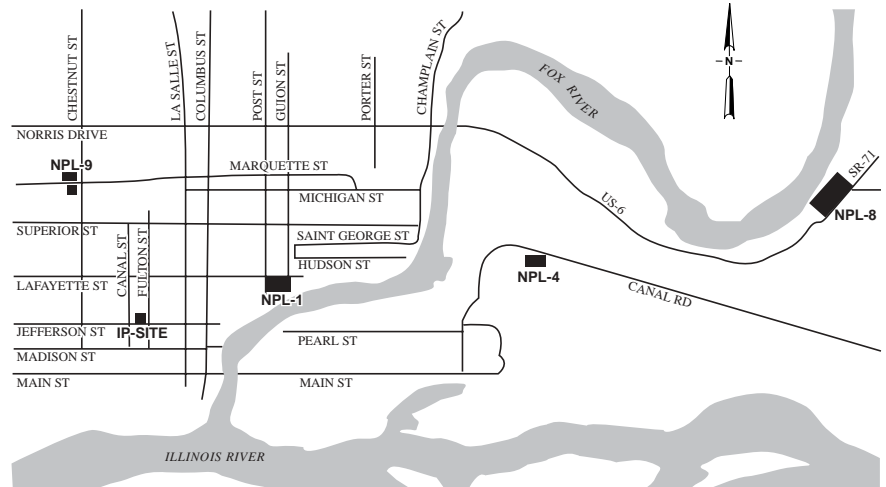
Tell us how we're doing

EPA will hold community interviews January 15, 2003, (daytime and evening) and January 16 (daytime). We want to do the interviews to hear your concerns about the Ottawa Radiation Superfund Site. We also want to take a fresh look at the best ways to get information about the site to you.

When we finish the interviews we will revise the Community Relations Plan that we completed in 1993. The original plan is located in the Reddick Library.

Each interview will take about 45 minutes and can be held in your home, office, a local coffee shop, library, or another place. If you would like to talk with us but are not available January 15 and 16, we can schedule a phone interview with you on a different day.

If you would like to set up an interview, please call EPA's consultant, Deb Volkmer, Weston Solutions, Inc., at (610) 701-5178 or e-mail: Deborah.Volkmer@westonsolutions.com by Friday, January 10, 2003. Or contact Jennifer Ostermeier, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, at (800) 621-8431 ext. 30618 or via e-mail at ostermeier.jennifer@epa.gov.



Locations of NPL-1, 4, 8, 9 and Illinois Power

Cleanup designs for 5 radiation areas continue

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 is currently preparing a report for the cleanup of 5 areas where radiation is present. These areas have been labeled National Priorities List-1, 4, 8, 9 and Illinois Power. The report gives details of the cleanup choices EPA made in September of 2000. The final design of the cleanup plans is tentatively planned to be completed in spring 2004. A copy of the final design plan will be placed in the Ottawa Radiation Areas site information repository located at the Reddick Library.

Activities this spring

This spring EPA will test a process to separate radioactive materials above and below the cleanup standard. This test process will use a Segmented Gate System. We hope this will reduce the amount of soil that must be transported and disposed of off-site. This is a pilot study and will be performed for NPL-4 and 8.

Once the remedial design is finished, the next step is the remedial action, which is starting the actual cleanup. The following list explains what we plan to do at the sites.

NPL-1 – Open Lot Near Football Field

- Remove polluted soil
- Put clean fill in those areas and plant grass
- Test the soil we remove and dispose of it at a landfill that accepts radioactive material
- Collect water we find and treat or dispose of it

Cleanup plan *(Continued from front)*

NPL-4 – Former Landfill Area

- Remove polluted soil
- Put clean fill in those areas and plant grass
- Sort the soil into polluted and unpolluted portions
- Test the soil we remove and dispose of it at a landfill that accepts radioactive material
- Collect water we find and treat or dispose of it

NPL-8 – Conservation Area

- Remove polluted soil down 10 feet
- Put clean fill in those areas and plant grass
- Sort the soil into polluted and unpolluted portions
- Test the soil we remove and dispose of it at a landfill that accepts radioactive material
- Collect water we find and treat or dispose of it
- Restrict the land's use to recreational with a deed restriction

NPL-9 – Former Marquette Warehouse

- Remove polluted soil
- Put clean fill in those areas and plant grass
- Sort the soil into polluted and unpolluted portions
- Test the soil we remove and dispose of it at a landfill that accepts radioactive material

Illinois Power Building

- Remove polluted soil
- Test the soil we remove and dispose of it at a landfill that accepts radioactive material
- Monitor the building for radon to make sure the levels are safe
- If the radon levels are high, we will reduce them with a radon-reduction system

EPA to prepare proposed plan for NPL-11

In the spring of 2003, EPA will present cleanup options for NPL-11 – Bellevue Avenue Residences. We will have a public meeting and comment period to hear what you think about these cleanup choices. After we have heard comments we will choose a cleanup plan.

Site description and history

The Ottawa Radiation Areas site, located in LaSalle County, Illinois, consists of 14 areas polluted by radioactive materials. The 14 areas are scattered throughout the city of Ottawa and places outside the city. The areas were put on the National Priorities List as one site because the same wastes polluted each area.

Also, the areas involve the same parties responsible for the pollution, and require similar cleanup methods.

The pollution came from the Radium Dial Co. (from 1918 to 1936) and Luminous Processes, Inc. (from 1937 to 1978). These businesses made glow-in-the-dark dials for clocks and watches using radium-based paint. Building demolition material and soil, polluted with radioactive waste, were used as fill material in the Ottawa area. Many of the 14 areas are residential sections and include some buildings.

EPA removed the polluted soil in the residential areas first and is now working to clean up the rest of the areas.

Information repository

A repository of information about the site is located at the Reddick Library. It contains many documents, including the Administrative Record, site-related technical documents, fact sheets, and general information concerning the Superfund program. The documents are there for your use.

Reddick Library
1010 Canal Street
Ottawa, Illinois

For more information

If you have questions or would like additional information about the Ottawa Radiation Areas Superfund Site, please write or call:

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