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Record of Decision for Shallow Land Disposal Area in Parks Township

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers signed a Record of Decision for the Shallow Land Disposal Area (SLDA) in Parks Township, Armstrong County, Pennsylvania on September 7, 2007. The Record of Decision documents the Selected Remedy for cleanup of the site, the remedy was selected from the remediation alternatives put forth in the Proposed Plan issued in November 2006. In accordance with the Selected Remedy, listed as Alternative 5 in the Proposed Plan, the Corps will excavate and remove radioactive contaminated soil from the site and dispose of it in an appropriate permitted/licensed disposal facility outside the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This alternative is considered to be the most protective in the long term because all the radioactive contaminated soils above the set cleanup goals for the site will be permanently removed from the site.

The Corps held a meeting on January 12, 2007 at the Parks Township Volunteer Fire Department Social Hall to discuss with the public the options for cleanup of the site. Public participation included both the public meeting and a formal comment period. The Corps received two comments during the public meeting and four additional comments during the comment period. These comments were reviewed, considered and responded to in the Responsiveness Summary section of the Record of Decision.

The Selected Remedy is the most protective of human health and the environment, complies with federal and state requirements that are applicable or relevant and appropriate to the remedial action, and is cost effective.

The Record of Decision is available on-line at <http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/fusrap/sldarod.pdf> or in printed format at the Apollo Memorial Library at 219 North Pennsylvania Avenue in Apollo, Pennsylvania and at the Corps' Pittsburgh District Office at 1000 Liberty Avenue in downtown Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Administrative Record file for this project, which includes the Record of Decision plus all the documents that formed the basis for the selection of the cleanup remedy, is also available for review at the Apollo Library and the Corps' Pittsburgh District Office.

The Corps is conducting this work under the authority of the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). The FUSRAP program was created to identify, investigate and take appropriate cleanup action at sites with low-level radioactive contamination from the nation's early atomic energy program. Cleanup of formerly utilized sites primarily involves contaminated soil and building debris. The Corps of Engineers uses the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) process to investigate and remediate FUSRAP sites.