



US Army Corps  
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## Summary of Technical Project Planning (TPP) Meeting for the Parks Township Shallow Land Disposal Area (SLDA)

In January 2002, public law 107-117, Section 8143 directed the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to cleanup radioactive waste at the Shallow Land Disposal Area (SLDA) site located in Parks Township, Armstrong County, Pennsylvania under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). The cleanup will follow the remediation process outlined the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and be consistent with the requirements of the 2001 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the USACE and the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). This MOU applies to sites being cleaned up to meet NRC's criteria for unrestricted use (10CFR20.1402). The CERCLA process consists of a site designation, preliminary assessment, remedial investigation (RI), feasibility study (FS), proposed plan, record of decision (ROD), remedial design, and remedial action. The SLDA site designation and preliminary assessment phases are complete.

Prior to starting work on the RI/FS, the USACE conducted a Technical Project Planning (TPP) meeting regarding the remediation of the SLDA site on August 27 and 28, 2002. The meeting was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Coraopolis, Pennsylvania. Objectives of the meeting included the following: 1) identifying a project team; 2) developing a working relationship between the project team and the stakeholders; 3) summarizing existing site information; 4) identifying project goals; and 5) developing a general approach to site remediation.

Representatives from the following organizations attended the TPP meeting: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP); Pennsylvania Department of Health; NRC; United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA); BWX Technologies (BWXT); Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO); USACE; Department of Army Headquarters (ASA-CW); Argonne National Laboratory (ANL); and URS Corporation (URS). It was the opinion of the USEPA Region III representative that PADEP will be the lead regulatory agency; representatives of NRC and PADEP expressed their agreement with this opinion.

The meeting began with URS presenting a detailed site description, as well as an overview of previous investigations and remediation efforts completed at the site. A brief outline of legislative requirements was also given. Detailed discussions followed concerning the best approach to address radiological material in the disposal trenches, and residual radioactive contamination in soils, groundwater and other affected media. Gaps in the existing data were identified, and strategies to fill these gaps were discussed. These strategies will be implemented during investigative fieldwork, which is presently anticipated to start in the spring of 2003. A public information session is scheduled to be held prior to the fieldwork.

The meeting resulted in an increased understanding of site constraints and stakeholder expectations. The USACE and stakeholders discussed investigation and remediation strategies and it is the contention of the USACE that a continued open and frank dialogue between USACE and stakeholders will expedite the site cleanup.