US Army Corps of Engineers

Former DuPont Chambers Works Site

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Project Overview

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Philadelphia District is addressing the Former DuPont Chambers Works Site under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). Under this program, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers identifies, investigates and, if necessary, cleans up sites throughout the United States that were used as part of the nation's early atomic weapons and energy program.

The site is located within the 680-acre Chambers Works property in Deepwater, New Jersey (DPCW). The former DPCW property is currently an active chemical manufacturing facility owned and operated by The Chemours Company (formerly operated by E.I. DuPont De Nemours and Company). Operations at the Site have included the production of dyes, freon, tetraethyl lead, aromatic chemicals, and elastomeric polymers. In addition to the chemical manufacturing, the site was used during World War II for the research and development and production of radiological materials that contributed to the development of the atomic bomb. From 1942 to 1947, site activities included processing uranium compounds and uranium scrap to produce uranium tetrafluoride, uranium hexafluoride, and a small quantity of uranium metal. Subsequent radiological surveys identified areas of elevated concentrations of uranium at the site and in 1977 it was designated as a FUSRAP site.

Project Status

The Proposed Plan for the site was issued in December of 2012 and the Record of Decision was signed in September of 2013. Award of the first Remedial Action (RA) contract also occurred in September of 2013 and led to the removal and disposal of 17,800 cubic yards of contaminated material through 2015. Site work was paused at this time until a second RA contract was awarded in September of 2017. Work has continued without interruption since award of the second RA contract with excavation of an additional 50,700 cubic yards of contaminated material through the beginning of CY 2023.

Path Forward

Remediation work continues at the site, focusing on removal of the remaining 41,000 cubic yards of known contamination with a time frame for completion currently projected for end of FY26. This will be followed by ground water monitoring for a period of three to five years to verify that the remedy is effective.

For Additional Information

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