

Region 7

lowa Kansas Missouri Nebraska



Fact Sheet

June 2003

Expanded Site Inspection to be Conducted Des Moines (ex) Ordnance Works Plant Superfund Site

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 7, will be sampling surface water, groundwater, sediment, and soil at the Des Moines (ex) Ordnance Works Plant (DMOP) Site, as part of an Expanded Site Inspection (ESI). DMOP is a former Department of Defense (DOD) facility developed for the production of small arms ammunition, storage, testing, and disposal. The purpose of the ESI is to find potential source(s) of contamination from past DOD activities and other operations at the site. The sampling will begin the week of June 9, 2003, and is expected to be completed by the end of summer. The EPA Superfund program plans to sample the entire site, except for the property currently owned by John Deere Des Moines Works, which is regulated under a different environmental program.

BACKGROUND

The site is located within the city limits of Ankeny, Iowa, on Highway 415, approximately five miles North of Des Moines. The site consists of 2,445 acres. The basic operations of the DMOP included metal forming processes (including chromium plating), fabrication of cartridge casing from raw brass and steel, preparation of ammunition component mixtures and ammunition packing operations. The United States Rubber Company operated the plant for DOD from December 31, 1942 to January 19, 1946. At the peak production it produced 2,000,000 rounds of 0.30 and 0.50 caliber ammunition per day. In

1947, John Deere Des Moines Works purchased 586 acres of the site from the DOD and installed various machinery and process equipment. John Deere currently manufactures farm implements on that property. In 1965, the City of Ankeny acquired a 38-acre sewage treatment plant, landfill area, and land along Disposal Road from John Deere. The state of lowa acquired 1,412 acres of the site in 1947 which is currently used by lowa State University as an experimental farm.

Portions of the site have been investigated in the past by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and EPA. Contaminants found to date include metals, explosives, polyaromatic hydrocarbons, semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Currently, the property is owned by lowa State University, Des Moines Community College, the City of Ankeny, John Deere Des Moines Works, and small private land owners.

FIELD ACTIVITIES

The sampling efforts will be conducted by EPA personnel and its contractor, Black & Veatch. They will be sampling for a full range of compounds including volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), metals, and explosives.

When the sampling is completed, EPA will review the information to determine if further actions at the site are warranted.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions about this fact sheet or need additional information about the Des Moines (ex) Ordnance Works Plant site, please contact:

Fritz Hirter

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2



Region 7

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Fact Sheet

October 2005

Site Sampling Des Moines (ex) Ordnance Plant Site, Ankeny, Iowa

INTRODUCTION

This information is about a site that may interest you.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 will conduct follow up sampling activities at the landfill/lagoon complex portion of the Des Moines (ex) Ordnance Plant (DMOP) Superfund Site during the week of October 31 – November 5, 2005.

The site is located within the city limits of Ankeny, lowa on Highway 415, approximately five miles North of Des Moines, lowa. The landfill/lagoon portion of the site is located south of the John Deere Facility, on the former DMOP Manufacturing Facility property.

The purpose of the sampling is to determine the extent of threats to human health and the environment as a result of past disposal activities at the landfill/lagoon complex. EPA will collect soil and sediment samples.

The sampling will be conducted during the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. each day, and should not disrupt normal day-to-day activities in the area.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Questions about this information should be directed to:

Belinda Young

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Region 7

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Fact Sheet

May 2005

Site Sampling Des Moines (ex) Ordnance Plant Site, Ankeny, Iowa

SITE UPDATE

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) will conduct sampling activities at the landfill/lagoon complex portion of the Des Moines (ex) Ordnance Plant (DMOP) Superfund Site. The DMOP was a former Department of Defense facility that produced small arms ammunition between 1942 and 1946.

The 38-acre landfill/lagoon complex portion of the DMOP is part of the larger DMOP Manufacturing Facility property which is bounded by Southwest 3rd Street and Ordnance Road to the north, Highway 69 to the east, and Highway 415 to the south and west. At various times between 1941 to 1991, the landfill/lagoon complex received many types of wastes from the DMOP, John Deere, and the City of Ankeny.

SAMPLING ACTIVITIES

The purpose of the sampling is to further evaluate whether any threat to human health or the environment exists as a result of past disposal

activities at the landfill/lagoon complex.

EPA will collect the following samples:

- Soil
- Groundwater
- Surface Water
- Sediment

The sampling is scheduled to begin on Monday, May 16, 2005, and will last approximately three days.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact:

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