



## Adrian, Michigan, Site

A FUSRAP site

This fact sheet provides information about the **Adrian site**. Long-term stewardship responsibilities for this site are managed by the **U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management** under the **Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program**.

### Site Information and History

The Adrian, Michigan, Site (formerly the General Motors site) is located at 1450 E. Beecher Street, on the eastern side of Route 52 in Adrian, Michigan. The town of Adrian is approximately 20 miles southwest of Ann Arbor and 30 miles northwest of Toledo, Ohio. The site encompasses the former General Motors (GM) plant, a large complex covering approximately 17 acres.

During the 1950s, the previous owner of the site, the Bridgeport Brass Company, machined and shaped uranium metal under contract with the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) for the fabrication of reactor fuel elements for nuclear reactors in Hanford, Washington, and Savannah River, South Carolina. At the end of the contract, the site was decontaminated to comply with radiological protection standards in effect at the time. The site was sold to Martin Marietta in the early 1960s and then to GM in 1974.

In 1977, the Oak Ridge National Laboratory conducted a radiological survey at the site and identified residual uranium contamination in areas underneath the floor. Contaminant levels exceeded the current guidelines, and remediation was deemed necessary. The area that required remedial action comprises approximately 41,000 square feet of the plant.

During excavation for new construction at the site in 1985, additional contamination was identified in a tile drain line. The portion of the drain line directly under the manufacturing area was subsequently removed, placed in 55-gallon drums,

and shipped to a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) facility in Clive, Utah, for disposal. In addition, oil, scale, and sludge remaining in the pipe chase and oil collection system contained concentrations of uranium exceeding the current guidelines.

The Adrian site was designated for remedial action under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) in July 1988.

In 1994, DOE conducted a detailed radiological survey at the site. Results from the survey showed the manholes, sumps, pipe chases, and associated piping were contaminated.

Decontamination at the Adrian site included: high-pressure washing to remove water, oil, sludge, and scale from the sumps, manholes, and associated piping; pumping liquids into lined drums to remove oil, water, and sludge; wiping the floors and walls to remove oil and scale; and excavating a 3-square-foot area.

Some materials with contamination that exceeded the guidelines were left in place in the piping system because of the high costs of complete remediation and the economic impact that would result from shutting down the GM plant to accomplish the remedial action. A hazard assessment concluded that contamination left in the piping system would not result in risk to the general public. Supplemental limits were approved for the contamination left in place. Supplemental limits have been applied in place of the primary limits established in DOE guidelines at locations where the cost of remediation would be unreasonably high compared to the long-term benefits, and the residual contamination does not pose a present or future risk to workers or members of the public.

Remedial action at the site was completed in July 1995.

## Regulatory Setting

AEC, the predecessor agency to DOE, established FUSRAP in March 1974 to evaluate radioactive contamination at sites used in the development of the nation's nuclear weapons and atomic energy programs. DOE has the legislative authority under the Atomic Energy Act (AEA) of 1954, as amended, to perform radiological surveys, monitoring, and maintenance at sites used to support the nuclear activities of DOE's predecessor agencies. DOE also has legislative authority under the AEA to remediate FUSRAP sites identified as requiring some form of response action. In 1997, Congress transferred responsibility for FUSRAP site characterization and remediation from DOE to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The DOE Office of Legacy Management (LM) retains responsibility for long-term care of remediated FUSRAP sites. For more information about the program, please see the [FUSRAP fact sheet](#).

The Adrian site was remediated to criteria in DOE Order 5400.5, *Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment*. A notice of cleanup certification for the site was published in the *Federal Register* on January 29, 1997.

In fiscal year 2004, DOE transferred long-term stewardship responsibilities for the Adrian FUSRAP site from the DOE Office of Environmental Management to LM.

## Current Site Conditions

Post-remedial action survey data indicate the radiological condition of the Adrian site is in compliance with applicable DOE standards and guidelines for cleanup of residual radioactive contamination. DOE certified that use of the property in the reasonably foreseeable future will result in no radiological exposure above current guidelines established to protect members of the general public as well as occupants of the site. Residual contamination remains inaccessible and in a safe configuration, and any future debris would not need to be disposed of as regulated waste. No institutional controls are required for this site and risk calculations show no unacceptable risk with the current land use.

## Legacy Management Activities

No monitoring, maintenance, or site inspections are required for the Adrian site. LM's responsibilities consist of managing site records and responding to stakeholder inquiries.



## CONTACT INFORMATION

### IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AT THE SITE, CONTACT 911.

Site-specific documents related to the **Adrian, Michigan, Site** are available on the LM website at [www.energy.gov/lm/adrian-michigan-site](http://www.energy.gov/lm/adrian-michigan-site).

For more information on FUSRAP site history or current long-term stewardship activities, contact:

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