

ROCKY FLATS SOIL INVESTIGATIONS

The easterly 300 feet of the Rocky Flats site, which the US Congress in the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Act of 2001, directed be made available for ROW, was removed from the National Priorities List in 2007. As noted below exclusion from the list means that no further investigation or remediation is necessary for the site. The following summary relates only to investigations to identify and remediate soil contamination issues. There were numerous other investigations, testing and remedial activities related to surface and ground waters.

The nature and extent of soil contamination for the entire Rocky Flats site, which includes the Central and Peripheral Operable Units, was fully evaluated in the Remedial Investigation / Corrective Measures Study – Feasibility Study Report for the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (RI/FS), dated June 2006. DOE's contractor, Kaiser Hill (K-H) was responsible for conducting the risk assessment and for completing any site remediation necessary to meet CDPHE's and EPA's criteria which led to the eventual delisting of the Peripheral Operable Unit (Wildlife Refuge Area). In addition to the full range of conventional sampling and analyses, the investigation included aerial radiological surveying to locate high concentrations of radionuclide material. The USEPA and CDPHE were fully engaged during the clean-up oversee the work performed on behalf of DOE.

The Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), an independent reviewer hired by the Rocky Flats Stewardship Council, validated and approved K-H's risk assessment and remediation activities in 2005 on behalf of the downstream communities. The downstream communities also hired MACTEC, a private environmental consulting firm to conduct an additional independent review of the data developed on behalf of DOE.

Based on the findings of the RI/FS and as documented in the Corrective Action Decision/Record of Decision for Rocky Flats Plant (CAD/ROD), dated September 29, 2006, no action is necessary to protect human health and the environment for the Peripheral Operable Unit (OU). The ROW is included in this Peripheral Operating Unit. Because no hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants occur in the Peripheral OU above levels that require restrictions on use or exposure, the Peripheral OU was deleted from the National Priorities List (NPL) on May 25, 2007.

The NPL includes sites where known or threatened releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants are located. EPA uses the NPL to determine which sites warrant further investigation and/or remediation. For Rocky Flats, the investigation was the June 2006 RI/FS.

