

U.S. DEPARTMENT  
of **ENERGY**

Office of Legacy Management



## Indian Orchard, Massachusetts

### A FUSRAP SITE

This fact sheet provides information about the **Indian Orchard 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 Indian Orchard, Massachusetts, Site (formerly the Chapman Valve Site) is located in an industrial site bordered by Pinevale, Goodwin, and Moxon streets in Indian Orchard, a suburb of Springfield, Massachusetts.

In 1948, Chapman Valve Manufacturing Company used one-third of Building 23 (an area that measured approximately 60 feet by 200 feet and was separated from the remainder of the building by a floor-to-ceiling partition) to machine uranium rods for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. Uranium operations ended in November of that year, resulting in more than 27,000 pounds of metal scraps, oxides, and refuse on-site. This material was removed several months after the contract was completed, and the building was decontaminated to standards in effect at that time.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) conducted a radiological survey at the site in 1991. Survey results identified residual uranium contamination that exceeded DOE criteria on surfaces and in the west end of the building. As a result, DOE designated the site for remediation under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). DOE conducted site characterization in late 1994 and early 1995.

Remedial action of the Indian Orchard site began in July 1995 and consisted of brushing, scrubbing, and vacuuming to remove contaminated material. Remedial action was completed in August of that year, and a total of 20 cubic yards of low-activity radioactive waste was shipped to a licensed disposal facility in Utah.

Building 23 has since been demolished and the materials on which supplemental limits were placed have been removed from the site.

### Regulatory Setting

The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, 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 Indian Orchard site was remediated to criteria in DOE Order 5400.5, *Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment*, and was released for unrestricted use. A notice of cleanup certification for the site was published in the *Federal Register* on Jan. 21, 2004.

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

## Current Site Conditions

Post-remedial action survey data indicate that the radiological condition of the Indian Orchard site is in compliance with applicable DOE standards and guidelines for cleanup of residual radioactive contamination. An independent verification survey conducted after the completion of remedial action detected no residual radioactivity that exceeded current guidelines. Therefore, DOE released the site for unrestricted use. A second verification survey was conducted after removal of Building 23 to confirm that demolition activities did not redistribute structure contamination.

## Legacy Management Activities

No monitoring, maintenance, or site inspections are required for the Indian Orchard 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.**

LM toll-free emergency hotline: **(877) 695-5322**


Site-specific documents related to the **Indian Orchard, Massachusetts, Site** are available on the LM website at [www.energy.gov/lm/indian-orchard-massachusetts-site](http://www.energy.gov/lm/indian-orchard-massachusetts-site).

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

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