Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

### Maywood Chemical Company Superfund Site

### **ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD**

**Document Number** 

**MISS-146.** 



US Army Corps of Engineers® Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

# Community Relations Plan for the Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study-Environmental Impact Statement for the Maywood Site

Maywood, New Jersey

November 1993



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## COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN FOR THE REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/ FEASIBILITY STUDY-ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE MAYWOOD INTERIM STORAGE SITE

MAYWOOD, NEW JERSEY

NOVEMBER 1993

Prepared for

United States Department of Energy Oak Ridge Operations Office Under Contract No. DE-AC05-910R21949

> Bechtel National, Inc. Oak Ridge, Tennessee

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#### FOREWORD

This document has been prepared to document the requirements for a community relations plan to support remedial action activities at the Maywood site, located in northern New Jersey in the boroughs of Maywood and Lodi and the township of Rochelle Park. Remedial action at the Maywood site is being planned as part of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, a remedial investigation/feasibility study must be prepared to support the decision-making process for evaluating remedial action alternatives. Consistent with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency guidance for conducting a remedial investigation/feasibility study, the work plan-implementation plan (1) contains a summary of information currently known about the Maywood site, (2) presents a conceptual site model that identifies potential routes of human exposure to site contaminants, (3) identifies data gaps, and (4) summarizes the process and proposed studies that will be used to fill the data gaps. Other plans are developed to direct field investigations to resolve the data gaps identified in the work plan-implementation plan. The other plans are the field sampling plan, the quality assurance project plan, the health and safety plan, and the community relations plan.

The community relations plan documents concerns identified during interviews and interactions with residents of the community and provides a description of activities that will be conducted to respond to those concerns. The plan contains a brief site description, community background, summary of concerns, highlights of the community relations program, and the timing of community relations activities. It also contains a list of key community leaders and interested parties and suggested locations for public meetings and information repositories.

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#### ACRONYMS

AEC	Atomic Energy Commission
ANL	Argonne National Laboratory
BNI	Bechtel National, Inc.
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
DOE	Department of Energy
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FUSRAP	Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program
MISS	Maywood Interim Storage Site
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ORNL	Oak Ridge National Laboratory
ORO	Oak Ridge Operations Office
RI/FS-EIS	remedial investigation/feasibility study-environmental impact statement (or study)
SAIC	Science Applications International Corporation

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### **UNITS OF MEASURE**

ft	feet
ha	hectare
km	kilometer
m	meter
mi	mile
yd	yard

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### **1.0 OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN**

This community relations plan addresses issues of community concern regarding the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act/National Environmental Policy Act (CERCLA/NEPA) process for the Maywood Interim Storage Site (MISS) and vicinity properties in Maywood, New Jersey, and surrounding communities. This plan also outlines community relations activities that will be conducted during the CERCLA/NEPA process.

Remedial action at the Maywood site is being conducted as part of the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP), which was initiated by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) in 1974. FUSRAP, now managed by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), is responsible for identifying and cleaning up or otherwise controlling sites where low-level radioactive contamination (exceeding current guidelines) remains from the early years of the nation's atomic energy program or from commercial operations causing conditions that Congress has authorized DOE to remedy.

FUSRAP is conducted as a team effort with multiple organizations responsible for completion of work. DOE is responsible for the overall implementation of FUSRAP. DOE-Headquarters provides oversight and coordination and contracts Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education and Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) to designate sites and properties for FUSRAP. These two organizations also provide independent verification of the successful completion of remedial action leading to the release of properties from FUSRAP.

The DOE Oak Ridge Operations Office (ORO), which manages day-to-day FUSRAP activities, has contracted Bechtel National, Inc. (BNI), Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), and Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) to assist in the performance of FUSRAP activities. BNI is the project management contractor for FUSRAP, and SAIC is the environmental studies contractor. ANL serves in an independent role as environmental compliance contractor.

DOE is currently conducting a study to determine how best to manage contaminated material located at the Maywood site. In addition to engineering, cost, and other considerations, environmental impacts must be addressed. Federal laws prescribe a detailed environmental review process. The two major laws involved are NEPA and CERCLA, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act.

CERCLA sets up a carefully defined procedure that is followed to evaluate alternatives for cleanup at hazardous waste sites. NEPA mandates that federal agencies evaluate the environmental impacts of their proposed major actions. Because DOE is a federal agency, it must follow both laws while conducting the study at the Maywood site. Both CERCLA and NEPA include procedures for evaluating environmental impact; however, there are some variations in steps to be followed and the terminology that is used. During an environmental review under CERCLA, a remedial investigation/ feasibility study is conducted; during a review under NEPA, an environmental impact statement is prepared. Therefore, in accordance with CERCLA and NEPA, DOE is preparing a combined remedial investigation/ feasibility study-environmental impact statement to assess and compare the potential environmental impacts of various alternatives for managing these contaminated materials.

A major community relations issue at this site results from the presence of contamination in three municipalities: Maywood, Rochelle Park, and Lodi. Citizens and officials of Maywood are opposed to the transport of contaminated soil from other municipalities into Maywood for storage at MISS. Another community concern is that the interim storage site will become permanent if DOE is unsuccessful in developing a disposal site elsewhere. Concerns also have been expressed about potential health hazards from these materials.

This community relations plan has been prepared to guide DOE in proceeding with a community relations program tailored to the needs of the communities affected by the CERCLA/NEPA process. DOE conducts community relations activities to ensure that the local public has input to decisions about actions and is informed about the progress of those actions. This plan is divided into the following major sections:

• Site descriptions

- Community background
- Highlights of the community relations program
- Community relations activities
- Appendixes containing (1) a list of contacts, (2) locations of information repositories and administrative record files, and (3) suggested locations for public meetings.

Basic community relations activities will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Community interviews
- An information repository/administrative record file
- A minimum of a 60-day public comment period on the draft remedial investigation/feasibility study-environmental impact statement
- A fact sheet on the remedial investigation/feasibility study-environmental impact statement
- A responsiveness summary, providing responses to public concerns, attached to the record of decision
- A 30-day waiting period on the final remedial investigation/feasibility studyenvironmental impact statement
- Public notice and fact sheets after a remedy is selected
- Periodic revision of this community relations plan, as necessary
- Establishing a local DOE Public Information Center

The information in this plan is based on DOE's experience in the communities, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidance relative to community relations, interviews conducted with key individuals in the affected communities, comments made at the public meeting, and interactions with visitors and callers to the DOE Public Information Center.

#### 2.0 SITE BACKGROUND AND SETTING

#### 2.1 SITE DESCRIPTIONS

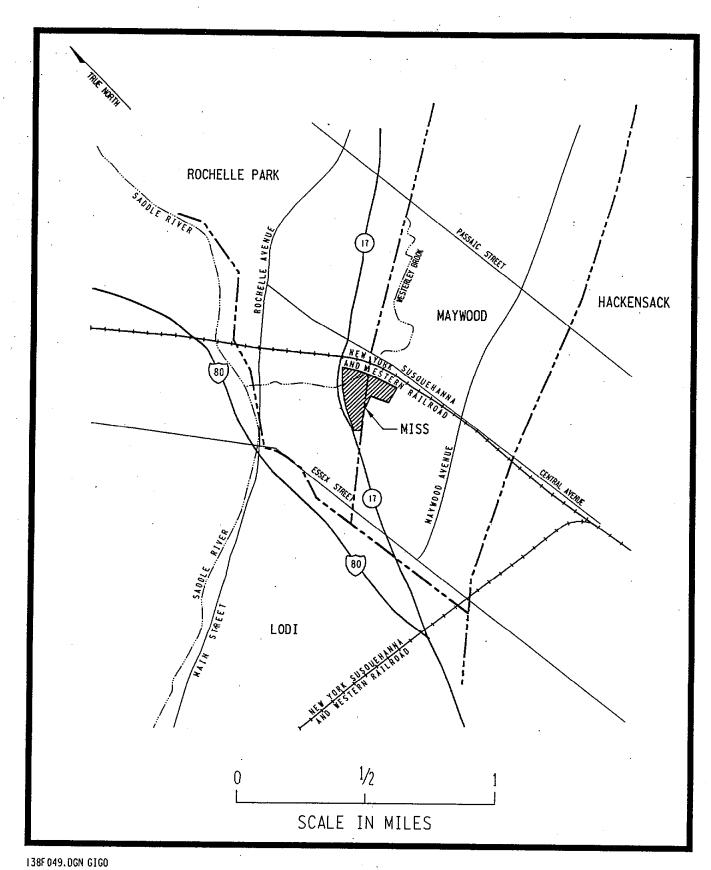
#### 2.1.1 Maywood Interim Storage Site

MISS lies in a highly developed area in the borough of Maywood and the township of Rochelle Park, in Bergen County, New Jersey. It is located approximately 20 km (12 mi) north-northwest of downtown Manhattan (New York City) and 21 km (13 mi) northeast of Newark, New Jersey (Figure 2-1). MISS is bounded by New Jersey Route 17 on the west; a New York, Susquehanna, and Western Railroad line on the north; and commercial/industrial areas on the south and east. In addition, residential areas are located just north of the railroad line and within 275 m (300 yd) to the west along Grove Avenue.

MISS is a fenced lot occupying 4.7 ha (11.7 acres) of a 12-ha (30-acre) property previously owned by the Stepan Company (formerly the Maywood Chemical Works). DOE assumed ownership of the site in 1985.

#### 2.1.2 Vicinity Properties

Several residential, commercial, and governmental vicinity properties in the boroughs of Maywood and Lodi and the township of Rochelle Park are known to have been radioactively contaminated from operations at the Maywood Chemical Works. These properties, shown in Figure 2-2, were identified by DOE through surveys performed by ORNL. For the purposes of this investigation, the vicinity properties are segmented into residential properties and commercial/governmental properties. In Rochelle Park, these properties include nine residential properties on Grove Avenue and Park Way. Eight of these properties have been completely decontaminated; a small portion of the ninth has not been decontaminated. Maywood properties include 13 commercial properties, part of the New Jersey Route 17 embankment, a vacant lot, and 8 residential properties. Eight Maywood properties have been decontaminated. In Lodi, the vicinity properties include 52 residential, commercial, and governmental properties on Trudy Drive, Hancock Street, Branca Court, Long Valley Road,



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Figure 2-1 Location of MISS

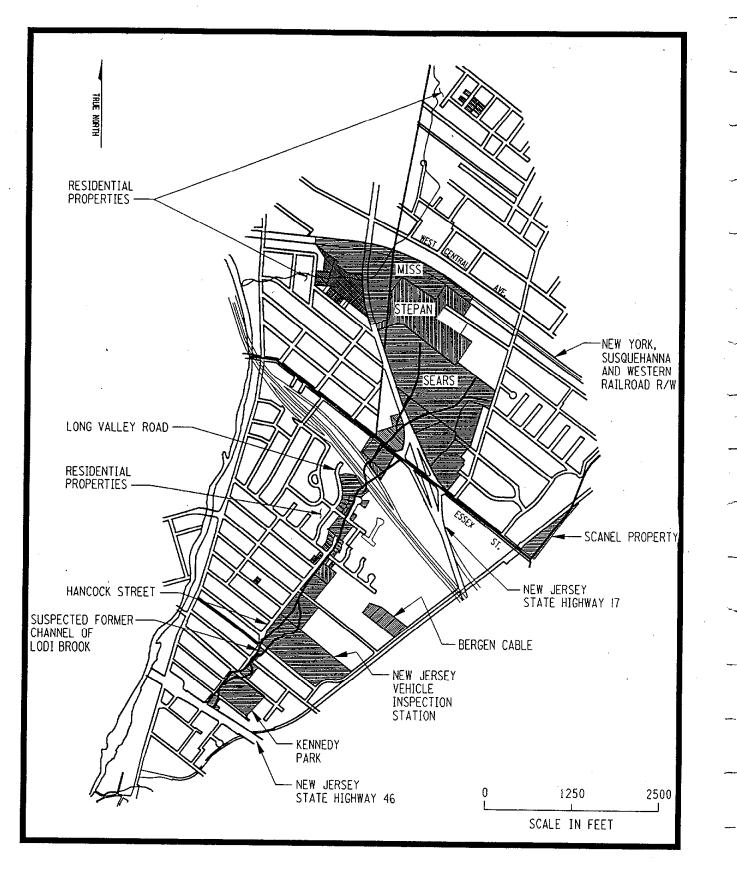


Figure 2-2 Locations of Vicinity Properties

Essex Street, Redstone Lane, Columbia Lane, Garibaldi Avenue, Kennedy Drive, Sidney Street, and Avenues B, C, E, and F. Eight Lodi properties have been decontaminated.

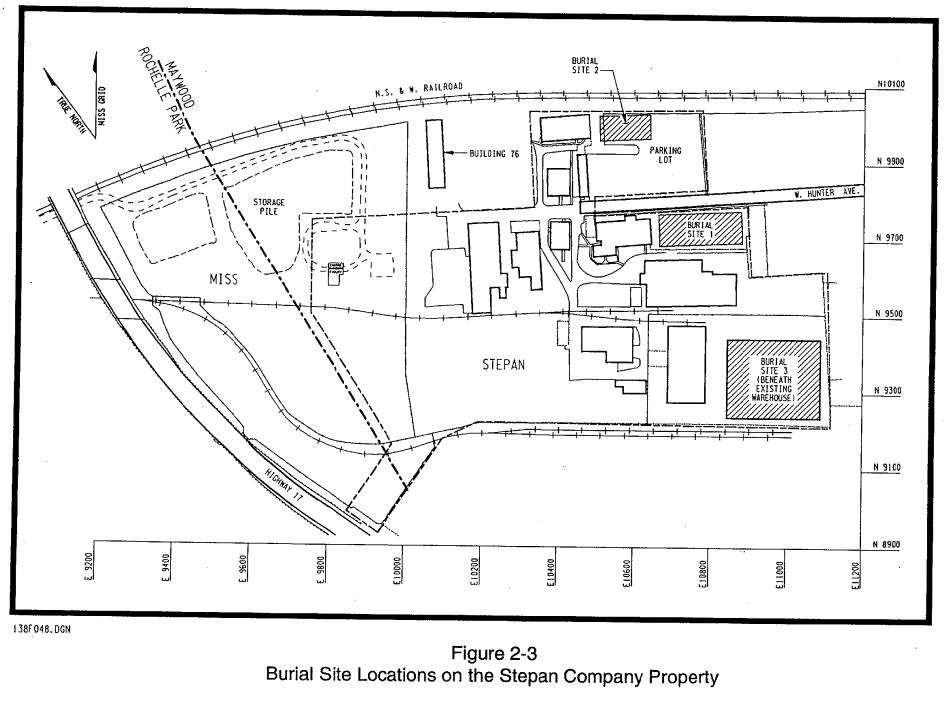
#### 2.2 HISTORY OF THE MAYWOOD SITE

#### 2.2.1 Maywood Interim Storage Site

From 1916 through 1956, Maywood Chemical Works processed monazite sand to extract thorium and rare earths for use in manufacturing industrial products such as mantles for gas lanterns. During this time, slurry that contained process wastes from thorium operations was pumped to diked areas west of the plant. Some of these process wastes were removed from the plant site for use as mulch and fill on nearby properties, thereby contaminating those properties with radioactive elements. Some of the material also migrated offsite via the natural drainage provided by the former Lodi Brook. In 1932, Route 17 was built across the diked disposal area (Figure 2-3).

In 1954, Maywood Chemical Works was issued License R-103 by AEC, thereby allowing it to continue to possess, process, manufacture, and distribute radioactive materials under the auspices of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954. Maywood Chemical Works stopped processing thorium in 1956 after approximately 40 years of production. The property was sold to the Stepan Company in 1959.

In 1961, Stepan was issued an AEC radioactive materials license (STC-130). Based on AEC inspections and information related to the Ballod property on the west side of Route 17, Stepan agreed to perform remedial action; cleanup began in 1963. In 1966, 6,400 m<sup>3</sup> (8,400 yd<sup>3</sup>) of waste was removed from the area west of Route 17 and buried on the Stepan property at burial site 1, an area now covered by grass. In 1967, 1,600 m<sup>3</sup> (2,100 yd<sup>3</sup>) of waste was removed from the same general area and buried on the Stepan property at burial site 2, which is now a parking lot. In 1968, Stepan obtained permission from AEC to transfer an additional 6,575 m<sup>3</sup> (8,600 yd<sup>3</sup>) of waste from the south end of the Ballod property and bury it on the Stepan property at burial site 3, where a warehouse was later built. Building 76 was constructed over part of an area that was formerly occupied by



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thorium processing facilities; this area is known to be contaminated with radioactive materials. Figure 2-3 shows the location of Building 76 and the approximate locations of the burial sites.

At the request of the Stepan Company, a radiological survey of the south end of the Ballod property west of Route 17 was conducted by AEC in 1968. Based on the findings of that survey, clearance was granted for release of the property for unrestricted use. At the time of the survey, AEC was not aware of contaminated waste materials still present in the northeast corner of the property. In 1968, the portion of the Stepan property west of Route 17 was sold to a private citizen who later sold it to the current owner, Ballod Associates.

In 1980, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) was notified that elevated readings were obtained on the Ballod property. This information prompted NRC to request a comprehensive survey to assess the radiological condition of the property. The survey was performed in February 1981 by Oak Ridge Associated Universities with the assistance of a representative from the Region I office of NRC.

NRC also requested that an aerial radiological survey be conducted of the Stepan property, the Ballod property, and the surrounding area. This survey, which was conducted by EG&G Energy Measurements Group in January 1981, resulted in the discovery of other anomalies (radiation readings distinctly higher than those of surrounding areas). Elevated gamma readings (greater than the local background level) were detected directly over the Stepan chemical plant and immediately to the west and south of the plant. Two other points of elevated background gamma radiation were detected approximately 0.8 km (0.5 mi) from the center of the plant: one to the northeast and the other to the south. Followup ground surveys were performed to determine the nature of these anomalies.

In late 1983, Congress assigned cleanup of the Maywood Chemical Works contamination to DOE. DOE then negotiated an agreement with Stepan Company for access to a 4.7-ha (11.7-acre) portion of the Stepan property on which to establish MISS, pending execution of

an agreement to transfer ownership of the site to DOE. In September 1985, ownership of the MISS property was transferred to DOE.

#### 2.2.2 Vicinity Properties

The numerous vicinity properties associated with the former Maywood Chemical Works became contaminated in several ways: sediment transport, removal of material for fill, and onsite operations.

During 1984 and 1985, contaminated soil was removed from approximately 25 residential properties in Maywood, Rochelle Park, and Lodi. About 27,000  $m^3$  (35,000 yd<sup>3</sup>) of contaminated material from these properties is now stored at MISS.

### 3.0 COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

#### **3.1 COMMUNITY PROFILE**

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MISS is located on the boundary between the borough of Maywood and the township of Rochelle Park. Contaminated vicinity properties are located in Maywood, Rochelle Park, and Lodi. The borough of Maywood is governed by a mayor and council. The borough of Lodi is governed by a mayor and council, and departments of the borough are managed by a borough administrator. The township of Rochelle Park is governed by a five-member township committee, which names one of its members as mayor.

MISS is zoned for commercial and industrial use. Lands adjacent to MISS are zoned for limited commercial, light industrial, or single-family residential use.

The estimated 1990 populations of the boroughs of Maywood and Lodi were 9,473 and 22,355, respectively; the 1990 estimate for the township of Rochelle Park was 5,587 (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1991). The 1990 population of Bergen County was 825,380, reflecting a 1.4 percent decrease from 1986.

#### 3.2 CHRONOLOGY OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Before DOE was assigned responsibility for the site in late 1983, there was concern by citizens and officials, primarily in Maywood, about contamination on residential properties within Maywood.

Representatives of DOE met with Maywood officials in late 1983 to obtain background information about the site and community concerns. Project representatives met with affected property owners in April 1984 to discuss the planned removal actions and with the Maywood mayor and council in May 1984. A memorandum of understanding between DOE and the borough of Maywood was executed in August 1984. The memorandum of understanding listed agreements between DOE and the borough of Maywood concerning locations to be

cleaned up, establishment and monitoring of the interim storage site, and efforts to find a permanent disposal site.

During 1985, citizens and officials in Maywood became concerned over two issues: (1) the DOE plan to store contaminated soil from eight Lodi properties at MISS, which the borough believed violated the memorandum of understanding, and (2) the possibility that the interim storage site could become permanent. Because of the second concern, the borough filed suit to invalidate the transfer of the MISS property from the Stepan Company to DOE. The lawsuit was resolved in DOE's favor in 1988. In August 1985, the mayor and council adopted a resolution agreeing not to oppose movement of contaminated soil from the eight Lodi residences into Maywood. After the discovery in 1986 of numerous additional contaminated properties in Lodi, the borough reiterated its opposition to accepting contaminated material from outside of Maywood.

Two meetings in Maywood in 1985 drew large citizen turnouts. The first was a town meeting held by Congressman Robert Torricelli on July 29, and the second was a New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection hearing held on September 9 to take comment on a state discharge permit for the establishment of MISS.

During 1985, a group of Maywood residents formed the Concerned Citizens Committee. The group was granted official status as an advisory group to the mayor and council in January 1988.

During the spring of 1988, DOE representatives met with the Maywood council and proposed conducting removal actions on selected Lodi and Maywood vicinity properties. The council again expressed opposition to accepting contaminated soil from outside Maywood. Council members also stated concern that materials from outside Maywood would fill MISS to capacity, making it impossible to perform remedial action on the Maywood properties.

In the spring and summer of 1989, DOE representatives attended several meetings in the Maywood area. These included a meeting sponsored by Congressman Torricelli in Hackensack on May 22 and meetings with the borough council on May 30, June 20, and

June 26. At these meetings, DOE personnel presented volume estimates showing that MISS would accommodate all known contaminated materials from Maywood, Rochelle Park, and Lodi. DOE also restated the agency's desire to proceed with removal actions in Lodi and Maywood. At the June 26 meeting, the council voted not to accept contaminated material from outside of Maywood.

In July 1989, the mayors of Maywood, Rochelle Park, and Lodi began making plans for a cooperative effort to work with state and federal agencies to find a permanent solution for the thorium problem.

During 1990, DOE met with Congressman Torricelli to discuss permanent disposal of thorium waste stored at MISS. Other topics of discussion included the environmental review process and the possibility of considering a commercial disposal facility (Envirocare of Utah in Clive, Utah) as a permanent disposal location for the materials in the Maywood storage pile.

DOE held a public meeting on December 6, 1990, to present information about the history of the Maywood site, the type of contamination present, and the environmental review process that must be completed before DOE can make a recommendation about cleanup and permanent disposal of contaminated material. Residents of Maywood, Rochelle Park, and Lodi had an opportunity during the meeting to express their opinions and make recommendations regarding the environmental cleanup and disposal of radioactive contamination at MISS and vicinity properties.

The primary concerns expressed by members of the community were opposition to ultimate disposal of the waste at MISS, a strong desire to dispose of the wastes without delay at a commercial disposal facility, concern about site radioactive emissions and groundwater contamination by chemicals, and concern that past releases from the plant had increased the cancer incidence along West Central Avenue. Primary concerns expressed in written comments were a belief that the review process was too long, a preference for consolidating the related site reviews for the Maywood, Wayne, Middlesex, and New Brunswick sites into one document, a desire that the wastes be disposed of without delay at a commercial disposal

facility, and concern that past releases from the plant had increased the cancer incidence along West Central Avenue.

In March 1991, DOE representatives met with the Maywood borough council to discuss a time-critical removal action planned for a residential property located in Lodi. It is believed that the contamination on the property originated during the 1940s when workers at the Maywood Chemical Works were allowed to remove excess building materials from the plant for home use. The materials used in building the kitchen of the Lodi property were found to be contaminated with radioactive thorium. The levels of radioactivity found in the kitchen of the home required that immediate action be taken.

DOE proposed that the estimated 28 m<sup>3</sup> (36 yd<sup>3</sup>) of contaminated materials removed during the cleanup in Lodi be temporarily stored at the Maywood site. The Maywood borough council rejected DOE's plan for storage of the materials at MISS, stating that Maywood would not accept contaminated materials from outside the borough. The Rochelle Park township council also rejected DOE's plan to store the material at MISS.

DOE informed the mayor of Maywood in July 1991 that the time-critical removal action had begun. In an attempt to block the delivery of additional contaminated material from the Lodi property cleanup, local Maywood residents and some public officials picketed outside the gates leading to MISS. The Maywood borough council members were very upset that DOE chose to store the contaminated material from the Lodi property at MISS despite their objections.

During October and November 1991, DOE met with members of the Bergen County Executive's office and the mayors of Maywood, Rochelle Park, and Lodi to discuss formation of a coalition of local officials to review DOE activities. During this period, DOE also met with many local organizations including the Maywood Board of Health and the Rochelle Park Environmental Commission. At the request of Congressman Torricelli, DOE conducted gamma exposure surveys in November to determine whether MISS is contributing to background radiation in the surrounding areas. The results indicated that gamma exposure rates along streets surveyed are indistinguishable from background levels.

In April 1992, DOE established a public information center at 43 West Pleasant Avenue in Maywood. The purpose of the center is to provide a local point of contact for residents and other individuals interested in acquiring information about the Maywood site and the plans for cleanup.

Members of the Concerned Citizens of Maywood picketed outside the DOE Public Information Center in April 1992 to protest the cost of operating the information center and to demand that DOE halt any further shipment of contaminated soil to MISS.

Local real estate brokers met with project personnel in May 1992 to discuss the types of information DOE could provide that would be helpful to people buying or selling homes in the area.

In June 1992, the Concerned Citizens of Maywood provided information about a Kerr-McGee site in West Chicago, Illinois, to support the committee's belief that DOE should accelerate the cleanup of the Maywood site. They believe that state, county, and federal elected officials have been too cooperative with DOE and that the lack of confrontation only encourages DOE to delay its cleanup efforts. Maywood residents, public officials, and local news media are comparing the Maywood site with the Kerr-McGee site because both sites have radioactive waste that has been classified as 11(e)2 by-product material. Of special interest to Maywood are Kerr-McGee's efforts to contract with the Envirocare of Utah facility, should it be granted a license, to dispose of 11(e)2 by-product material. The Borough of Maywood has strongly recommended that DOE enter into a contract with Envirocare or any other out-of-state facility willing to take the contaminated material from Maywood.

At the request of the Maywood Board of Health, DOE agreed to test the swimming pool area in September 1992 for radioactive and chemical contamination. The issue of the swimming pool area was brought to the Maywood borough council by the Concerned Citizens of Maywood.

The Tri-Borough and County Thorium Coalition was established in July 1992. The coalition is made up of the Bergen County Executive, county health department representatives, and the mayors of Maywood, Rochelle Park, and Lodi. The purpose of the coalition is to review DOE documents and activities related to the Maywood site. DOE is providing funds to enable the coalition to hire an independent technical consultant.

The Concerned Citizens of Maywood group has been awarded an EPA Technical Assistance Grant. These funds will enable the group to hire technical advisors to help them understand information that already exists about the site or information developed during the Superfund cleanup process.

The Maywood borough council sent a letter in September 1992 to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry requesting that the agency conduct a health study in Maywood. The stated purpose of the study is to determine whether health risks to residents are greater in the MISS area than in areas further from the site.

Since the opening of the information center, over 30 local residents have toured MISS. A project briefing and site tour were conducted in May 1992 for a local state assemblyman. In September 1992, the Maywood health officer, borough clerk, and a councilwoman toured Building 76. The tour was conducted at the request of the health officer to address questions raised about the materials stored in the building. Members of the Tri-Borough and County Thorium Coalition toured the site in July 1992. In December 1992, Maywood emergency services personnel toured MISS to learn more about site emergency preparedness.

Project personnel discussed cleanup options being developed and evaluated for the Maywood site at a January 1993 meeting of the Tri-Borough and County Thorium Coalition.

In February 1993, New Jersey State Senator Matthew Feldman introduced legislation, Senate Concurrent Resolution 96 (SCR-96), calling on federal officials to remove thoriumcontaminated soil from Maywood. The resolution has been referred to the Senate Environmental Committee.

A series of monthly availability sessions began in December 1992 to answer residents' questions and concerns about the Maywood site cleanup. These sessions were held through May 1993. Site tours have been conducted at the request of local residents and project personnel have been available to speak to civic groups, schools, and other small groups.

#### 3.3 SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY CONCERNS

This section includes a summary of key community concerns. The information contained in this section is based on DOE's experience in the community since 1983, interviews with Maywood residents conducted during July and August 1989, comments made at the public meeting, and interactions with visitors and callers to the DOE Public Information Center.

All Maywood residents interviewed for this plan are familiar with MISS either because they have been directly involved in meetings, agreements, or congressional action about the site, or because they have been following the situation closely in the local newspapers. A majority of those interviewed seemed frustrated because of the perceived permanence of the interim storage facility. A few residents perceive that the pile presents an unacceptable health risk to them and their children. There also seems to be a growing perception among some of the residents that the presence of thorium has adversely affected their ability to sell their homes and move away from the problem. Other residents believe that there is no danger from the facility but are unsure about the completeness of information received from DOE.

The majority of the concerns seem to stem from a lack of easy-to-understand, nontechnical information about the site. Residents have expressed a desire to receive important information from a limited number of sources rather than a plethora of commissions, agencies, and departments. More than one resident voiced frustration at receiving too many different messages from too many different agencies. During a Maywood council meeting, one resident suggested forming a committee composed of representatives from all agencies or entities involved and letting that committee be the <u>one voice</u> in the community. The mayors of Rochelle Park, Lodi, and Maywood agreed in July 1989 to

approach the thorium problem as a regional problem rather than as three separate local issues.

The concerns expressed by the residents fell into several categories:

- Opposition to DOE ownership of MISS (sometimes expressed as "the fox guarding the henhouse"). Some citizens felt that DOE ownership of the site lessens local control and raises the possibility that the interim storage site will become permanent.
- Several comments made in favor of allowing EPA to handle the entire project. This reflects a belief that EPA would be better equipped to address both radiological and chemical issues and that progress would be made more quickly if the entire program were handled by EPA under Superfund.
- Unwillingness of Maywood citizens and officials to accept contaminated soil from outside the borough. They are concerned that Maywood would become a "dumping ground" and that the storage site would be filled to capacity by material from outside Maywood before the Maywood properties are cleaned up.
- The belief of some citizens that, while thorium contamination appears to be receiving the most attention, hazardous chemicals pose a greater risk. An often-expressed concern is that chemicals are a far greater issue than thorium and that chemical contamination has more potential to affect drinking water and cause health problems.
- Lack of credible information. Several citizens expressed concern and frustration at receiving information from many different sources and not having a single, credible source of information about the site.
- Concern that the radiological and chemical contamination has caused and will continue to cause a higher-than-normal incidence of cancer.

- Concern that the thorium problem and the presence of the interim storage site will reduce property values.
- Concern that no progress is being made in finding a permanent disposal site. A growing number of officials and citizens in Maywood, Rochelle Park, and Lodi are encouraging DOE and the State of New Jersey to send the contaminated material to a commercial disposal site in Utah.

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#### 4.0 HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRAM

The community relations program for the CERCLA/NEPA process provides an opportunity for the public to learn about the existing contamination, the need for response actions, and the options being considered. The program also allows citizens and public officials an opportunity to participate in and comment on the decision-making process.

Concerns identified in Section 3.0 indicate that the community relations program should involve local officials and citizens in the process, provide a single source of information, provide data about chemical and radioactive contamination, and clarify the process that leads to a decision about permanent disposal. To address these concerns, the following general approaches will be taken (specific activities are discussed in Section 5.0.):

- Enlist the support of local officials in coordinating community relations activities. (The mayors of Rochelle Park, Lodi, and Maywood have joined together with the Bergen County Executive and county health department representatives to approach the thorium problem as a regional problem.)
- Educate the public about the contamination as it now exists (risk communication) and the process for remedial action (risk management).
- Identify and establish communications links with concerned citizens and citizens' groups to obtain their participation in the decision-making process. Most citizens interviewed mentioned that they preferred small group meetings to large public meetings.
- Establish a local information office at or near the Maywood site.
- Provide coordinated background information to the news media. Because the site encompasses both an EPA CERCLA action and a DOE FUSRAP action, it is essential that the agencies provide consistent information. A coordinated effort is needed to brief the media about the properties and the CERCLA/NEPA process.

 Increase DOE's presence in the area and provide additional information resources. This can be accomplished through such activities as establishing a DOE/contractor local presence, holding site open houses, increasing the frequency of public meetings, providing a technical assistance grant, initiating a newsletter, and increasing one-on-one contacts with local residents.

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#### 5.0 COMMUNITY RELATIONS ACTIVITIES

#### 5.1 DESCRIPTION AND TIMING OF ACTIVITIES

DOE will conduct community relations activities to ensure that the public is well informed and has the opportunity to take part in the decision-making process. A major portion of the community relations activities will be directed toward an education program for the community. The program will be designed to eliminate some of the misinformation currently circulating within the community and provide answers to questions regarding health and safety issues. Some of these activities will take place at specific points during the process, while others will be ongoing during the entire process. Figure 5-1 presents the chronology of these activities in relation to technical milestones for the proposed action. Appendix A is a list of individuals who should receive all mailings about the remedial investigation/feasibility study-environmental impact study.

Community relations activities conducted prior to and during the remedial investigation include:

• Establishing an agreement with EPA

A Federal Facility Agreement signed by EPA and DOE became effective on April 22, 1991.

• Establishing an information repository containing background information about the site and the remedial investigation/feasibility study-environmental impact study

An information repository was established at the Maywood Public Library located at 459 Maywood Avenue, Maywood, New Jersey, in December 1990. A second information repository was established in April 1992 at the DOE Public Information Center located at 43 West Pleasant Avenue, Maywood, New Jersey.

COMMUNITY	TECHNICAL MILESTONE					
RELATIONS	Before initiation of remedial investigation	During remedial Investigation	Upon completion of remedial investigation	Upon completion of draft RI/FS-EIS report	Upon completion of final RI/FS-EIS	Before Initiation of remedial action
Establish protocol with EPA	х					X
<ul> <li>Establish and maintain information repository</li> </ul>	x	x	x	x	x	x
<ul> <li>Establish and maintain information contact</li> </ul>	x	×	x	x	. <b>x</b>	x
Establish and maintain     administrative record file	X	x	x	<b>X</b> .	x	x
<ul> <li>Notify local officials before initiation of field activities</li> </ul>	x					x
<ul> <li>Publish scoping/planning documents and hold public meeting</li> </ul>	X					
<ul> <li>Conduct Information program (provide speakers bureau to small community meetings)</li> </ul>	x	x	x	× <b>X</b>	X	x
<ul> <li>Provide information to news media and parties on mailing list</li> </ul>	x		×	x	x	х
<ul> <li>Develop fact sheets and technical summaries</li> </ul>	x	x	x	x	x	
<ul> <li>Publish proposed plan and offer opportunity for public meeting</li> </ul>				x	,	
<ul> <li>Provide a minimum of a 60-day public comment period</li> </ul>				X		
Provide 30-day waiting period					<b>X</b> .,	
• Prepare responsiveness summary					x	
Revise community relations plan	· · · ·					x

Figure 5-1 Community Relations Activities

• Establishing an administrative record file to collect documents that form the basis for selecting a response action at a CERCLA Superfund site

An administrative record file for the Maywood site was established at the Maywood Public Library located at 459 Maywood Avenue, Maywood, New Jersey, in December 1990. A second administrative record file was established in April 1992 at the DOE Public Information Center located at 43 West Pleasant Avenue, Maywood, New Jersey.

• Designating an information contact

Susan M. Cange, DOE Site Manager, was designated as the primary spokesperson and information contact for the Maywood site.

• Notifying local officials before initiating field activity

Local officials were notified about the time-critical removal action conducted at a residential property in Lodi. They were also notified prior to the release of information about the planning and scoping meeting, the establishment of a toll-free telephone number (1-800-253-9759), the opening of the DOE Public Information Center, and the beginning of the series of availability sessions.

• Preparing a fact sheet that provides general information about the CERCLA/NEPA process; distributing the fact sheet to the media and placing copies in the information repositories

A fact sheet entitled "Principal Laws and Regulations Affecting the FUSRAP Cleanup Program" was available before the December 1990 public meeting. This fact sheet and others are available in the information repositories and the administrative record file.

Holding a planning and scoping meeting

A planning and scoping meeting was held on December 6, 1990, at the Fairmount School in Hackensack, New Jersey, to inform the public about the combined CERCLA/NEPA environmental review process and to elicit comments and concerns related to the plans for completing the environmental review process.

• Establishing a working relationship with the committee formed by the mayors of the three affected municipalities

DOE is providing funds through a subcontract with BNI for the Tri-Borough and ' County Thorium Coalition to hire an independent technical consultant to assist them in their review of DOE documents supporting the selection of the cleanup remedy.

 Briefing or updating local officials before publication of any fact sheets or media releases

Local officials were notified before the release of information about the planning and scoping meeting, the establishment of a toll-free number (1-800-253-9759), the opening of the DOE Public Information Center, and the beginning of the series of availability sessions.

• Preparing fact sheets if there are any unexpected discoveries, or as needed to describe activities

The following fact sheets are currently available at the DOE Public Information Center: (1) "FUSRAP-Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program," (2) "FUSRAP Activities at Maywood, New Jersey," (3) "Principal Laws and Regulations Affecting FUSRAP," (4) "Administrative Record Requirements for FUSRAP," (5) "Cleanup Alternatives for the Maywood Site," (6) "Remedial Investigation at the Maywood Site," and (7) "Baseline Risk Assessment at the Maywood Site."

• Periodically issue information to the public regarding site activities

On September 14, 1992, over 200 copies of the FUSRAP *Update* were sent to individuals included on the site mailing list. The purpose of the *Update* is to keep the public informed about the environmental review process and site activities.

• Responding directly to citizens' inquiries; providing speakers to small, informal meetings regarding site activities; and conducting site tours as requested

The DOE Public Information Center located at 43 West Pleasant Avenue provides a local point of contact for residents and other interested individuals in acquiring information about the Maywood site and the plans for cleanup. Informal meetings have been held with small groups to answer questions related to the site. Calls to the toll-free number enable individuals to request information or express their feelings about the cleanup alternatives being considered. Site tours have been conducted for over 30 individuals since the information center was opened.

• Preparing display advertisements and news releases describing activities related to the Maywood site

Display advertisements and press releases have been effectively used to notify and inform the public about such activities as the public meeting, availability of the administrative record file, the 30-day public comment period required for the work plan-implementation plan, establishment of the toll-free number, opening of the DOE Public Information Center, and scheduling of availability sessions.

Upon completion of the remedial investigation, community relations activities will include:

• Briefing or updating local officials before publication of any fact sheet or media release

- Preparing fact sheets if there are any unexpected discoveries, or as needed to describe findings
- Responding directly to citizens' inquiries; providing speakers to small, informal meetings regarding site findings
- Preparing news releases describing site findings

Upon completion of the draft remedial investigation/feasibility study-environmental impact statement, community relations activities will include:

- Making the draft remedial investigation/feasibility study-environmental impact statement and proposed plan available to the public
- Scheduling meetings with state and local officials to discuss DOE's preferred alternatives
- Providing a minimum of a 60-day public comment period on the draft remedial investigation/feasibility study-environmental impact statement
- Holding a public hearing during the public comment period to solicit comments from citizens on recommended remedial alternatives
- Ensuring that the public comment period activities are well publicized in the local media

Upon completion of the final remedial investigation/feasibility study-environmental impact statement, community relations activities will include:

- Publishing a notice of availability of the record of decision
- Making the record of decision available in the information repositories
- Providing a 30-day waiting period
- Preparing a responsiveness summary that addresses comments received during the public comment period

Prior to initiation of remedial action, community relations activities will include:

- Conducting meetings with state and local officials to discuss DOE's remedial action plans
- Preparing a news release and holding a press briefing to inform the public about DOE's remedial action plans
- Revising the community relations plan

#### 5.2 STAFFING

The DOE-ORO site manager has primary responsibility for community relations activities at Maywood. Assistance by BNI, SAIC, ANL, and the DOE-ORO Information Office will be provided as needed.

## REFERENCES

U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1990. Census of Populations and Housing, Summary Population and Housing Characteristics, New Jersey, August 1991.

U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Commerce, County and City Data Book, 1988.

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# APPENDIX A

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List of Contacts

## FEDERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

The Honorable Bill Bradley United States Senator United States Senate 731 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

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The Honorable Bill Bradley United States Senator District Office Attn: Mr. Kevin Rigby P.O. Box 1720 609 Vauxhall Road Union, NJ 07083

The Honorable Frank J. Lautenberg United States Senator United States Senate 731 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Frank J. Lautenberg United States Senator District Office Attn: Ms. Lisa Plevin Gateway One 10th Floor Newark, NJ 07102

The Honorable Robert G. Torricelli United States Congressional Representative United States House of Representatives 317 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-3009

The Honorable Robert G. Torricelli United States Congressional Representative District Office Attn: Adrian Bobrow Court Plaza North 25 Main Street Hackensack, NJ 07601 (202) 224-3224

(201) 688-0960

(202) 224-4744

(201) 645-3030

(202) 225-5061

(201) 646-1111

The Honorable Marge Roukema United States Congressional Representative United States House of Representatives 303 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-3005

The Honorable Marge Roukema United States Congressional Representative District Office 1200 East Ridgewood Avenue Ridgewood, NJ 07450

### **U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OFFICIALS**

Mr. Jeffrey Gratz Project Manager Environmental Protection Agency 26 Federal Plaza New York, NY 10278

Ms. Pat Seppi Superfund Community Relations Coordinator Environmental Protection Agency 26 Federal Plaza New York, NY 10278

Mr. Robert Wing Federal Facilities Section Chief Emergency and Remedial Response Division Environmental Protection Agency 26 Federal Plaza New York, NY 10278

#### **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY OFFICIALS**

Mr. William M. Seay Deputy Director Former Sites Restoration Division U.S. Department of Energy P.O. Box 2001 Oak Ridge, TN 37831-9723 (202) 225-4465

(201) 447-3900

(212) 264-9369

(212) 264-6667

(212) 264-8670

(615) 576-1830

Ms. Susan M. Cange New Jersey Sites Manager Former Sites Restoration Division U.S. Department of Energy P.O. Box 2001 Oak Ridge, TN 37831-9723

## STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

Honorable James Florio Governor State House Trenton, NJ 08625

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Honorable Patrick Roma New Jersey State Assemblyman District 36 40 East Midland Paramus, NJ 07652

Honorable Rose Marie Heck New Jersey State Assemblywoman District 38 2 Mercer Street Lodi, NJ 07644-1624

Honorable Louis F. Koscoe New Jersey State Senator District 38 5 Sampson Street, 2nd Floor Saddle Brook, NJ 07662

Honorable Matthew Feldman New Jersey State Senator District 37 Glenpoint Centre West 500 Frank W. Burr, 4th Floor Teaneck, NJ 07666-6880

Honorable Loretta Weinberg New Jersey State Assemblywoman District 37 545 Cedar Lane Teaneck, NJ 07666 (609) 292-6000

(201) 265-0680

(201) 777-6344

(201) 712-1221

(201) 998-8090

(201) 928-0100

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Honorable Byron M. Baer New Jersey State Assemblyman District 37 126 State Street Hackensack, NJ 07601

#### STATE ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICIALS

Mr. Robert Hayton Bureau of Federal Case Management New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy 401 East State Street Trenton, NJ 08625

Mr. Nicholas Marton Bureau of Federal Case Management New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy 401 East State Street Trenton, NJ 08625

Mr. Steve Byrnes Bureau of Environmental Risk Assessment Technical Coordinator New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy 401 East State Street Trenton, NJ 08625

Mr. Joseph Rizzo Environmental Health Service New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy 401 East State Street Trenton, NJ 08625

Mr. Donald Kakas Community Relations Coordinator New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy 401 East State Street Sixth Floor Trenton, NJ 08625 (609) 633-1495

(609) 633-0744

(201) 343-3333

(609) 633-7413

(609) 633-2043

(609) 984-3081

#### LOCAL OFFICIALS

#### Maywood

Honorable John A. Steuert Mayor Maywood Borough Hall 459 Maywood Avenue Maywood, NJ 07607

Ms. Mary Ann Rampola Borough Clerk Maywood Borough Hall 459 Maywood Avenue Maywood, NJ 07607

Ms. Mary Carton Health Inspector Maywood Board of Health Maywood Borough Hall 459 Maywood Avenue Maywood, NJ 07607

Mr. Michael Nolan Mayor's Advisory Board Maywood Borough Hall 459 Maywood Avenue Maywood, NJ 07607

#### **Rochelle Park**

The Honorable Joseph Scarpa Mayor Township of Rochelle Park 405 Rochelle Avenue Rochelle Park, NJ 07662

Mr. Joseph Manzella Township Administrator Township of Rochelle Park 405 Rochelle Avenue Rochelle Park, NJ 07662

(201) 845-2900

(201) 845-2900

(201) 845-2906

(201) 845-2906

(201) 587-7729

(201) 587-7729

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Ms. Virginia DeMaria Township Clerk Township of Rochelle Park 405 Rochelle Avenue Rochelle Park, NJ 07662

Ms. Pat Schneider Board of Health Township of Rochelle Park 405 Rochelle Avenue Rochelle Park, NJ 07662

#### Lodi

The Honorable Philip V. Toronto (201) 365-4005 Mayor Borough of Lodi One Memorial Drive Lodi, NJ 07644 Mr. Charles S. Cuccia (201) 365-4005 Borough Manager Borough of Lodi One Memorial Drive Lodi, NJ 07644 Mr. John Barrachina

Borough Clerk Borough of Lodi One Memorial Drive Lodi, NJ 07644

Ms. Joyce Suarez Board of Health Borough of Lodi **One Memorial Drive** Lodi, NJ 07644

(201) 587-7729

(201) 587-7739

(201) 355-4005

(201) 365-4005

## **Bergen County**

The Honorable William P. Schuber County Executive 21 Main Street, Room 300E Administrative Building Hackensack, NJ 07601-7000

Mr. Mark A. Guarino, Director Bergen County Department of Health Serves 327 Ridgewood Avenue Paramus, NJ 07652

Mr. J. William Van Dyke Chairman Board of Freeholders Bergen County Administrative Building 21 Main Street Hackensack, NJ 07601

#### LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Tri-Borough and County Thorium Coalition Mr. Mark A. Guarino, Chairman Bergen County Department of Health Services 327 Ridgewood Avenue Paramus, NJ 07652

Concerned Citizens of Maywood Mr. Chuck Parodi, Chairman 48 West Grove Avenue Maywood, NJ 07607

Rochelle Park Environmental Commission Mr. Robert Rosenkranz Township of Rochelle Park 405 Rochelle Avenue Rochelle Park, NJ 07662

Environmental Federation Mr. Thomas Moritz North Jersey Office 14 South Park Street Montclair, NJ 07042 (201) 646-3630

(201) 599-6108

(201) 646-2540

(201) 599-6108

(201) 845-5992

(201) 843-0878

(201) 783-5112

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Sierra Club Mr. Richard Isaac 100 Knapp Street Clifton, NJ 07011

#### AREA BUSINESSES

Hunter Douglas, Inc.

Maywood, NJ 07607

Mr. F. Quinn Stepan Stepan Company 22 Frontage Road Northfield, IL 60093

Mr. John O'Brien General Manager Stepan Company

100 W. Hunter Avenue Maywood, NJ 07607

Mr. W. P. DeSaussure

23 West Howcroft Road Maywood, NJ 07607

Mr. Maurice W. Weil Trustee (AMF Voit) 51 Commerce Street Springfield, NJ 07081

Sun Oil Company 1801 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19103

DeSaussure Equipment Company

Attn: Mr. Jeffrey Wagner, Esq.

Attn: Mr. Allan Afrown, Esq.

Cumberland Farms, Inc. 777 Dedham Street Canton, MA 02021

137 State Highway No. 17 Maywood, NJ 07607

N-87 State Highway No. 17

Federal Express

(201) 923-6000

(201) 368-2464

(312) 446-7500

(201) 845-3030

(201) 845-4242

(215) 977-3000

(617) 828-4900

#### **NEWS MEDIA**

#### Newspapers

L

The Bergen Record 150 River Street Hackensack, NJ 07602

North Jersey Herald & News 988 Main Avenue Passaic, NJ 07055

The Star Ledger 1 Star Ledger Plaza Newark, NJ 07102

The Shopper News 1238 River Road Fair Lawn, NJ 07410 Attn: Mr. Chris Neidenberg

Our Town 58 West Pleasant Avenue Maywood, NJ 07607 Attn: Ms. Kathy Panos

The Sunday Post 30 Oak Street Ridgewood, NJ 07451

The Suburban News 50 Eisenhower Drive Paramus, NJ 07652

#### **Radio Stations**

WKDM-AM Patterson Lane Carlstadt, NJ 07601

WWDJ-AM Communicom Corporation of America 167 Main Street P.O. Box 970 Hackensack, NJ 07601 (201) 646-4336

(201) 365-3100

(201) 877-4040

(201) 791-8400

(201) 843-5700

(201) 445-6400

(201) 368-0100

(201) 939-5333

(201) 343-5097

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## **Television Stations**

UA Columbia Cablevision 7 Fir Street Court Oakland, NJ 07436	(201) 337-1550
WCBS-TV 51 West 52nd Street New York, NY 10019	(212) 975-4321
WNBC-TV 30 Rockefeller Plaza New York, NY 10112	(212) 664-4444
WNET-TV 356 West 58th Street New York, NY 10112	(212) 560-2000
WNEW-TV 205 West 67th Street New York, NY 10021	(212) 535-1000
WOR-TV 1440 Broadway New York, NY 10018	(212) 764-7000
WPIX-TV 223 Montross Avenue Rutherford, NJ 07070	(201) 933-6881

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## APPENDIX B

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Sector Sector

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Locations for Information Repositories and Administrative Record Files

#### INFORMATION REPOSITORIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD FILES

Maywood Public Library 459 Maywood Avenue Maywood, NJ 07607

Hours of Operation

 Monday - Friday
 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

 Saturday
 12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

 Sunday
 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

(Closed weekends July and August)

Contact: Mrs. Florence Wolfson

DOE Public Information Center 43 West Pleasant Avenue Maywood, NJ 07607

Hours of Operation

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

(Evening appointments available upon request. Closed weekends)

Contact: Ms. Lee Woods

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(201) 845-2915

(201) 843-7466

## APPENDIX C

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No.

# Suggested Locations for Public Meetings

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### SUGGESTED LOCATIONS FOR PUBLIC MEETING

Maywood Public Library 459 Maywood Avenue Maywood, NJ 07607

Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday

Contact: Ms. Jackie Mannion Office Manager

Capacity: 90

Maywood Board of Education Maywood Avenue School 452 Maywood Avenue Maywood, NJ 07607

Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday

Contact: Mr. Frank Ceurvels Business Administrator

Capacity: 150 and 1,000

Public Safety Building 15 Park Avenue Maywood, New Jersey 07607

Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday

Contact: Ms. Mary Carton

Capacity: 76

(201) 845-2915

10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

(201) 843-4598

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

(201) 845-2906

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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Our Lady Queen of Peace Auditorium 400 Maywood Avenue Maywood, NJ 07607

Office Hours

Monday - Friday

Contact: Father Donald McLaughlan

Capacity: 350-500

Nellie K. Parker School 261 Maple Hill Drive Hackensack, NJ 07601

Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday

Contact: Ms. Saccone

Capacity: 400

(201) 845-9566

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

(201) 646-7830

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.