

129184
M-472

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for Maywood, New Jersey



U.S. Department of Energy



129184

95-208

Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations
P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831— 8723

April 27, 1995

Mr. David Schlusel
153 Fort Lee Road
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666

Dear Mr. Schlusel:

MAYWOOD SITE - 200 STATE ROUTE 17 (SEARS SERVICE CENTER)

This letter is in response to your questions about the extent of thorium contamination on the above referenced property and about the health risks, if any, associated with inhabiting the building at the property.

The remedial investigation for the property includes a drawing (attached) that shows areas of contamination. Because the contamination on the property does not extend to areas beneath the building's foundation there is no reason to suspect any risk to people inhabiting the building. Generally, even when this type of contamination is, in fact, beneath a building, the flooring and foundation effectively shield inhabitants from receiving an appreciable dose from associated radioactive products, such as radon gas; they typically will receive a greater dose from naturally occurring, or "background," sources.

I understand you also had some hypothetical questions about any necessary precautions in the event of onsite construction, such as paving or excavating.

The primary contaminant of concern on the property is the radionuclide thorium-232. This radionuclide presents a health hazard only if inhaled or ingested in large quantities. The following practices are recommended if work is being done in an area of suspected contamination in order to reduce worker exposure and to minimize contaminant movement.

1. Workers should wear protective gloves and boots, which should be cleaned of soil residue before leaving the site. This can be accomplished by either cleaning with a brush or by rinsing with a small amount of water.
2. Any excavated material should be used as backfill on the site. No soil should leave the property without contacting the U.S. Department of Energy or Bechtel National, Inc.
3. To minimize soil movement by air, excavated material should be kept covered (by a plastic tarp, for example) or wetted to minimize dust during inactive periods.

Mr. David Schlusel

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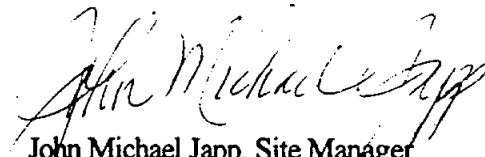
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If such work should ever be necessary at the property prior to remedial work by DOE, DOE could provide a brief training session containing an overview of the contaminant characteristics at the property and of any health hazards associated with the planned work.

With enough notice a health physics technician could be provided to advise construction crews on the most efficient ways to reduce their exposure while working in the contaminated areas.

I hope this information is valuable. Please contact Stuart Price at the Department of Energy's Public Information Center in Maywood at (201) 843-7466 if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



John Michael Japp, Site Manager
Former Sites Restoration Division

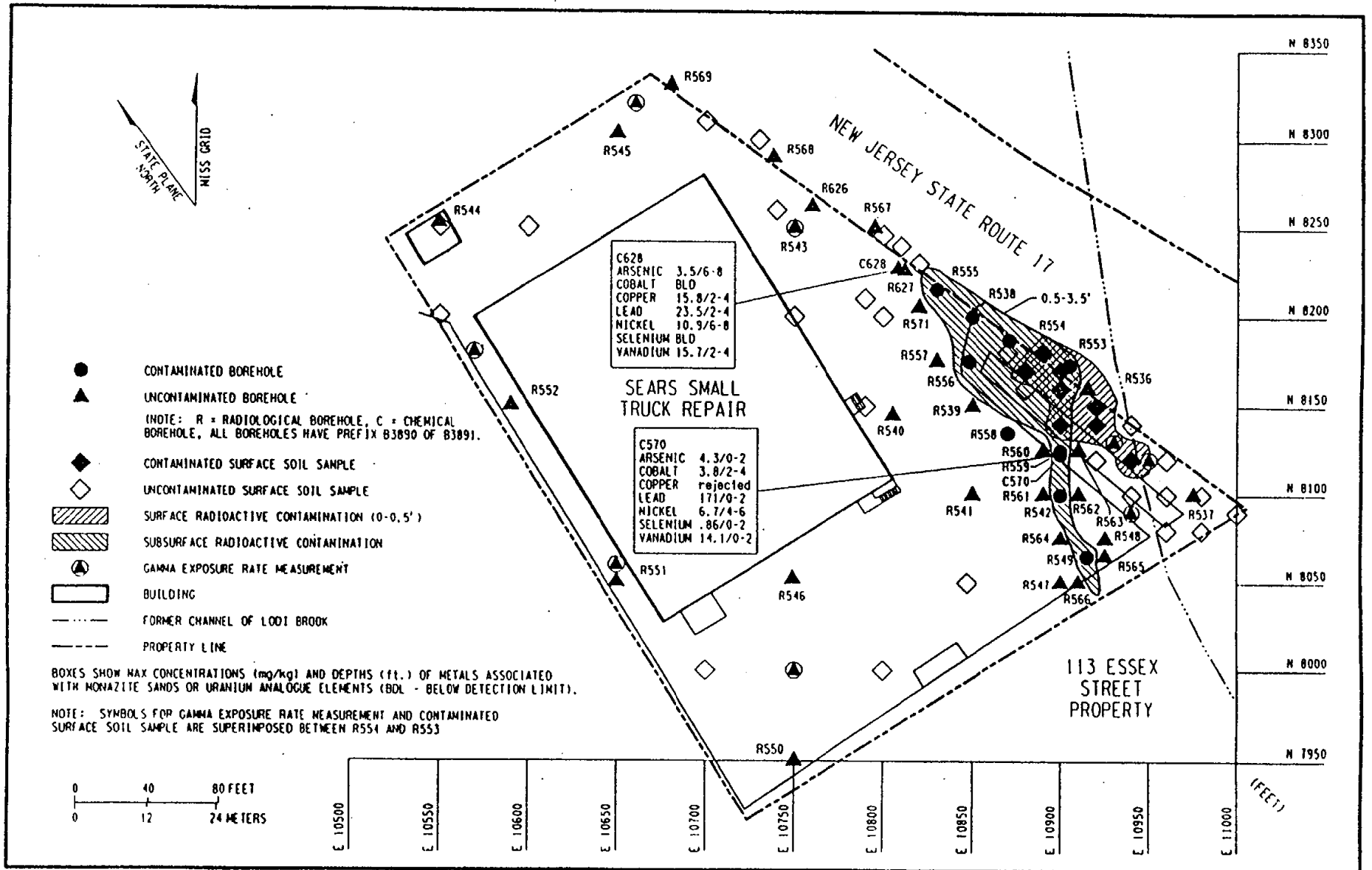


Figure 4-57
 200 State Route 17 Sampling Locations and
 Areas of Radioactive Contamination