

SM-1A Project Update, October 2, 2020

Dear SM-1A Stakeholders,

The SM-1A project team is pleased to share that our site visit this past month was a success, including informative, interactive stakeholder outreach and engagement plus a very productive field visit at the site.

In order to visit the site, team members from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District and Alaska District complied with all applicable Department of Defense, Federal, and State guidance regarding travel to the State of Alaska and access to Fort Greely and the surrounding community of Delta Junction. Safety is always the project team's top priority, including the health of our personnel, the installation staff and community on Fort Greely and the surrounding Delta Junction community. The additional coordination and planning to safely implement this field effort was worth it, as the team was able to accomplish all necessary field sampling and data collection.

We had the opportunity to present updates to both the Delta Junction City Council as well as several Tribal stakeholders. The team greatly appreciates the feedback and dialogue from both engagements and will continue to incorporate the valuable stakeholder feedback in our ongoing decommissioning planning process.

Both the Delta Junction City Council and Tribal presentations are available online on the SM-1A project site – [www.nab.usace.army.mil/SM-1A](http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/SM-1A).

The presentations are very similar; however, the Tribal presentation included information we have previously shared with the community to include program and site history.

Both presentations provided a wide variety of updated project details including on the ongoing process of preparing the project's draft Environmental Assessment (EA). This includes information on the approach to the decommissioning and dismantling, the types of waste expected to be generated and the potential approaches to waste transportation and disposal being assessed.

As a reminder, the draft EA is for the Proposed Action of decommissioning and dismantling the deactivated SM-1A nuclear reactor at Fort Greely. The draft EA will inform decision-makers and the public of the Proposed Action's potential environmental effects and the alternatives considered prior to making a federal decision to implement the Proposed Action. This decision-making process also includes identifying measures that USACE would commit to undertake to minimize potential environmental effects.

The decision to be made is whether USACE should implement the Proposed Action and, if necessary, incorporate measures to minimize potential adverse effects and enhance beneficial effects on resources, as applicable.

The team welcomes feedback throughout the ongoing process of preparing the draft EA. Incorporating stakeholder feedback earlier in the process helps ensure a better, more informed draft EA. We encourage you to review the presentations shared during this site visit and provide your feedback. You are welcome to send feedback on the process to our Corporate Communication Office at [CENAB-CC@usace.army.mil](mailto:CENAB-CC@usace.army.mil).

We will also have a formal comment period for the draft EA once it is completed, which we anticipate will occur around March 2021. At that point, depending on the COVID-19 situation, we plan to host in-person and/or virtual public meetings in multiple locations in Alaska to inform the public about the SM-1A project and take formal comments.

In addition to engaging stakeholders during this recent trip, the team was able to accomplish all necessary sampling to support the decommissioning planning process. This included gathering additional radiological characterization data, gathering soil samples, and conducting environmental sampling at the facility for things like asbestos, lead based paint, PCBs, etc.

Additionally, the team is continuing to make progress on the decommissioning planning and utility segregation design effort to separate the operational Central Heating and Power Plant from the historical former SM-1A portion of the building. We will complete the utility segregation design by the end of November this year.

Thank you again for signing up to receive these periodic updates regarding the ongoing efforts to decommission the SM-1A deactivated nuclear power plant at Fort Greely. We appreciate your continued feedback and support.

As always, feel free to e-mail any questions or concerns you may have to me or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at [CENAB-CC@usace.army.mil](mailto:CENAB-CC@usace.army.mil).