



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Omaha District

Des Moines Ordnance Plant, Ankeny, Iowa

Authority: Defense Environmental Restoration Account (DERA),
Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS)



LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION:

The former Des Moines Ordnance Plant (DMOP) is located in Ankeny, Iowa. The project is in the Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) negotiation phase and current work consists of PRP discussions to determine liability. Environmental Protection Agency

(EPA) Region 7, working with the City of Ankeny, developed an Administrative Order of Consent (AOC) to implement an interim Remedial Action (RA) at the landfill/lagoon complex, built by Department of Defense (DOD) in 1941, and invited the DOD to participate. The Office of Council of the Omaha District (NWO-OC), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), declined but requested updates, documents, and reports. The EPA believes that they have identified the PRPs, which include: 1) John Deere, 2) the City of Ankeny, 3) Iowa State University (ISU), and 4) the DOD. John Deere continues to operate a plant in the manufacturing area of the former DMOP. They also operated the sewage treatment/landfill area, until transferring it to the City of Ankeny in 1965. The City of Ankeny took ownership of the sewage treatment/landfill area and operated it until it was closed in 1971, except for disposal of tornado debris in 1974. ISU took ownership and has operated an experimental farm operation in the undeveloped areas of the manufacturing area. The DOD owned the former DMOP. U.S. Rubber/Uniroyal was the operator; however, it has not been identified as a PRP, to date. The EPA has not eliminated U.S. Rubber/Uniroyal as a PRP and continues to investigate its viability.

PROBLEM AND NEED: It is the position of NWO-OC that any remaining DOD liability at the site is minimal, based upon the historic documents and use by subsequent owners. Discussion with EPA Region 7 (working with the City of Ankeny) and other PRPs (i.e. John Deere, Des Moines Water Works, and ISU) to determine liability associated with the landfill/lagoon complex that was built by DOD in 1941 is ongoing. The Omaha District Corps has offered to provide technical support, if requested. On March 28, 2006, the Corps was asked to enter into an AOC to perform RA activities at the site. However, the goal of the DERA FUDS Program at PRP sites is to negotiate a cash buyout/settlement after the RA efforts are complete and not to conduct the RA.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR FY08:

Continue discussions with the PRPs, provide technical reviews of documents as requested, and support the Department Justice with negotiations when the RA activities are completed and the parties can reach a final settlement agreement (i.e. cash settlement).

<u>Financial Data</u>	<u>Amount</u>
FY07 Anticipated Allocation	\$5,000
FY08 Budget Request	\$6,500

ISSUES AND OTHER INFORMATION: The DMOP facilities were only operational for approximately 4 years, versus the 29 years of operation by John Deere and the City of Ankeny. It is the position of the Omaha District Corps that it would not take the lead in the PRP negotiations. As stated above, EPA Region 7, working with the City of Ankeny, developed an AOC to implement an interim RA at the landfill/lagoon complex, built by DOD in 1941, and invited the DOD to participate. NWO-OC declined but requested updates, documents and reports.