

Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations

Weldon Spring Site

Remedial Action Project Office

Route 2, Highway 94 South

St. Charles, Missouri 63303

November 9, 1988

Ms. Rowena Michaels
U. S. Environmental Protection
Division
Region VII
726 Minnesota Avenue
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

Dear Ms. Michaels:

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN REVIEW

In a recent discussion with Steve I asked if he would do a quick review of Revision 3 to the WSSRAP Community Relations Plan to ensure that recent EPA comments were adequately addressed.

I appreciate Steve's commitment and dedication to a quick review.

If I can be of assistance please don't hesitate to call.

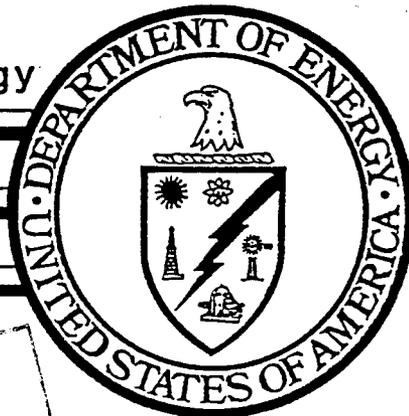
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. R. Nelson".

R. R. Nelson
Project Manager
Weldon Spring Site
Remedial Action Project

cc: Steve Wurtz
R. E. Hlavacek, PMC

United States Department Of Energy



SUPPLEMENT

SET I.D. _____

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

REV. 3

WELDON
SPRING
SITE
REMEDIAL
ACTION
PROJECT



MK-FERGUSON COMPANY

WELDON SPRING SITE REMEDIAL ACTION PROJECT
PRIME CONTRACT NO. DE-AC05-86OR21548

REV. NO.

3

ISSUE DATE 21 OCT. 88

PAGE 1 OF 1

PROCEDURE TITLE: COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

SET I.D. _____

APPROVALS

PROJECT DIRECTOR

B. J. Parach 10/18/88

PROJECT MANAGER

J. L. Hammond 10/17/88

ADMINISTRATIVE MGR.

J. P. Clayton 10-14-88

PLANNING & CONTROL MGR.

Mike Hill 10/14/88

ENGINEERING MANAGER

W. E. Hops 10/14/88

ES&H MANAGER

Ron Hill 10/14/88

CONST. OPERATIONS MGR.

L. Stewart 10/14/88

COMMUNITY REL. MANAGER

M. J. Smith 10/14/88

PROCUREMENT MANAGER

W. J. Putnam 10/14/88

QUALITY MANAGER

J. J. Hainster 10/14/88

Signature

Date

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

FOR THE

WELDON SPRING SITE REMEDIAL ACTION PROJECT

PREPARED FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

PREPARED BY MK-FERGUSON COMPANY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN
1.1	OBJECTIVE AND PURPOSE
1.2	COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRAM DEFINITIONS
1.2.1	Policy
1.2.2	Scope and Applicability
1.3	COMPLIANCE WITH THE NEPA AND CERCLA/SARA PROCESS
1.3.1	Public Involvement in the RI/FS-EIS Process
2.0	SITE BACKGROUND AND SETTING
2.1	SITE DESCRIPTION
2.1.1	Map of Local Area
2.1.2	Map of Chemical Plant Area
2.1.3	Map of Quarry Area
2.2	SITE HISTORY
2.3	ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING
2.3.1	Physical Setting
2.3.2	Topography and Site Drainage
2.3.3	Geology
2.3.4	Hydrology
2.3.5	Buildings, Structures, and Other Facilities
3.0	COMMUNITY BACKGROUND
3.1	LOCAL LAND USE
3.2	COMMUNITY ISSUES AND CONCERNS
4.0	HIGHLIGHTS OF PROGRAM
4.1	THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE, OAK RIDGE OPERATIONS, DOE
4.2	CONTRACTORS
5.0	PUBLIC INFORMATION AND PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES
5.1	PRINTED MATERIALS
5.2	AUDIO-VISUAL PROGRAMS
5.3	SPEAKERS PROGRAM
5.4	DOCUMENT AND INFORMATION AVAILABILITY
5.4.1	Community Outreach Center
5.5	MEDIA RELATIONS
5.6	COMMUNITY CONTACT
5.7	PUBLIC MEETINGS
5.8	TASK FORCE
5.9	ASSISTANCE FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS
5.10	RESPONSE TO PUBLIC INQUIRIES
5.11	TOURS
5.12	EDUCATION PROGRAM
5.13	INTERNAL STAFF SUPPORT
6.0	TIMING OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS ACTIVITIES

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

ADDENDUM A List of Contacts and Interested Parties

- A. Federal Elected Officials
- B. State Elected Officials
- C. Local Officials
- D. U.S. Department of Energy
- E. U.S. EPA Region VII Officials
- F. State and Local Agencies
- G. Community Organizations, Environmental Groups, and Citizens Groups
- H. Newspapers

ADDENDUM B Locations for Information Repositories and Public Meetings

- A. Information Repositories
- B. Meetings

1.0 OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

The Community Relations Plan describes the WSSRAP (Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project) program for informing and involving the public in the cleanup of the Weldon Spring Site in St. Charles County, Missouri.

The public has a right to know about proposed government actions and to be heard in the planning of activities that influence their lives. The project participants will not only comply with the legal requirements for public participation, but will encourage an active role for citizens who live in or near affected communities. The project will assure that state and local governments and other government agencies, as well as concerned individuals, participate in the process to ensure that the resulting decisions are made with full knowledge of the public's views.

The project participants will establish a meaningful community dialogue on such matters as health concerns, environmental issues, remedial action construction plans, project costs, and specific site activities.

1.1 OBJECTIVE AND PURPOSE

The objective of the Community Relations Program of the Weldon Spring Project is timely and sufficient dissemination of factual information to promote understanding of the project by Federal, state, and local officials, the media, special interest groups and the general public. This will encourage informed participation in the project by the public and government officials.

Public participation in the WSSRAP will not, however, be limited to those mechanisms formally required by law. The public may

also be involved informally through information meetings and workshops, and local citizens' task forces.

Public input will assist the project managers to make decisions that are both technically feasible and responsive to the community's concerns. Technical experts will explain feasible alternatives, along with the advantages and disadvantages, so that the public will have an opportunity to offer informed comments on various options.

1.2 COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRAM DEFINITIONS

The following sections describe the policies of the project; and define the scope, applicability, and responsibilities of the project participants.

1.2.1 Policy

Weldon Spring Project Site activities will be conducted under an open information policy. All information concerning activities is unclassified and will be released in a timely manner.

Given the potential social, economic, and environmental impacts of the Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project, the project will develop mechanisms to inform and involve the public, including printed materials, meetings, press releases, information mailings, and site tours. All public inquiries will be answered in a thorough and coordinated manner.

1.2.2 Scope and Applicability

The policies and implementation procedures of this manual will be used by all Oak Ridge Operations and DOE field organizations involved in Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project activities and all DOE laboratories, contractors, and subcontractors providing support or services to the project.

This plan applies to the preparation and dissemination of technical, scientific, and environmental information by written means (documents, pamphlets, executive summaries, and newsletters), by visual means (films, video tapes, and slide presentations), or by verbal means (briefings, public meetings, and testimony).

This plan also applies to activities that assist the communities in developing methods for dealing with these impacts.

1.3 COMPLIANCE WITH THE NEPA AND CERCLA/SARA PROCESS

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 requires an evaluation of the environmental impacts of major Federal actions that may significantly affect the environment. Public participation is an important part of this process. Throughout the series of measures necessary for compliance with the requirements of NEPA, there are a number of formal provisions for participation by all interested parties, including other Federal agencies, state and local agencies, and the general public (including proponents and opponents of an action). These public participation requirements are detailed in the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations (effective July 1979) for implementing the provisions of NEPA, and in Department of Energy guidelines of 1980 for NEPA compliance.

The response actions, i.e., removal actions and remedial actions, to be carried out by DOE at the Weldon Spring Site are subject to EPA oversight under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). For this project, the oversight function is being carried out by EPA Region VII. Because preparation of the draft EIS was already in progress when EPA's role in the project was identified, DOE and EPA entered into a Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) in August

1986 whereby the respective responsibilities of these two agencies were defined. By this agreement, DOE intended to meet EPA's remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) requirements under CERCLA with the EIS and supporting documentation.

Since publication of the draft EIS in February 1987, the Phase I water quality assessment (U.S. Dept. Energy 1987c) has provided significant new information relevant to environmental concerns at the Weldon Spring Site. In response to this new information (i.e., high concentrations of nitrates and sulfates and significant quantities of nitroaromatics in the groundwater at the site), DOE announced in June 1987 its intent to issue for public comment a revised draft EIS on remedial action at the Weldon Spring site. Since that time, EPA Region VII has formally requested that DOE prepare an RI/FS for this project, pursuant to the requirements of CERCLA. The DOE and EPA have agreed that the appropriate environmental review required by an RI/FS and an EIS can be more expeditiously accomplished by incorporating those elements required by an EIS into the format of an RI/FS (herein referred to as an RI/FS-EIS). The purpose of this work plan is to describe the integrated process by which DOE intends to implement the Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project.

1.3.1 Public Participation in the RI/FS-EIS Process

By its decision to prepare an RI/FS-EIS, an agency sets in motion a series of actions that provide for public participation at several points throughout the course of these actions. These actions, from the scoping process through the Record of Decision will be carried out with full public participation.

2.0 SITE BACKGROUND AND SETTING

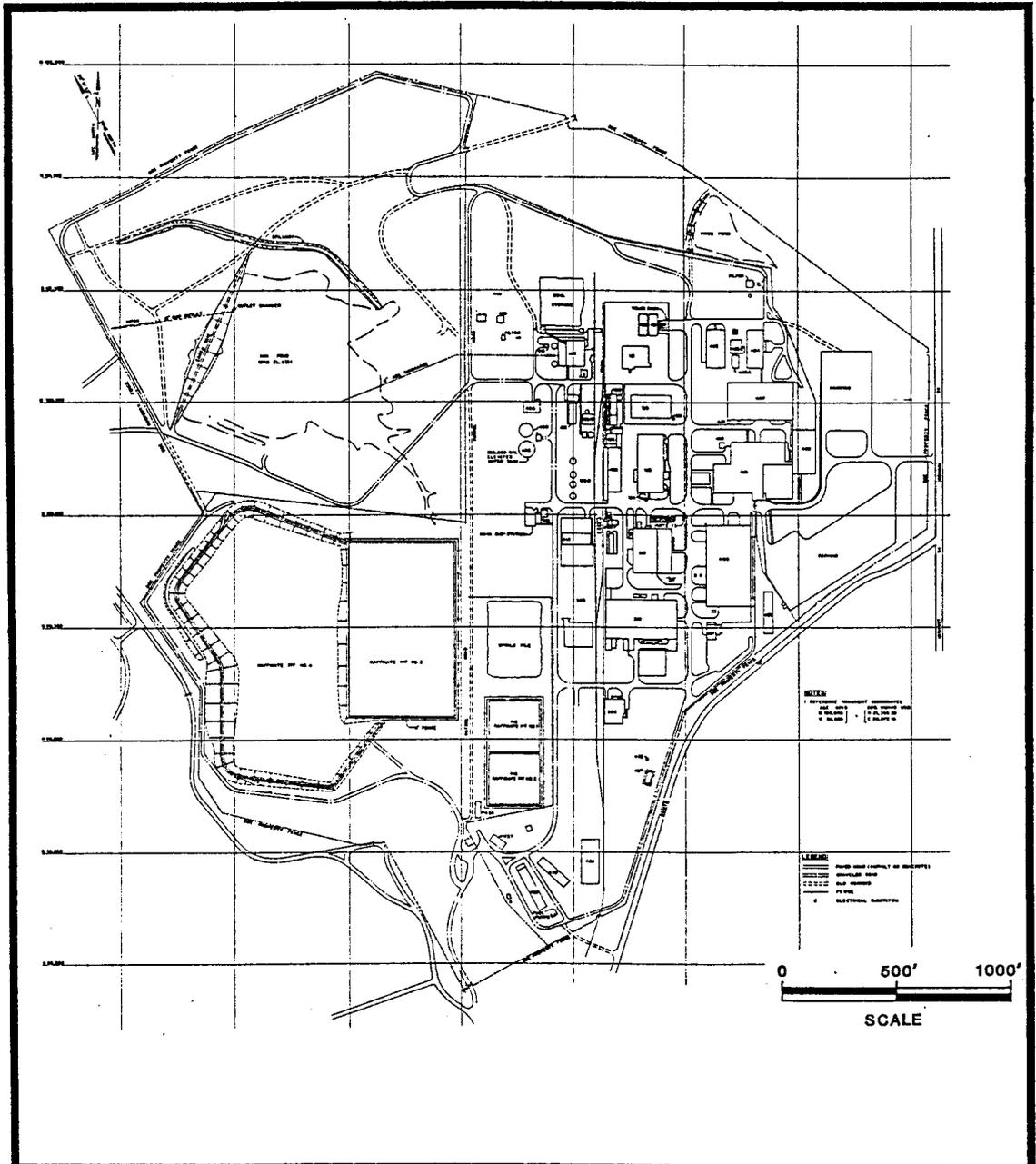
2.1 SITE DESCRIPTION

The 21-ha (51-acre) raffinate pits area at the Weldon Spring site contains four surface impoundments (raffinate pits) covering approximately 1 ha (26 acres). These pits were constructed by excavating the existing clay formation and using the removed clay to construct the dikes. The raffinate pits contain the residues from uranium and thorium processing operations previously conducted at the chemical plant (U.S. Dept. Energy 1987a). These residues are generally covered with water during the entire year. Ash Pond and Frog Pond are two additional surface water bodies in the chemical plant area. The 67-ha (166-acre) chemical plant consists of 13 major buildings and approximately 30 support structures (U.S. Dept. Energy 1987c).

The quarry is located in limestone and covers about 3.6 ha (9 acres). The deepest part is filled with water covering about 0.2 ha (0.5 acres) and is the only surface water body within this controlled area. The layout of the quarry is shown in Figure 6. The quarry was used for disposal of a variety of wastes at different times during the operational period of the Weldon Spring site. A major source of potable groundwater in this area is the county well field located about 1.6 km (1 mi) southeast of the quarry in the Missouri River alluvium (U.S. Department of Energy 1987a). The nearest well is located about 0.8 km (0.5 mi) from the quarry.

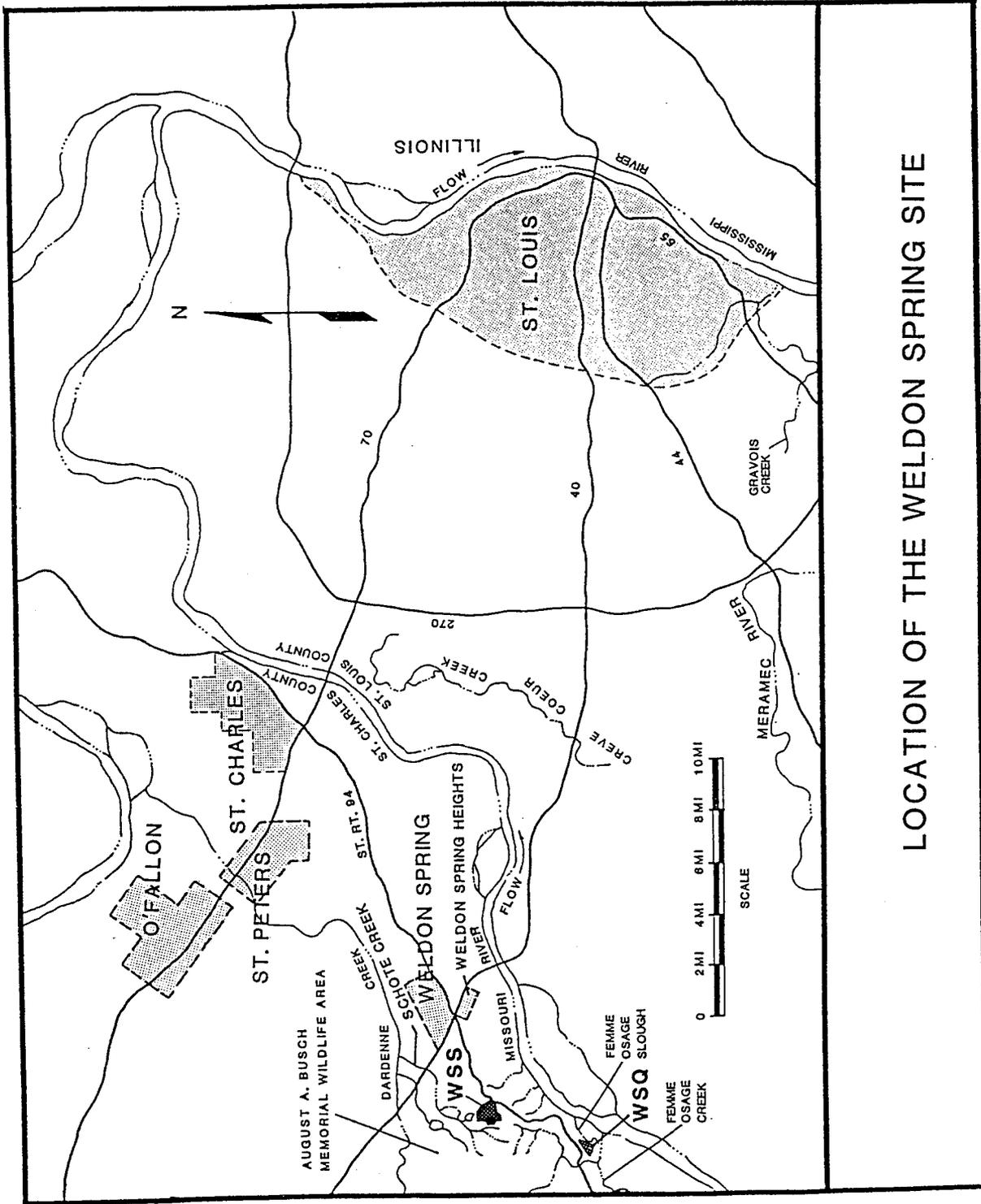
The Weldon Spring site is located within the St. Louis metropolitan area in St. Charles County. The St. Louis metropolitan area has a population in excess of 2.5 million. The communities of Weldon Spring and Weldon Spring Heights are located approximately 3.2 km (2 mi) from the chemical plant and raffinate pits area and have a combined population of about

MAP OF LOCAL AREA



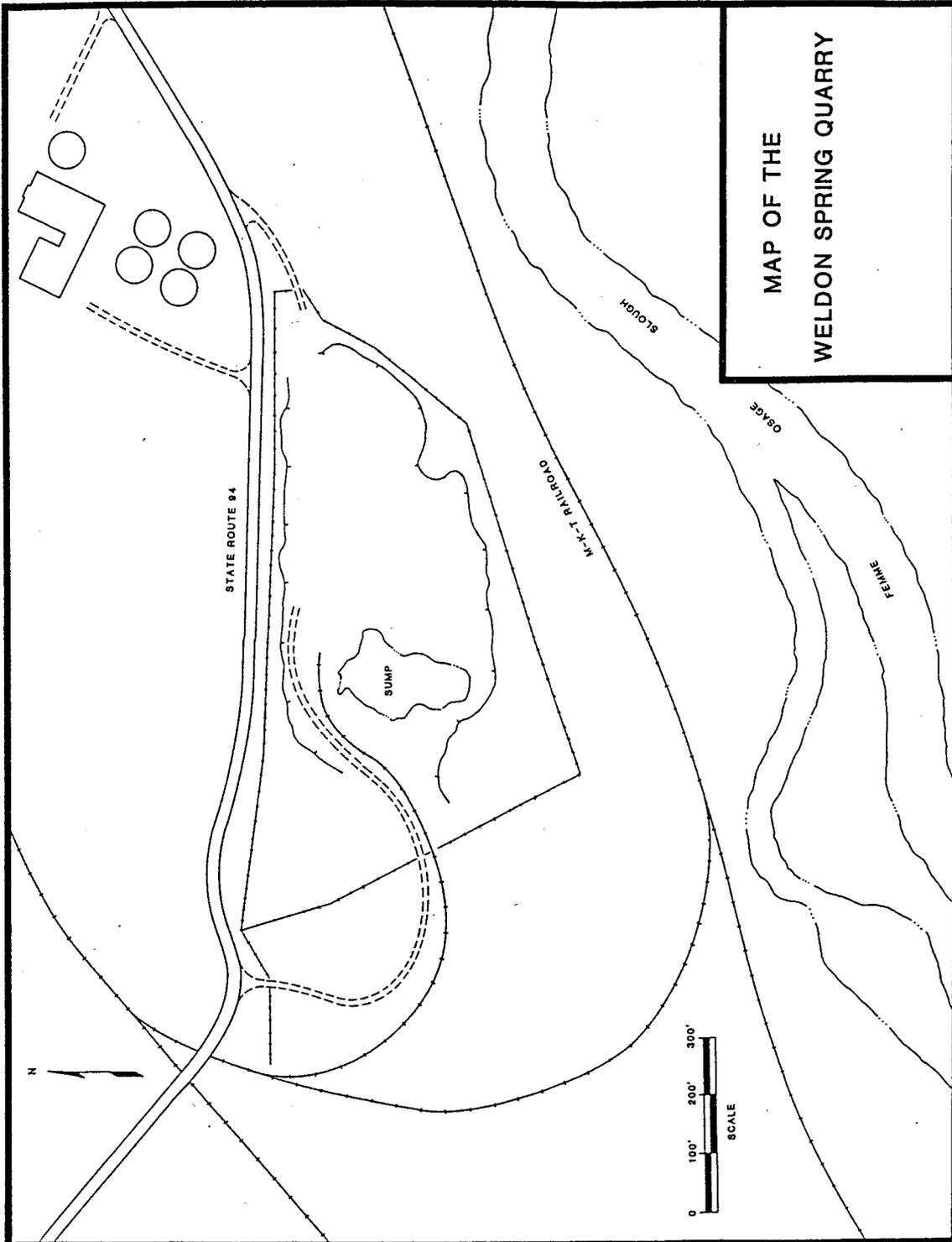
MAP OF THE WELDON SPRING CHEMICAL PLANT

MAP OF CHEMICAL PLANT AREA



LOCATION OF THE WELDON SPRING SITE

MAP OF QUARRY AREA



800. The Francis Howell High School is located about 1 km (0.6 mi) east of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area on State Route 94. An estimated 2,300 persons are on campus daily during the school year (U.S. Department of Energy 1987a). The largest city in St. Charles County is the City of St. Charles, which is located about 24 km (15 mi) northeast of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area and has a population of about 40,000. St. Charles County has been experiencing a rapid population growth in the last few decades. The 1980 population of 144,000 represented a 55% increase over the 1970 population.

2.2 SITE HISTORY

In 1941, the U.S. Department of the Army acquired about 7,000 ha (17,000 acres) of land in St. Charles County, Missouri. The Weldon Spring Ordnance Works was constructed on this land and was operated for the Army as a TNT and DNT explosives production facility from November 1941 through January 1944 by Atlas Powder Company. The ordnance works was closed and declared surplus to Army needs in April 1946. By 1949, all but about 810 ha (2,000 acres) had been transferred to the State of Missouri (August A. Busch Memorial Wildlife Area) and the University of Missouri (agricultural research land). A large portion of the land transferred to the University of Missouri is now included in the Weldon Spring Wildlife Area. Except for several small parcels transferred to St. Charles County, the remaining property became the current Weldon Spring site and the adjacent U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard Training Area.

Through a memorandum of understanding between the Secretary of the Army and the General Manager for the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) in May 1955, 83 ha (205 acres) of the former ordnance works was transferred to the AEC for construction and operation of the Weldon Spring Uranium Feed Materials Plant. Considerable explosives decontamination was performed prior to construction of the plant. The feed materials plant processed

uranium and thorium ore concentrates from 1957 to 1966, with the Uranium Division of Mallinckrodt Chemical Works acting as the AEC operating contractor.

During plant operations, uranium ore concentrates and recycled scrap were processed to produce uranium trioxide, uranium tetrafluoride, and uranium metal; an average of 14,000 metric tons (16,000 tons) of uranium materials was processed per year. In addition, a limited amount of thorium ore concentrates was processed at the plant. These processes generated several chemical and radioactive waste streams, including raffinates from the refinery operation and magnesium fluoride slurry (washed slag) from the uranium recovery process. These streams were slurried to the raffinate pits where the solids settled out and the supernatant liquids were decanted to the plant process sewer; this sewer drained off-site to the Missouri River. The solids remaining in the pits consist of silica and other insoluble metals and oxides associated with the uranium ore feed materials, hydroxides and other precipitates formed from lime neutralization of the raffinates, and washed slag residues from uranium metal production.

The AEC closed the feed materials plant in December 1966; however, in August 1967, the plant was selected as the site for an herbicide production facility. The AEC granted a license to the Army for the radioactive source material that was present as contamination throughout the site. On December 31, 1967, the feed materials plant was transferred to the Kansas City District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the design and construction of the herbicide facility. Excluded from the transfer were custody and control of the source and special nuclear material stored in the four raffinate pits. Because the AEC did not elect to remove the source and special nuclear material, the 21 ha (51 acres) on which the raffinate pits are located were transferred back to the AEC in December 1971.

Decontamination and dismantling operations at the feed materials plant, now referred to as the chemical plant, were initiated for the Army in January 1968 by Thompson-Stearns-Roger Corporation to allow for construction of the herbicide facility. However, the extensive decontamination effort and associated costs required to meet radiological contamination limits imposed on the facility, combined with a reduction in the military's requirements for herbicides, resulted in cancellation of the project on February 4, 1969. The cancellation occurred before any processing activities were initiated. The Army retained responsibility for the land and facilities at the chemical plant.

The National Lead Company of Ohio (NLO) was contracted by the AEC to perform environmental monitoring and maintenance of the raffinate pits and quarry. Bechtel National, Inc. -- under contract to DOE -- assumed management responsibility for the raffinate pits and quarry from NLO in October 1981. In November 1984, DOE was directed by the Office of Management and Budget to assume custody and accountability for the chemical plant from the Army. This transfer occurred on October 1, 1985. The site is currently under control of DOE and its project management contractor, MK-Ferguson Company.

2.3 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

2.3.1 Physical Setting

The Weldon Spring site is located in two distinct physiographic regions. The raffinate pits and chemical plant area is situated at the southern edge of the dissected till plains of the Central Lowlands Physiographic Province. Parts of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area are covered with buildings and ponds, and the remainder is covered with vegetation (predominantly grasses, shrubs, and small trees), gravel, or paved surfaces. The August A. Busch Memorial Wildlife Area is located to the north, the Weldon Spring Wildlife Area to the south and east,

and the U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard Training Area to the west of the Weldon Spring Wildlife Area. Vegetation consists largely of grasses, shrubs, and small trees. The quarry is located about 6.4 km (4 mi) south-southwest of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area on the northern flank of the Salem Plateau of the Ozark Plateaus Physiographic Province. The deepest portion of the quarry is filled with water.

The Missouri River is located approximately 2.4 km (1.5 mi) southeast of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area and 1.6 km (1 mi) east of the quarry. At its closest point to the Weldon Spring site, the Mississippi River lies about 23 km (14 mi) north of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area and about 29 km (18 mi) north of the quarry. Surface hydrological features in the vicinity of the Weldon Spring site.

2.3.2 Topography and Site Drainage

The Weldon Spring site is located in the southwest portion of St. Charles County. The county, roughly triangular in shape, is bounded by the Mississippi River on the north and east and the Missouri River on the south. Approximately half of the county land is floodplain and half is uplands characterized by gently rolling topography. The southwest uplands, which contain the site, are dissected by small streams and valleys.

The raffinate pits and chemical plant area straddles the watershed divide that separates the Mississippi and Missouri river valleys. Gently rolling topography characterizes areas to the north and west whereas the terrain to the south and east is heavily wooded, rugged, and ravined. Elevations range from approximately 190 m (610 ft) mean sea level (MSL) near the northern edge of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area to approximately 200 m (670 ft) MSL near the southern edge.

Drainage and the migration of contaminants are influenced by

pits, buildings, drainage ditches, and other man-made features as well as by ponds and other surface features, including remnants of a channel through the Ash Pond area. Surface hydrological features near the raffinate pits and chemical plant area.

Most surface drainage from the raffinate pits area discharges either via intermittent streams in the Army Reserve Training Area to the west or into Ash Pond on the chemical plant area. Discharges from the intermittent streams and Ash Pond combine near County Route "D" and flow northward into Schote Creek; from there they enter Dardenne Creek, which discharges into the Mississippi River. an additional surface drainage system reaching the Mississippi River exits the chemical plant area from Frog Pond. Frog Pond drains stormwater events from most of the chemical plant area (via the stormwater sewer). Surface water flow from the northeastern edge of the chemical plant also drains to Frog Pond.

Drainage from the southern portion of the chemical plant area flows southeast to the Missouri River. As flows occur, a portion enters the subsurface; this flow re-emerges farther downstream in springs or the stream channel. The drainage originates from two sources. The first is the sanitary sewer system for the chemical plant. Although this system was taken out of service in 1986, it does receive some flow from the stormwater runoff system. The sanitary system drain pipe merges with the chemical plant process sewer, which is also unused. The second source of southeast drainage flow is the overland flow from the southern portion of the chemical plant area during precipitation events.

The limestone quarry is southwest of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area and borders the Missouri River alluvial floodplain. The surrounding topography, except the floodplain area to the south, is rugged and heavily wooded and is characterized by deep ravines. The quarry floor and rim are at

an elevation of about 140 and 170 m (450 and 550 ft) MSL, respectively.

Drainage in the quarry area occurs primarily through the subsurface, with limited surface drainage on the southern rim. The quarry drainage flows to the Missouri River, 1.6 km (1 mi) to the east, through Femme Osage Creek and Little Femme Osage Creek. About 210 m (700 ft) south of the quarry is a 2.4-km (1.5-mi) section of the original Femme Osage Creek that was dammed at both ends by the University of Missouri between 1960 and 1963. This section is now called the Femme Osage Slough. The water level of the slough is affected by the levels of the Missouri River and the groundwater, and the average water level is about 140 m (450 ft) MSL (U.S. Dept. Energy 1988a). The St. Charles County well field is located between the Femme Osage Slough and the Missouri River.

2.3.3 Geology

The following general description of the geology of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area highlights the major geologic characteristics of the area. More detail is provided in a recently completed hydrogeological characterization report for the chemical plant (Bechtel Natl. 1987).

The raffinate pits and chemical plant area is underlain by Quaternary Age unconsolidated sediments and Paleozoic Age bedrock formations. The unconsolidated materials in this area can be categorized into six units. The predominant soil type belongs to the Harvest-Urban land complex group and has a low permeability. More than 20 m (64 ft) of alluvial deposits overlie the bedrock in the Missouri River valley. Underlying the unconsolidated deposits is a thick sequence of limestones and sandstone bedrock formations of the Paleozoic Age. The uppermost limestone bedrock formation is fractured and contains many karst features, such as solution-enlarged cavities and

voids that developed along bedding planes and northeast-trending joints. Other karst features that occur in St. Charles County include springs, losing streams, caves, and sinkholes (U.S. Dept. Energy 1987a).

The uppermost stratum at the quarry is Kimmswick limestone, and the quarry floor is Decorah shale. Limestone bedrock exposed on the quarry walls and on the steep bluffs along the Missouri River is predominantly Ordovician limestone, shale, dolomite, and sandstone.

Primarily as a result of Paleozoic structural activity, the bedrock formations of the region have been formed into arches, basins, and other structures. The Weldon Spring site is located on the gently dipping east flank of the northwest-trending House Springs-Eureka anticline.

2.3.4 Hydrology

The Mississippi River is north and the Missouri River south of the Weldon Spring site. All runoff from land surfaces in the area eventually reaches the Mississippi or Missouri river. The combined flow of these two rivers at St. Louis averages about $5,100\text{m}^3/\text{s}$ (180,000 cfs) (U.S. Dept. Energy 1987a).

Most of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area is located on the Mississippi River (northern) side of the drainage divide in the headwater of Schote Creek. Surface runoff from this area flows into nearby intermittent streams, Ash Pond, or Frog Pond on the chemical plant area. Surface discharges from the streams and Ash Pond combine near County Route "D" and flow northward to Lake 35 in the Busch Wildlife Area just southwest of U.S. Route 40/61; surface discharges from Frog Pond flow into Lake 36 in the Busch Wildlife Area. Schote Creek enters Dardenne Creek

about 6 km (3.7 mi) northeast of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area and has a drainage area of about 13 km² (5 mi²). Water in Dardenne Creek eventually reaches the Mississippi River near Seeburger, Missouri, about 32 km (20 mi) northwest of St. Louis (U.S. Dept. Energy 1987a).

Rainwater and snowmelt runoff and percolation enter various drains at the chemical plant area. The drains collect the water into the chemical plant process sewer, which exits on the southern slope of the drainage divide. Effluent from this exit flows to the Missouri River through a drainage ditch.

Preliminary estimates of flood peak discharges have been prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, for Schote Creek at several reaches and for different recurrence intervals. At the raffinate pits and chemical plant area, the 100-year and 500-year flood peak discharges at the main stem of Schote Creek are expected to be about 60 and 76 m³/s (2,100 and 2,700 cfs). The 500-year flood elevation near the raffinate pits and chemical plant area would be about 160 m (530 ft) MSL. Thus, the area would not be affected by either a 100-year or a 500-year flood occurring in the main stem of Schote Creek (U.S. Dept. Energy 1987a).

The quarry is located on the Missouri River (southern) side of the drainage divide. Surface streams in the vicinity of the quarry include Femme Osage Creek, Little Femme Osage Creek, an unnamed tributary to Little Femme Osage Creek, and Femme Osage Slough. The Missouri River bottom at the quarry (river mile 49 from the confluence with the Mississippi River) is at an elevation of about 129 m (422 ft) MSL. Although the floodplain area below the quarry is partially behind a levee, the area floods occasionally to a depth of about 1 m (3-4 ft) and takes 1 to 2 months to dry; it is drained by a 41-cm (16-in.) diameter pipe through the levee (U.S. Dept. Energy 1987a).

A large volume of surface water currently exists in the raffinate pits, in ponds on the chemical plant area, and in the quarry. Although the amount of water in these impoundments varies significantly according to season, the raffinate pits generally contain about 216,000 m³ (57,000,000 gal) and the quarry pond about 11,000 m³ (3,000,000 gal). Two major ponds on the chemical plant area are Ash Pond and Frog Pond. Although the volume of water in Frog Pond varies throughout the year, it typically is 2,000 m³ (500,000 gal). Ash Pond contains water intermittently, depending on seasonal precipitation.

2.3.5 Buildings, Structures, and Other Facilities

Numerous buildings and structures associated with former ordnance works activities have been demolished or removed from the chemical plant area. The remaining buildings, facilities, and structures were used to support the chemical plant operations. Additional demolition and decontamination activities were conducted after cessation of operations. There are currently 13 major buildings, approximately 30 support structures, and other miscellaneous facilities and equipment in the chemical plant area -- including sewage treatment facilities, power lines, transformers, construction vehicles, and several office trailers.

3.0 COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCAL LAND USE

Urban areas occupy about 6% and nonurban areas about 90% of St. Charles County (based on 1983 information). The remaining area is dedicated to transportation and water uses. It has been estimated that approximately 4% of the county's non-urban land will be converted to urban uses during 1980 to 2000 (U.S. Dept. Energy 1987a). The two closest communities to the site are Weldon Spring and Weldon Spring Heights, which are located about 3.2 km (2 mi) northeast of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area. The combined population of these two communities is approximately 800.

Development in the county has been dynamic in the past, and strong residential and commercial/industrial demands are anticipated to continue. The cities of St. Charles, St. Peters, O'Fallon, Lake St. Louis, and Wentzville are located along I-70 where major development has occurred. The area south of I-70 from St. Charles City to Wentzville and bounded by U.S. 40/61 to the west and the recently abandoned Missouri-Kansas-Texas (MKT) Railroad to the south is locally referred to as the "Golden Triangle." This area is considered likely to experience the most growth in the coming decades. The Golden Triangle includes the cities of St. Charles, St. Peters, O'Fallon, Lake St. Louis, Wentzville, Weldon Spring, Cottleville, Harvester, Dardenne, and All Saints Village. In addition to development within the Golden Triangle, there is substantial development potential in other areas of the county.

August A. Busch Memorial Wildlife Area is located to the north and the Weldon Spring Wildlife Area to the south and east of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area. Both of these wildlife areas are park-like tracts administered by the Missouri Department of Conservation and are dedicated to various kinds of

recreational uses.

The University of Missouri operates the St. Charles County Extension Center and owns 300 ha (740 acres) of land to the east of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area. This land is currently used for pasture, but about 100 ha (250 acres) is being developed as a high-technology research park, which will remain under ownership of the University of Missouri. The purpose of the research park is to help stimulate the development of high-technology industries in the St. Louis area. A State of Missouri highway maintenance facility and Francis Howell High School are also located east of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area along State Route 94.

The St. Charles County water treatment plant is located on State Route 94 about 1.6 km (1 mi) northeast of the quarry. The design capacity of this treatment plant is 61,000 m³/day (16 mgd), and it is currently processing about 76,000 m³/day (20 mgd) from the county well field. Five workers operate three shifts over a 7-day period at the treatment plant, with three operators during the first shift and one operator during each of two subsequent shifts. During the summer months, two additional workers are hired to perform various jobs at both the water treatment plant and the nearby county well field. Subcontract personnel are utilized at the treatment plant on an as-needed basis.

The U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard Training Area is located immediately west of the raffinate pits and chemical plant area. No permanent personnel are currently assigned to the training area, although one individual may be assigned on an intermittent basis to perform such duties as answering the telephone and checking the grounds. Regular weekend training occurs at reduced levels compared to normal training operations at other facilities because certain activities (e.g., digging foxholes) are not permitted.

3.2 COMMUNITY ISSUES AND CONCERNS

LEUKEMIA AND CANCER

Many individuals, including some medical personnel at area hospitals, believe that an unexplained increase in the childhood leukemia death rates in the 1970s in St. Charles County can be directly linked to the Weldon Spring site and work activities performed there. A study was performed by the Missouri Department of Health which determined there was no correlation between the temporary increase in the childhood leukemia rates and the Weldon Spring site, but this study has been called inconclusive, at best, by some area residents. Fear of cancer rates increasing during remedial action remains the highest concern. It has resulted in most of the comments received at an earlier DEIS meeting to call for a moving of Francis Howell High School during remedial action and the building of a new high school. The St. Charles County Commission, St. Charles City Council, and St. Peters City Council have all passed a resolution calling for medical monitoring of students at Francis Howell High School during remedial action and the establishment of an insurance trust fund to pay for any medical liabilities from the Weldon Spring site.

OUTSIDE WASTE

In 1982, the Department of Energy attempted to make the Weldon Spring site a regional disposal site for low-level radioactive waste. More than 2,000 people turned out for a public meeting in which they condemned DOE's plans. The Agency subsequently withdrew these plans. The public remains concerned that DOE is still planning to ship radioactive waste from sites in St. Louis to Weldon Spring. In fact, one individual related that they would not be convinced that the Department of Energy would spend this much money just on disposing of the waste from this site alone.

OFF-SITE DISPOSAL

A billboard on Interstate 70 near the site prior to the DEIS public Hearing read: "Stop a Radioactive Waste Dump from being built in your back yard." Many individuals in the community believe that the waste should be shipped elsewhere. During the hearing, comments were received that not enough consideration was given to off-site disposal and consideration of another site for final disposal.

THE BEST AVAILABLE TECHNOLOGY

Opinions have been expressed by some individuals in the community that cost should not be considered as a factor in any cleanup decision. One individual observed that if the community had to live with a permanent disposal facility, it should have the best safeguards that modern technology could supply regardless of cost.

SUITABILITY OF SITE

Many individuals in the community believe that the Weldon Spring site does not have an area that can safely house a permanent disposal cell. The concern is based on the belief that the ground underlying the Weldon Spring site is full of sinkholes, caves and conduits which would provide, over time, a pathway for radioactive contamination to enter the groundwater and threaten community safety and health.

AIRBORNE CONTAMINANT RELEASE DURING REMEDIAL ACTION

Many of the comments received during the DEIS hearing and to date express a concern of many residents that when remedial action begins, there will be no way to protect the public from releases of airborne contaminants from the site thereby increasing the risk of cancer.

CONTAMINATING OF THE ST. CHARLES COUNTY WELL FIELD

There has been active opposition for the past several years to expansion of the St. Charles County Well field, even though the population growth in the area indicates a need for expansion. The concern is that the proximity of the Weldon Spring Quarry in conjunction with the increased water withdrawal rate, will contaminate the well field since it is less than one-half mile from the closest well. Presently, about 95 percent of the recharge for the well field is drawn from the Missouri River, but with expansion of the well field, there is great concern that water will be drawn for recharge from the Weldon Spring Quarry area, thus drawing contamination and making the whole system unusable.

DISTRUST OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

There is a concern in the community which dates back to World War II that the Federal government cannot be trusted. Many in the community believe that the Federal government took their farmland to build the original Weldon Spring Ordnance Works and this distrust apparently has been passed to subsequent generations.

NO CLEANUP

There are many in the community who believe that nothing will be cleaned up. The concern is that hundreds of millions of dollars authorized for this project will be used by the DOE only for studies and that the site will not be cleaned up in a safe manner.

EARTHQUAKES AND THE NEW MADRID FAULT

Many in the community believe that the New Madrid fault will cause an earthquake in the area. They believe there can be no

engineered alternative that will protect a disposal cell from being compromised in the event of such an earthquake.

4.0 HIGHLIGHTS OF PROGRAM

4.1 THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE OAK RIDGE OPERATION, DOE

The Office will review major WSSRAP interactions with Federal, state, and local officials, the media, special interest groups and the general public, and coordinate these interactions with appropriate DOE Headquarters offices.

The Office, through the Weldon Spring Project Office and Contractors, will be kept apprised of public relations efforts which affect the site and surrounding communities. It will review all public information materials.

The Project Office will be responsible for media relations including arranging for and conducting special briefings, press releases and media representation at public meetings and hearings.

4.2 CONTRACTORS

Contractors identify the need for and assist the DOE in arranging briefings with special interest groups, Federal, state and local governments, and interested citizens. The Project Management Contractor will coordinate and facilitate these activities upon approval and under the direction of the Project Manager WSSRAP.

The DOE, in addition, may request assistance in the preparation, reproduction and distribution of public information, including testimony, presentations, special reports, and press kits. Lists of government officials, media, special interest groups, and community leaders will be developed and maintained.

5.0 PUBLIC INFORMATION AND PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES

The following actions comprise some, but certainly not all, of the activities that may be undertaken in order to fully inform and involve the public.

5.1 PRINTED MATERIALS

Printed materials are intended to provide easily understood information on all aspects of WSSRAP. Types of materials include project documents, fact sheets, brochures, topical papers on specific issues or inquiries, executive summaries of published documents, and news articles. Printed materials will be designed to stand alone or be distributed in a "Weldon Spring Site Information Packet."

5.2 AUDIO-VISUAL PROGRAMS

Audio-visual programs will be used to provide accurate updated information about WSSRAP. A variety of visual presentation methods may be utilized including 16 mm movies, video tapes, and slide and viewgraph presentations for taped or scripted narration. These materials provide a format which can be kept continually updated and used for a wide variety of audiences.

The Contractor Community Relations staff will also direct the production of an annual video update for the DOE Division of Remedial Action Projects.

5.3 SPEAKERS PROGRAM

Information requests from the public can often be appropriately handled by WSSRAP speakers. Speakers will be provided from the Project Office and Contractor personnel, selected for their ability to present the facts and answer questions clearly and knowledgeably.

5.4 DOCUMENT AND INFORMATION AVAILABILITY

The DOE has established a policy of ensuring that all published information about the Weldon Spring Site Project is readily available to the public in the surrounding communities.

Information repositories will consist of selected public libraries, colleges and universities, state and local offices, and other appropriate locations which are open to the public. The availability of documents and information materials will be publicized as appropriate, through press releases, notices in the Federal Register, or specialized local mailings.

5.4.1 Community Outreach Program

DOE is committed to the establishment of a Community Outreach Center at the site for easy access to interested area residents. This center will contain up-to-date information and background on all activities of WSSRAP and will also serve as a clearinghouse where questions about WSSRAP can be answered. This room will contain displays, graphs, charts, and printed materials, and could be the site of audio-visual presentations on WSSRAP.

5.5 MEDIA RELATIONS

Media relations activities are designed to provide all media (national, state, local) with timely, accurate information about Weldon Spring site activities, events, and status changes. These activities include, but are not limited to: press briefings, project press kits, public service announcements, visual materials for TV and press releases.

A special briefing to the Editorial Board of the St. Louis and St. Charles area newspapers will be conducted at an early stage in the project in order to familiarize newspaper management with

the background and objectives of the remedial action effort. Contact will be maintained with reporters assigned to cover project activities to keep them apprised of site activities.

5.6 COMMUNITY CONTACT

The purpose of the community contact effort is to ensure that key community leaders, including Federal, state and local government officials and groups and the general public, are informed in a timely fashion of activities, events and status changes. Lists will be kept current of all concerned parties. Included on the contact list are:

- * Legislators (Federal, state, local)
- * Executive branch officials (Federal, state, local)
- * Opinion leaders
- * Officials of special interest groups
- * Media (print, electronic)
- * Interested citizens
- * The academic community
- * Leaders of the business and professional community
- * Residents near the site

5.7 PUBLIC MEETINGS

In addition to the public meetings and hearings required by law, frequent informational meetings will be held as activities warrant or as requested by the community. WSSRAP officials will be utilized to maintain close contact with community concerns in order to respond to inquiries in a timely fashion.

5.8 INDEPENDENT ADVISORY GROUP

The DOE Project Office will investigate with the state and local governments the benefit of establishing a group of individuals who could serve as an independent advisory group for the Weldon

Spring Site Project. Potential advisory group members could include representatives from governing bodies, special interest groups, the medical and educational professions, trade associations, and concerned citizens. The group could serve as an independent advisory board, informing the project personnel of issues of importance to the community and serve as a point of contact for the project for dissemination of information.

5.9 ASSISTANCE FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Local, state, and Federal officials whose areas of jurisdiction are impacted by WSSRAP need sufficient and timely information for the benefit of their constituents. In addition to regular information dissemination channels, these officials may receive assistance in obtaining information for the drafting of legislation, preparation of testimony, and project status updates from approved project personnel.

5.10 RESPONSE TO PUBLIC INQUIRIES

The Project Office will use all available materials and personnel to respond quickly and completely to any and all inquiries from the public.

5.11 SITE TOURS

Site tours are intended to acquaint key community leaders, including governmental and opinion leaders, with the Weldon Spring Site during remedial action construction and after remedial action is completed. General tours will begin at the Community Outreach Center. These will be conducted by appropriate personnel.

5.12 EDUCATION PROGRAM

Utilizing the great depth of professional and technical

resources represented by DOE and Contractor personnel at the site, the Project Office will consult with the St. Charles County school administration to determine what contributions the project could offer their education system. Examples of such support could include seminars on radiation education for parents and teachers, student field trips, classroom instruction, and hands-on experience with health physics equipment.

Area colleges and universities, including the University of Missouri, Lindenwood College in St. Charles, and St. Charles Community College will also be made aware of technical and scientific activities taking place at the site. Appropriate education and training opportunities will be explored, and, to the greatest extent possible, made available to students and faculty at these institutions.

5.13 INTERNAL STAFF SUPPORT

The WSSRAP Community Relations staff will maintain close contact with all project personnel to keep them informed of Community Relations activities and to assist them in providing technical, engineering, scientific, and environmental information to the public. Community Relations staff will also coordinate training workshops for project personnel to improve communications skills.

6.0 TIMING OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	FINAL WORKPLAN	DURING THE RI	COMPLETION OF THE RI	DURING THE FS	COMPLETION OF THE FS	COMPLETION OF THE ROD
1. Designate EPA Contact	X					
2. Establish Information Repository	X		-----update as needed-----			X
3. Telephone City/County Officials	X		-----provide as needed-----			X
4. Fact Sheets/Tech. Summaries	X		-----provide as needed-----			X
5. Press Releases	X		-----provide as needed-----			X
6. Public Comment Period					X	X
7. Public Meeting	X		-----provide as needed-----			X
8. Responsiveness Summary					X	X
9. Revise Community Relations Plan	X		-----			X

ADDENDUM A

LIST OF CONTACTS AND INTERESTED PARTIES

A. FEDERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

The Honorable John C. Danforth
U.S. Senator
815 Olive, Room 228
St. Louis, Missouri 63101
314-425-6381

The Honorable Christopher Bond
U.S. Senator
815 Olive, Room 224
St. Louis, Missouri 63101
314-425-5067

The Honorable Harold Volkmer
Congressman, 9th District
370 Federal Boulevard
Hannibal, Missouri 63401
314-221-1200

The Honorable Jack Buechner
Congressman, 2nd District
13545 Barrett Parkway, Suite 150
Ballwin, Missouri 63021
314-965-1101

B. STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

The Honorable Fred Dyer
State Senator
State Capitol, Room 431
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
314-751-3645

The Honorable Craig Kilby
State Representative
State Capitol
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
314-625-2122

C. LOCAL OFFICIALS

The Honorable Gerald Ohlms
St. Charles County Commission
118 North 2nd Street
St. Charles, Missouri 63301
314-947-2603

The Honorable Jane Schmidt
St. Charles County Commission
118 North 2nd Street
St. Charles, Missouri 63301
314-947-2603

The Honorable Nancy Becker
St. Charles County Commission
118 North 2nd Street
St. Charles, Missouri 63301
314-947-2603

The Honorable Grace Nichols
Mayor, City of St. Charles
200 North 2nd Street
St. Charles, Missouri 63301
314-946-6706

The Honorable Tom Brown
Mayor, City of St. Peters
P.O. Box 9
St. Peters, Missouri 63376
314-928-1800

The Honorable Dorothy Moore
Mayor, City of Weldon Spring
71 Wolfrum
St. Charles, MO 63303
314-441-3409

The Honorable Lee Barton
Mayor, City of Wentzville
#9 W. Koenig
Wentzville, MO 63385
314-327-5101

Mary Burt, Chairperson
City of New Melle
P.O. Box 114
New Melle, MO 63365
314-828-5326

C. LOCAL OFFICIALS (Continued)

Mrs. Carol Ziegler, President
Francis Howell School Board
268 Copperwood Tr.
St. Charles, MO 63303
314-441-5495

D. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Mr. Jim Alexander
Public Information Office
U.S. Department of Energy
Oak Ridge, TN 37831
(615) 576-0885

Mr. Rodney R. Nelson
Project Manager - DOE
WSSRAP
Route 2, Highway 94 South
St. Charles, MO 63303
(314) 441-8086

E. U.S. EPA REGION VII OFFICIALS

Ms. Katherine Biggs
Chief Environmental Review Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
726 Minnesota Avenue
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
913-236-2823

Ms. Rowena Michaels
Director, Public Affairs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
726 Minnesota Avenue
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
913-236-2803

Stephen P. Wurtz
Community Relations Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
726 Minnesota Avenue
Kansas City, Kansas 66010
913-236-2803

F. STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES

Dr. Frederick Brunner
Director
Department of Natural Resources
1915 Southridge Drive
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
314-751-3332

Dr. John Crellin
Department of Health
Broadway State Office Building
P.O. Box 570
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
314-751-2335

William Dieffenback
Department of Conservation
2901 West Truman Boulevard
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
314-751-4115

Don Bauer
USGS
1400 Independence Road
Rolla, Missouri 65401
314-341-0825

Dr. Leon Heath
St. Charles County Consultant
333 Mid Rivers
St. Peters, Missouri 63376
314-441-6969

Roger Russell, Superintendent
Francis Howell School District
7001 Highway 94 South
St. Charles, MO 63303
314-447-1133

Roger Dunajcik, Sanitarian
St. Charles County Health Department
P.O. Box 111
Wentzville, MO 63385
314-441-0405 (327-5161/272-5599)

**G. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS,
AND CITIZENS GROUPS**

Dr. Michael Garvey
Chairman
St. Charles Countians Against Hazardous Waste
#5 Burkett Plaza, Highway 94
St. Charles, Missouri 63301
314-441-2777

Meredith Bollmeier
St. Charles Countians Against Hazardous Waste
258 Cedar Groves
St. Charles, Missouri 63303
314-928-5281

R. Roger Pryor
Missouri Coalition for the Environment
6267 Delmar Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63130
314-727-0600

Ms. Kay Drey
Missouri Coalition for the Environment
515 West Point Avenue
University City, Missouri 63130
314-725-7676

Pat Sullivan
Home Builders Association of St. Charles County
10104 Old Olive Street Road
St. Louis, MO 63141
(314) 994-7700

Joan Burkemper
President
St. Charles County Board of Realtors
110 Point West Boulevard
St. Charles, MO 63301
(314) 946-4022

Charles Boswell
President
Growth of St. Charles Inc.
P. O. Box 1081
St. Charles, MO 63302
(314) 947-1009

H. NEWSPAPERS

St. Louis Post-Dispatch
St. Charles Post
105 South Main Street
St. Charles, Missouri 63301
314-946-3903
Attn: Theresa Tighe

St. Charles Journal
340 North Main Street
St. Charles, Missouri 63301
314-946-6111
Attn: Brian Flinchpaugh

Wentzville Messenger/O'Fallon County Tribune
216 E. Elm
O'Fallon, Missouri 63366
314-272-4949
Attn: Craig Bonnett

United Press International
900 North Tucker, Second Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63101
314-231-6644

Associated Press
900 North Tucker, 4th Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63101
Attention: Lori Dodge
314-241-2496

ADDENDUM B

LOCATIONS FOR INFORMATION

REPOSITORIES AND PUBLIC MEETINGS

A. INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

Spencer Creek Branch
St. Charles City-County Library
425 Spencer Road
St. Peters, Missouri 63376
314-447-2320

Butler Library
Lindenwood College
Kingshighway at First Capitol Drive
St. Charles, Missouri 63301

Francis Howell High School Library
Route 2, Highway 94 South
St. Charles, Missouri 63301
314-447-1155

The Weldon Spring Site
Rt. 2, Highway 94 South
St. Charles, Missouri 63303
314-441-8086

B. MEETINGS

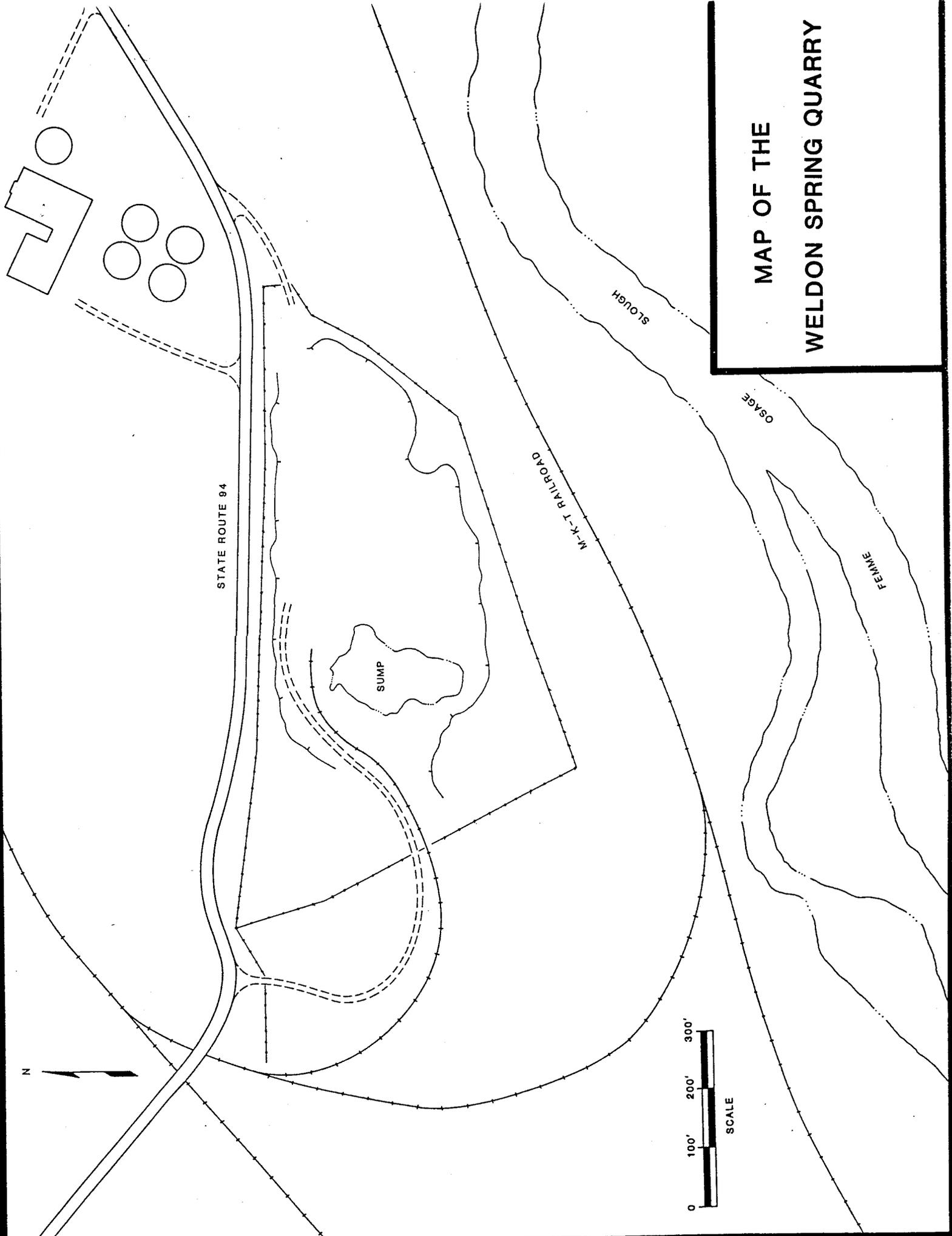
Francis Howell High School
7001 Highway 94 South
St. Charles, Missouri 63303
314-447-1133

Hollenbeck Junior High School
4555 Central School Road
St. Charles, Missouri 63303
314-447-5605

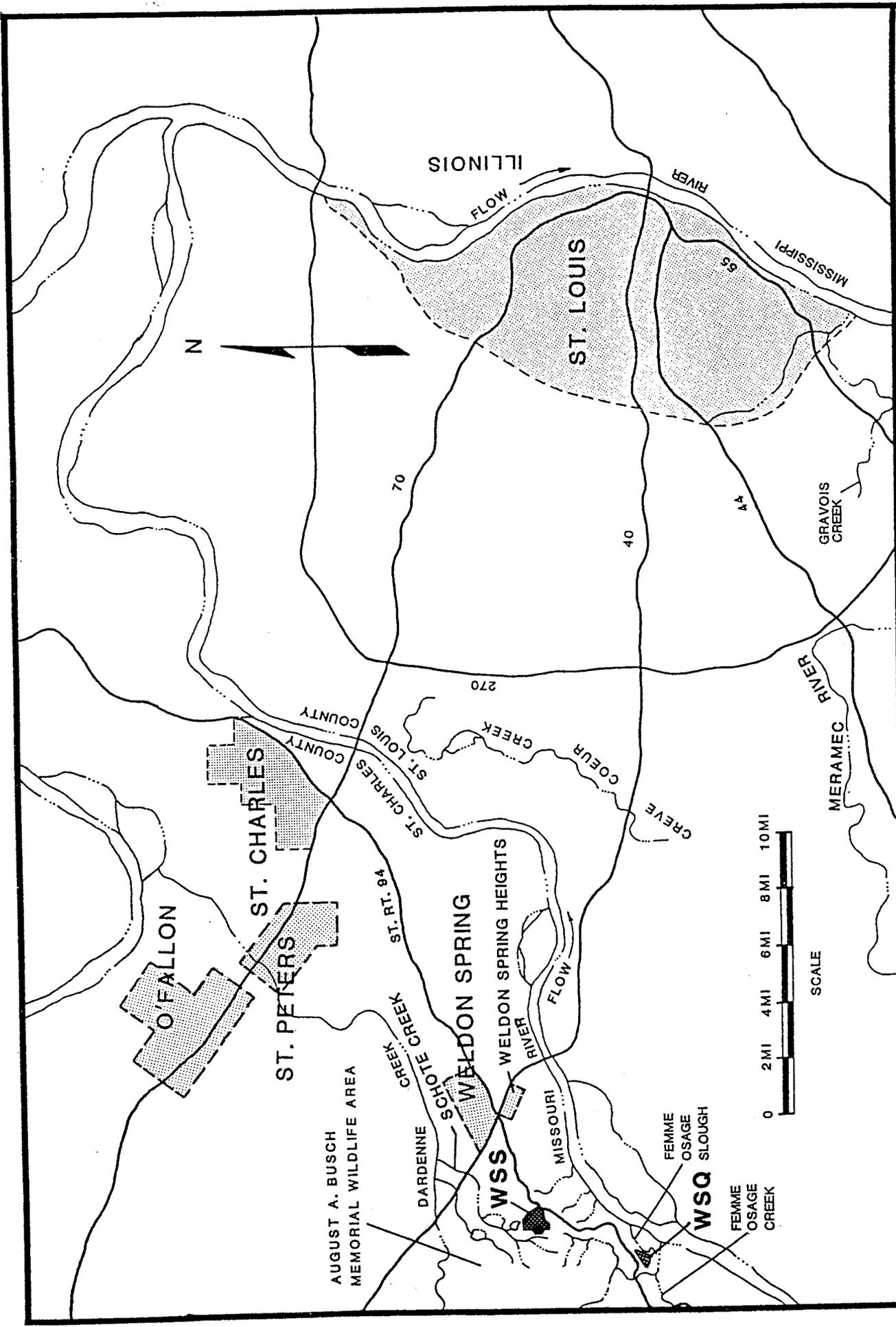
Lindenwood College
Kingshighway at First Capitol Drive
St. Charles, Missouri 63301
314-949-2000

Ramada Inn
900 Corporate Parkway
Wentzville, Missouri 63385
314-327-7001

MAP OF THE WELDON SPRING QUARRY



N



LOCATION OF THE WELDON SPRING SITE

