

Kansas City Plant



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News Releases

Bannister Federal Complex

Government agencies seek site-wide environmental program at Bannister Federal Complex

September 2, 2011 - Government agencies at the Bannister Federal Complex filed a permit modification request today with the [Missouri Department of Natural Resources \(MDNR\)](#) and the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\) Region 7](#) to consolidate efforts and address in a comprehensive manner the environmental assessment and cleanup of the Complex. The request seeks to modify the Missouri Hazardous Waste Management Facility Part I permit and Environmental Protection Agency Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments Part II Permit.

The facilities at the complex, owned by the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and the [U.S. General Services Administration \(GSA\)](#), currently operate under separate environmental programs. If approved, the NNSA and GSA would work together on environmental monitoring and cleanup.

"This expansion provides a more comprehensive, complex-wide approach to addressing environmental issues at the 300-acre Bannister Federal Complex and makes good sense from a planning perspective," said Mark Holecek, site manager for NNSA's Kansas City Site Office. "We want to move forward and get all necessary environmental work done sooner rather than later as we prepare for eventual reuse of the area owned by the NNSA. Including the entire Bannister Federal Complex under the same permit allows us to work together with GSA to manage our environmental responsibilities in a more integrated manner."

The NNSA's Kansas City Plant (KCP) is building a new facility about eight miles south of the Bannister Federal Complex. The move is expected to begin in January 2013. KCP produces non-nuclear parts for nuclear weapons; the manufacturing facility is managed and operated by Honeywell FM&T.

The proposed permit modifications are one outcome of discussions held during the past year with members of the Interagency Environmental Leadership Council (IELC). Members include local and regional leaders from five governmental entities: NNSA,

GSA, MDNR, EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers (responsible for the old landfill at the Bannister Federal Complex). The IELC was formed in 2010 to review past and current environmental actions at the Bannister Federal Complex, establish a Community Advisory Panel for public input, and pave a safe path for the reuse of the site.

"Working together as a council and seeking public input has helped all of us to better understand past, current and future environmental issues facing the entire Bannister Federal Complex," said Jason Klumb, GSA regional administrator and an IELC member.

The permit modification application requires a review of previous complex-wide environmental investigations, assessment of current environmental issues, a risk screening based on current and potential property uses and an evaluation of new opportunities for cleanup.

As an EPA-authorized program, MDNR issues permits to hazardous waste facilities under RCRA-equivalent state laws and regulations, and oversees corrective action activities at those facilities such as those proposed in the permit modification for the Bannister Federal Complex. Under this framework, EPA and MDNR have developed a Memorandum of Agreement to document the agencies' continued coordination and joint regulation of environmental issues through the Missouri Hazardous Waste Management Facility Permit.

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Currently, both the GSA and NNSA continue to implement required environmental programs at the Bannister Federal Complex. The NNSA has invested about \$70 million to date on corrective actions required under RCRA to protect human health and the environment.

Under the EPA/GSA Environmental Work Agreement, GSA has performed site investigations, removal assessment and response actions under EPA oversight for the past year. The assessments have included indoor air quality, drinking water testing and groundwater sampling.

A public information session is scheduled from 5-7 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 19 at the Evangel Church, 1414 E. 103rd Street, Kansas City, MO. This session will have information, exhibits and agency representatives available to explain the process. In addition, there will be information available about how to make written comments on this proposed permit modification during the 60-day comment period.

The NNSA plans to transition to a new facility by 2014.

Both NNSA's Holecek and GSA's Klumb agreed that this permit modification request demonstrates the federal government's continuing commitment to environmental protection at the Bannister Complex.

National Nuclear Security Administration

Established by Congress in 2000, NNSA is a semi-autonomous agency within the U.S. Department of Energy responsible for enhancing national security through the military application of nuclear science in the nation's national security enterprise. NNSA maintains and enhances the safety, security, reliability, and performance of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile without nuclear testing; reduces the global danger from weapons of mass destruction; provides the U.S. Navy with safe and effective nuclear propulsion; and responds to nuclear and radiological emergencies in the U.S. and abroad.

U.S General Services Administration

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- Effective management of government assets including more than 9,600 government-owned or leased buildings and 250,000 vehicles in the federal fleet, and preservation of historic federal properties;
- Leveraging the government's buying power through responsible acquisition of products and services making up approximately 14 percent of the government's total procurement dollars;
- Providing innovative technology solutions to enhance government efficiency and increase citizen engagement; and,
- Promoting responsible use of federal resources through development of government wide policies ranging from federal travel to property and management practices.

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