SLDA | Shallow Land Disposal Area

- Cleanup project overview and historical timeline
- Parks Township, Armstrong County, Pennsylvania
- Status through October 2026

Site at a glance

- 44-acre privately owned property near Apollo and Vandergrift
- Located along the Kiskiminetas River, approximately 23 miles northeast of Pittsburgh
- Ten disposal trenches occupy approximately 1.2 acres
- Legacy radioactive materials associated with nuclear fuel fabrication

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)


Legend
Proposed Perimeter Sampling Locations
Dry Run
Proposed Bypass Alignment
Road
PA State Hwy 66
Fencelines
Project Boundary
Treated Water Discharge Pipe
Trenches
Surface Contamination Areas
Layback
Kiskiminetas River





Origins | 1961–1970

- Nuclear Materials and Equipment Corporation (NUMEC) operated nearby nuclear materials facilities
- Production waste was buried in ten shallow trenches
- Materials include uranium, thorium, byproducts and associated production waste
- Legacy disposal predates modern remediation practices

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

Timeline | Key milestones

- 1961–1970: Radioactive waste disposed in trenches
- 2002: Federal legislation directed inclusion in FUSRAP
- 2011–2012: Selected excavated material packaged and shipped for off-site disposal
- 2017–2019: Remediation contract award, protest review and notice to proceed
- 2023–2025: Site infrastructure, planning and preparations
- April 7, 2026: Physical excavation begins

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

Federal cleanup framework

- FUSRAP: Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program
- USACE leads the federal remediation project
- NRC and other federal partners coordinate on regulatory and safety issues

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

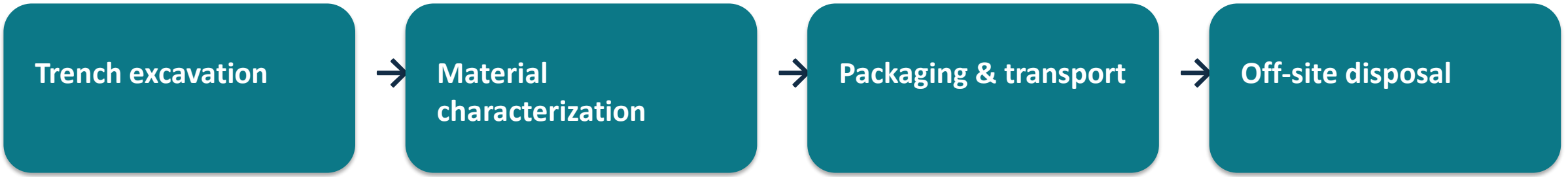
Official images and captions are available at the links below.

Site photo gallery ↗

SLDA Background Video

Photographs are linked, not embedded; links open original USACE images.

Illustrative process schematic — not a site engineering drawing



Worker safety, radiological surveys, air monitoring, and water management support each stage.

Worker and community protection

- Radiological surveys and environmental monitoring during active work
- Air monitoring, dust control and controlled material handling
- Site security, transport procedures and emergency readiness
- Public communication through USACE meetings and published data

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

April 2026 | Excavation begins

- USACE announced physical remediation began April 7, 2026
- Initial activities focused on topsoil removal at Trench 8
- Contaminated material excavation follows characterization and operational controls
- Excavation pace depends on actual conditions encountered

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

Project cost and schedule

- FY 2026 federal budget justification estimated total federal cost of $707.4 million
- FY 2026 allocation listed at $90.875 million
- FY 2026 planning called for excavation/disposal of approximately 8,300 cubic yards
- These are budget planning figures, not verified actual expenditures or completed quantities
- Completion timing remains dependent on excavation conditions

Source: USACE FY 2026 FUSRAP budget justification (May 30, 2025)

Planning estimates versus measured excavation; cubic yards (CY)

Historical lower estimate



23,500 CY — historical estimate

Historical upper estimate



36,000 CY — historical estimate

FY 2026 removal plan



8,300 CY — FY 2026 budget projection

Excavated by Aug. 31



953 CY — actual reported progress

Caution: estimates have different bases and should not be added together.

USACE progress reports — July and August 2026

July 31, 2026

728 CY excavated
131,355 gallons treated

August 31, 2026

953 CY excavated
242,000 gallons treated

Month-over-month change: +225 CY excavated and +110,645 gallons treated.
Water treated is not equivalent to radioactive waste volume.

References and source documents

- USACE SLDA project: https://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/Missions/Projects/SLDA/
- USACE excavation announcement (April 14, 2026)
- USACE FY 2026 FUSRAP budget justification
- USACE SLDA project document library and public information session slides