

## **Army agrees to pay for removal, disposal of hazardous materials**



**4/2/2004**

BOSTON -- The U.S. Army has agreed to pay for the removal and disposal of more than 3,700 barrels of depleted uranium from the Starmet facility in Concord, a Superfund site.

The settlement between the U.S. Army and the U.S. Department of Justice will result in the removal of low-level radioactive material and other hazardous materials from the facility, Commissioner Robert Golledge Jr. of the Department of Environmental Protection and Massachusetts Attorney General Tom Reilly announced Friday.

"The materials contained in these drums have long been a source of concern for the local community, so with the DEP taking the lead to make sure the drums are removed, the Environmental Protection Agency can properly assess and clean up this Superfund site," Golledge said in a statement.

The DEP will select a hazardous materials packaging and transportation contractor and the removal process is expected to begin in three to four months. The process, which will be supervised by DEP staff, could take between four and six months.

Starmet, which owns the Concord site and was formerly called Nuclear Metals Inc., manufactured depleted uranium munitions for the Army from the 1970s through 1999.

The recent settlement largely resolves issues in another lawsuit filed by Massachusetts in 2002 after Starmet filed for bankruptcy the same year. The court eventually ordered Starmet to provide security at the site when the company threatened to abandon the property.

An investigation is underway to determine the extent of contamination at the site.

© Copyright 2004 Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed.

© [Copyright](#) 2004 The New York Times Company