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**Congressman  
Lacy Clay**  
*1st District  
Missouri*

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For Immediate Release  
December 20, 2001

Contact: Melinda Roth (314) 367-1970

## **Clay Secures \$5 Million to Clean Up North St. Louis Ammunition Site**

### **Thanks fellow Missouri legislators for help in winning appropriation**

**Washington DC** - Congressman Wm. Lacy Clay (D-MO) announced that \$5 million was included in the Department of Defense appropriation passed by the House today earmarked for the clean up and disposal of toxic waste at the former Army Ammunitions Plant (SLAAP) in the City of St. Louis.

Congressman Clay, with the help of Sen. Jean Carnahan, Minority Leader Richard Gephardt and Rep. Ike Skelton, sought money to clean up the 21-acre site after the Department of the Army abandoned the facility more than five years ago.

"This is 21 acres of prime real estate that sat vacant for years despite North St. Louis' desperate need for redevelopment," Congressman Clay said. "With this appropriation, the Department of the Army has no more excuses for not cleaning up its mess."

The SLAAP facility, located near I-70 and the airport, provided 5,000 jobs to local residents until the Department of the Army decommissioned it more than five years ago. Later, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) found the site saturated with toxic waste, which meant it could not be redeveloped.

Congressman Clay repeatedly met with officials from the Department of the Army but failed to secure a timely remediation plan from them (see attached letter).

In late August, Senator Carnahan included language in the Armed Services report directing the Department of the Army to adopt and implement a disposal plan for the SLAAP site. Meanwhile in the House, Congressman Clay fought to secure funding through the Department of Defense.

"Five long years have already been wasted, and I will keep pressure on the Department of the Army to follow through with this project," Congressman Clay said.

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