

ARMY PROPOSES CHANGES TO TCAAP REMEDIES

Changes Affect Property and Groundwater Use on the Former TCAAP Property

The Army is proposing modifications to the cleanup methods used for some of the soil and groundwater contamination at various sites located on the former Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant (TCAAP). The primary change is to add “land use controls” as a measure to ensure that future use of the property is safe and consistent with the level to which the contamination was cleaned up. The Army developed the proposed modifications in coordination with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), and the TCAAP Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). The Army now seeks public comment on the proposed changes in the remedy.

In 1997, a Record of Decision (ROD) was signed by the USEPA, MPCA, and the Army that prescribed the requirements for cleanup of soil and groundwater at various sites on TCAAP. The ROD also required additional investigation of several old dumpsites, with further action to be implemented if needed. For soil contamination and the dumpsites, the cleanup levels and methods were based on industrial use of the property. The cleanup has been completed for these soil sites and dumpsites, but it has been determined that land use controls should be added to ensure the remedies are protective of human health and the environment.

For groundwater contamination, pump and treat systems are operating towards achieving the cleanup goals for three areas of contamination on-TCAAP (Site A, Site K, and deep groundwater). At a fourth location (Site I), it was discovered that the soil conditions made attempts at pumping unsuccessful, prompting the need to change the cleanup method. Land use controls are also being added for the groundwater sites to prevent human exposure to the contaminated portions of the aquifers, and to prevent use of the property that could damage the wells or treatment equipment.

Land use controls can include physical measures or more regulatory controls (institutional controls). Physical measures could include fences or signs. Institutional controls could include things like deed notices/restrictions, requiring permits/approvals for certain activities, or zoning. All of the land use controls are subject to approval by the USEPA and MPCA. Likewise, any change in land use by the Army or any

future property owner is also subject to USEPA and MPCA approval, and may require additional cleanup before the controls can be lifted.



Signs, like the one in the photograph, mark areas where land use controls are required as part of the remedy to help ensure protection of human health and the environment. A groundwater monitoring well, surrounded by protective posts, can also be seen in the photograph.

In accordance with USEPA guidance, when changes to selected remedies are relatively major (fundamental), they should be documented through an amendment to the ROD. Conversely, if the changes are relatively minor (significant), they should be documented through an Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD). The Army is proposing a combination of major and minor changes, so it plans to prepare both an Amendment and an ESD for soil, along with an Amendment and ESD for groundwater. The Army has prepared a Proposed Plan summarizing the changes to be documented in the ROD Amendments. The Proposed Plan is subject to public review and comment.

The Proposed Plan and other site-related documents are available for review at the TCAAP office: 470 West Highway 96, Suite 100, Shoreview, Minnesota 55126, between 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM Monday through Friday. More information on how the public can get involved is presented on the back of this update.

HOW CAN THE PUBLIC GET INVOLVED?

Before making a final decision, the USEPA, MPCA, and Army will consider written public comments from June 11 to July 11, 2008. Written comments may be submitted at a public meeting:

June 24, 2008 – 7:00 PM
Ramsey County Public Works Complex
(use the door marked “Ramsey County”)
1425 Paul Kirkwood Drive
Arden Hills, Minnesota 55112

Written comments may be submitted by mail, but must be post marked by XXXX, 2008 and sent to Mike Fix, Commander’s Representative, TCAAP, 470 West Highway 96, Suite 100, Shoreview, Minnesota 55126-3218.

For more information about the Site or the Proposed Plan contact:

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Mike Fix, TCAAP Commander’s Representative 651-294-4930

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

UPDATE

is an unofficial U.S. Army publication
sent to the community concerning
the Installation Restoration Program
at the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant.

Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily
those of the TCAAP, its Headquarters,
or the Department of the Army

*To Obtain Additional Information,
You May Contact:*

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