

Installation Restoration Program Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant

Update

Arden Hills, MN

July 2008

ARMY PROPOSES CLEANUP REMEDIES FOR TWO AREAS

Cleanup is Planned for Soils at Site K and Groundwater at Building 102

The Army is proposing to perform cleanup work at two sites located on the former Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant (TCAAP): Site K and Building 102 (see map below showing the locations of these two areas). The Army developed the proposed remedies 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 actions for these two sites.



Site K

Past manufacturing operations within Building 103 resulted in contamination of the soil and shallow groundwater beneath the building. The contamination consists of volatile organic compounds resulting from historical degreasing operations. The contamination was first discovered in the 1980s, and the area was designated as Site K for the purposes of the Army's Installation Restoration Program. A system was installed in 1986 to capture and treat the contaminated groundwater as it flowed from beneath the building, and this system continues to operate today. Because the building was still in use for manufacturing operations, cleanup of the soil was deferred. The building was demolished in 2006, except for the concrete floor slab.

The Army now proposes to remove a portion of the slab, excavate the contaminated soil (approximately 100 cubic yards or ten dump trucks), and haul it off-site for

disposal at a licensed landfill. The area will then be tested to verify that the soil has been remediated to cleanup levels that are compatible with the current industrial use of the property. The plan is to complete this work in Fall 2008.

Building 102

Contamination was discovered at Building 102 in 2003 during testing that was performed as part of Army plans to transfer property at TCAAP. Contamination was found in the groundwater beneath the building, but to date has not been found in the soil. Similar to Site K, the contamination consists of volatile organic compounds, likely the result of former degreasing operations conducted circa 1950 in Building 102. Further testing showed that the groundwater contamination extends from beneath the building to the north-northwest approximately 900 feet. This distance was unexpectedly short given the velocity of the groundwater and the time since the suspected release of the contamination. This finding indicated that natural processes could be degrading the contamination in the groundwater. Research studies conducted by the MPCA confirmed that this was indeed the case.

Given these findings, along with the fact that the groundwater contamination does not affect any drinking water wells or Rice Creek, the Army proposes Monitored Natural Attenuation as the remedy for the groundwater at Building 102. With this approach, there will not be any groundwater capture and above-ground treatment of the contaminated water. Instead, the cleanup will rely on the natural processes occurring underground. The Army will continue to test (monitor) the groundwater to verify that this remedy is working and remains protective of human health and the environment.

Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA)

A report called an EE/CA has been prepared for each of these sites discussing the nature and extent of contamination, along with evaluation of options for cleanup. Before making a final decision, the USEPA, MPCA, and Army will consider written public comments on the EE/CAs from July 18 to August 18, 2008. More information on how the public can get involved is presented on the back of this update.

HOW CAN THE PUBLIC GET INVOLVED?

The EE/CAs for Site K and Building 102 are available for review at the TCAAP office located at 470 West Highway 96, Suite 100, Shoreview, Minnesota 55126, between 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM Monday through Friday.

Written comments must be post marked by August 18, 2008 and sent to Mike Fix, Commander's Representative, TCAAP, 470 West Highway 96, Suite 100, Shoreview, Minnesota 55126-3218. The Army will respond to all written comments and the responses will become part of the Administrative Record that is available for public review.

For more information about Site K or Building 102 contact:

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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,
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