



# THE MEMPHIS DEPOT TENNESSEE

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## ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 1038

**Record of Environmental Consideration  
Final Transfer of Parcels  
Defense Distribution Depot Memphis Tennessee**

This Record of Consideration (REC) has been prepared pursuant to 32 CFR Part 651 (*Environmental Analysis of Army Actions*) to ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S. Code 4321, et seq.)

The pending action is the transfer of remaining parcels of Defense Distribution Depot Memphis, Tennessee (DDMT). The disposal of DDMT follows closure of the 642-acre installation as mandated by the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC Commission) pursuant to the Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-510, as amended).

The Army prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for disposal and reuse of DDMT in March 1998. Based on the EA and its evaluation of 15 resource areas, the Army determined that implementation of the proposed action would have no significant direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts on the quality of the natural or human environment. Accordingly, the Army issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) on March 13, 1998.

Transfer of the DDMT property has required cleanup of hazardous waste sites in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) (Pub. L. 96-510) and the Community Facilitation Act (CERFA) (Pub. L. 102-26, amending CERCLA Section 120[h]). To date, the Army has issued four Findings of Suitability for Transfer (FOSTs) and, pursuant thereto, has provided deeds to various parcels of DDMT (on September 18, 2001; February 6, 2002; May 6, 2002; April 4, 2005; August 18, 2006; October 12, 2006; and October 17, 2007). Section 2.3.4.1 (Disposal as a Package or in Parcels) of the March 1998 EA addressed the possibility of multiple deeds during the disposal process; that course has been taken.

The Army is now completing FOST No. 5 for 24.5 acres of Dunn Field and FOST No. 6 for 163 acres of the Main Installation. The property within FOST No. 5 would be transferred through competitive public sale as was done in a previous transfer at Dunn Field (FOST No. 4) and the property within FOST No. 6 would be transferred through an economic development conveyance to the Depot Redevelopment Corporation (DRC), the recognized local reuse authority. Following issuance of those FOSTs, the Army intends to convey those parcels by deed. Disposal of DDMT will have taken approximately 15 years from the BRAC Commission's decision to close the installation and some 12 years since issuance of the FNSI. The period of time required to fully implement the proposed action warrants consideration of whether additional NEPA documentation is appropriate.

The proposed transfers are consistent with the reasonably anticipated future reuse plans that were evaluated in the March 1998 EA. Beyond the fact that remediation work has progressed to the point that a FOST may now be issued, there have been no other significant changes to the baseline environmental conditions that were analyzed; therefore, the EA and FNSI remain valid with respect to this proposed transfer.

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The Army has considered the potential need to update its 1998 EA before effecting the final two land conveyances. The following matters are germane.

- The pending transfers are consistent with, and there has been no substantial change to, the proposed action described in detail in the March 1998 EA and FNSI.
- The March 1998 EA examined a medium-low intensity reuse and two variants of medium intensity reuse. The DRC's reuse plan, shown as an appendix in the EA, continues to focus on redeveloping DDMT property at a medium intensity reuse level predominantly for manufacturing and distribution purposes, with some portions of the installation to support community services such as training and education and a limited number of residential units. There are no significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns.
- A REC is a signed statement submitted with project documentation that briefly documents that an Army action has received environmental review. RECs are prepared for categorical exclusions (CXs) that require them, and for actions covered by existing or previous NEPA documentation. A REC briefly describes the proposed action and timeframe, identifies the proponent and approving official(s), and clearly shows how an action qualifies for a CX, or is already covered in an existing EA or EIS (32 CFR 651.19).

The March 1998 EA demonstrated, and the ensuing FNSI concluded, that disposal of DDMT would not result in any significant impacts. In light of the information above, and in particular that there has been no substantial change to the proposed action, further analytic documentation would serve no useful purpose. This REC is prepared to ensure appropriate compliance with NEPA as provided for by Army regulation at 32 CFR 651.19. Additional NEPA compliance is not necessary prior to the Army's conveyance of the final two parcels of land at DDMT.



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10 MAY 2010  
Date

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