

A11245

Public Notice and Request for Public Comment

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV United States Defense Logistics Agency at Defense Distribution Depot Memphis, Tennessee and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

Public Notice No. 1

Notice of intent to execute the Federal Facility Agreement under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended, on remediation of hazardous substance release at the U.S. Defense Logistics Agency's Defense Distribution Depot located in Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

On November 3, 1994, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) at Defense Distribution Depot Memphis, Tennessee (DDMT), and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) officially declared their intent to execute the Federal Facility Agreement for Defense Distribution Depot Memphis, Tennessee (Agreement).

DDMT consists of 642 acres of federally-owned land in the south central section of Memphis, Shelby County, Tennessee. It was placed on the National Priorities List effective November 13, 1992 (57 Federal Register 47180, October 14, 1992). DDMT is divisible into two main areas: the main installation, which is extensively developed, and Dunn Field, an open storage and burial disposal area about 60 acres in size.

DDMT warehouses and distributes an extensive inventory of supplies, including industrial chemicals, petroleum products, electronic equipment, medical supplies and food used by the U.S. Military Services and federal agencies. Due to the nature of its mission and the large supply volumes handled, some items have spilled, leaked, or disposed of within Facility boundaries in the past.

The general purposes of this Agreement are to:

1. Ensure that the environmental impacts associated with past activities at DDMT are thoroughly investigated and that appropriate response (e.g. cleanup) actions are developed and implemented as necessary to protect the public health, welfare and the environment.
2. Establish a procedural framework and schedule for developing, implementing and monitoring appropriate response actions at DDMT in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (CERCLA/SARA), the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the National Contingency Plan (NCP) and written EPA/TDEC-issued guidance and policy relevant to remediation at DDMT.

The Parties are also providing public notice of the schedules for implementation of the investigatory and remedial process for DDMT. These schedules are provided in the Site Management Plan (SMP) which is Appendix C of the Agreement.

EPA, DDMT and TDEC invite the public to comment on the draft Agreement and draft SMP during the public comment period scheduled for November 20, 1994 through January 4, 1995. Public comment procedures are discussed below. In addition, representatives of EPA, DDMT and TDEC will be available to answer questions about the draft Agreement and draft SMP on the evening of December 20, 1994, beginning at 6 p.m., at:

Dunn Road Elementary School (cafeteria)
1500 Dunn Avenue
Memphis, TN

Copies of the Agreement have been placed in the following information repositories for public review and comment:

Memphis/Shelby County
Public Library Main Branch
1850 Peabody
Memphis, TN
(901) 725-8877

Cherokee Branch
Public Library
3300 Sharpe Avenue
Memphis, TN
(901) 743-3655

Pollution Control
Memphis/Shelby County Health Department
814 Jefferson Avenue
Memphis, TN 38103

Written comments from the public on the draft Agreement and the draft SMP shall be accepted for a period of forty-five (45) calendar days from the date of this announcement, or until January 4, 1995. Comments should be mailed to the following address:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region IV
Mail Code: 4WD-FFB
Attn: DDMT Remedial Project Manager
345 Courtland St., NE
Atlanta, GA 30365

Written comments received by the date specified above will be considered by all of the Parties. Within thirty (30) calendar days of the close of the comment period, the Parties shall make all modifications to the Agreement and the SMP deemed appropriate and execute the final Agreement and the SMP. EPA shall then issue a responsiveness summary addressing all public comments in accordance with 42 U.S.C. Section 9617.