

The Memphis Depot
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Memphis, TN 38114

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION.....

The Information Repositories are at the following locations:

The Memphis Depot Business Park,
2163 Airways Blvd., Memphis, TN (901) 774-3683
The Community Outreach Room is located in Building 144.
Please call ahead for an appointment to ensure that we are
available to help you.

Memphis/Shelby County Public Library,
Cherokee Branch, 3300 Sharpe Ave.,
Memphis, TN (901) 743-3655
The Cherokee Branch is open Monday to Thursday
from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to
6 p.m. Closed on Friday & Sunday.

HOW TO REACH US....

If you have any questions or comments about the Depot's environmental cleanup program,
please feel free to contact any one of the following:

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EnviroNews is published by the Memphis Depot to
update the public on the environmental cleanup
program. If you have comments, questions, or
suggestions for future articles, please call
Ms. Alma Black Moore at (901) 774-3683

Visit the Depot's website at www.ddc.dla.mil/memphis



Winter 2005
EnviroNews



Dunn Field Progress Report
Investigation provides more information for cleanup

Another important environmental investigation will be completed this year as part of the Remedial Design (RD) phase of the cleanup program at Dunn Field.

During October and November, environmental contractors collected additional data needed to understand the full extent of impacts to soil and groundwater at Dunn Field and in the surrounding community.

The new information, combined with information from previous investigations, will be used to design the approved Dunn Field cleanup remedy, which includes four components:

1. Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) to treat soils on Dunn Field;
2. Zero-Valent Iron (ZVI) injected into the groundwater where high concentrations of compounds are present;
3. ZVI in the ground as a Permeable Reactive Barrier (PRB) to treat affected groundwater off-site, and
4. Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA) to naturally restore lower-concentration areas to safe levels over time.

Using state-of-the-art technology called a Membrane Interface Probe (MIP), environmental contractors took samples at more than 220 sampling points in a 40 x 40 foot grid pattern overlaying the Dunn Field Source Areas. The MIP used a sensor to analyze the chlorinated volatile organic compounds (CVOCs) in the top layer of soil (loess) that extends from the ground surface to a depth of about 30 feet.

The MIP data was confirmed by direct sampling of soil at some of the same sampling points, and all of the results were used to design the SVE system that will effectively treat soil conditions in the Source Areas.

In addition to the MIP study, eight groundwater-monitoring wells have been installed on Dunn Field. The data gathered from these wells will help the cleanup team to better define the ZVI treatment area and provide long-term monitoring points to ensure the remedy meets cleanup objectives.

To effectively design and monitor the PRB, another five wells and six soil borings are being installed at the following locations in the community:

- One well and six soil borings on vacant property on the west side of Rozelle Street;
- Two wells along the railway tracks west of Dunn Field; and
- Two wells on Memphis Light Gas & Water (MLGW) property on the north side of Person Street east of Ragan Street.

The Remedial Design Investigation Work Plan was reviewed and approved by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). It is available for public reference in the Depot's Information Repositories located at the Memphis Depot Business Park and the Cherokee Branch Library.

The Dunn Field Source Areas RD is scheduled to be completed in late 2006, with a public briefing expected in 2007. The Off-Depot Groundwater RD is scheduled for completion in 2007, and will include another public briefing.



Season's Greetings!

The Memphis Depot environmental team would like to wish all of our EnviroNews readers, community members, neighbors, Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) members, staff, and contractors a very happy and safe holiday season!

Please watch the Tri-State Defender and Silver Star News for more information about public meetings and activities coming up in 2006.

More information about these meetings will be posted on the Depot's website at www.ddc.dla.mil/memphis, and in future issues of EnviroNews. Advertisements will also appear in local newspapers.

For more information on the Remedial Design Investigation, contact the Community Relations Office at (901) 774-3683. □

A membrane interface probe (MIP) rig, located on the north end of Dunn Field, collects soil vapor data from the loess deposits (clay and silt layer) to depths of 30 feet.

Cleanup continues at Dunn Field

The removal of buried waste and affected soil at Disposal Sites 3 and 10 on Dunn Field will be completed in Winter 2006.

In March, environmental contractors at the former Memphis Depot began implementing the approved cleanup remedy, as outlined in the Dunn Field Record of Decision (ROD). The remedy includes excavation, transportation and disposal (ET&D) at select disposal sites on Dunn Field. The final Disposal Sites Remedial Design, including the pre-design investigation results, was distributed to the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) in June 2004.

Work will resume at these sites following a delay that was required after the discovery of several sealed bottles containing liquids at Disposal Site 3.

Disposal Site 3 Update:

During the site excavation, environmental contractors found numerous glass bottles, which had been noted in the Depot's historical records. Since the contents of the bottles were not fully known, environmental contractors stopped excavation until the liquid could be characterized.

Test results confirmed the liquid was acidified water with low concentrations of ortho-toluidine, a compound commonly used to detect the presence of chlorine in water.

Disposal Site 10 Update:

When soil samples indicated that the cleanup goals had not been met at one end of the excavation, environmental contractors dug an exploratory trench and visually identified the remnants of burn pit material. These materials extended beyond the excavation area in the Disposal Sites Remedial Design. The environmental contractors performed additional excavation at the site, but more is needed to achieve the remedial goals.

Remediation Health and Safety:

During ET&D activities, the environmental contractors follow a Site Safety and Health Plan (SSHP) to protect workers. The plan includes air monitoring, dust control measures,

equipment cleaning, and personal protective equipment for workers.

For remediation efforts associated with the glass containers at Disposal Site 3, site workers will be equipped with personal protective equipment (PPE) consisting of respirators and dermal protection in conjunction with hard hats, steel-toed boots and safety glasses. The site workers will also monitor the work zone using vapor, particulate and compound specific detectors. Action levels have been established for these detectors and work will be immediately stopped if the action levels are reached. After the glass bottles are removed, containerized and secured, site workers will continue work activities using PPE consisting of hard hats, safety glasses and steel-toed boots.

Waste Handling:

The excavated soil will be sampled to ensure waste is taken to the appropriate facility for treatment and/or disposal. Non-hazardous waste will be transported to the Browning Ferris Industries (BFI) South Shelby Landfill. Soil and debris that is classified as hazardous waste will be transported to an out-of-state treatment facility for incineration.

Reporting:

The environmental contractors will prepare a Remedial Action Completion Report (RACR) after the sites have been excavated and all cleanup goals have been met. The report will be reviewed and must be approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). The approved final RACR will be placed in the Depot's Information Repositories.

The Dunn Field ROD and the Dunn Field Disposal Sites Remedial Design and Remedial Action Work Plan are available for reference in the Depot's Information Repositories, located at the Memphis Depot Business Park and the Cherokee Library. □

Contractors install a monitoring well on Dunn Field near the Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) and Zero Valent Iron (ZVI) Treatability Study area.

EPA sets the record straight

The Memphis Depot environmental restoration program continues to make significant progress toward its cleanup goals. So, it was a surprise to the environmental team when the Depot appeared on an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) list of federal properties that identified sites where groundwater migration of contaminants are not fully under control.

Turpin Ballard, EPA Program Manager for the Depot cleanup, said the Depot was placed on the list in error, as a result of out-dated information in the EPA database that was used in the report.

The EPA maintains a site-status database with information about cleanup programs across the country. The Government Accountability Office (GAO), Congress's investigative arm, published a report in May 2005 that identified the Memphis Depot as having environmental conditions affecting human exposure that were not yet under control. The Depot's environmental team became aware of the error when the story appeared in the media last May. On behalf of EPA, Mr. Ballard extended an apology to the community for this administrative oversight, which has now been corrected to reflect true conditions at the Depot.

"The site status information used to compile that list no longer reflects conditions at the Memphis Depot as a result of the cleanup actions being taken here," Mr. Ballard told the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) in May. "This information has now been updated and the database indicates that there is no uncontrolled exposure at the Depot."

The Memphis Depot has completed several cleanup actions to reduce risks to human health and the environment, including the construction of the Dunn Field groundwater pump and discharge system as well as several soil removals on the Main Installation and Dunn Field. Information on these activities can be found in past issues of EnviroNews, and in the Depot's Information Repositories. □

Cleanup program on track

The environmental cleanup program at the former Memphis Depot is now in the final stages of the eight-stage process outlined in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA).

The Main Installation Remedial Action (RA) Work Plan has been completed, with field work scheduled to begin in Spring 2006. The Remedial Design (RD) Investigation has begun at Dunn Field, and the Dunn Field Source Areas and Off-Depot Groundwater Remedial Designs are underway.

The environmental cleanup team has set the following schedule for these important program milestones:

Winter 2005 - Spring 2006

- Complete Dunn Field Disposal Sites RA
- Begin Main Installation RA - Enhanced Bioremediation

2006

- Complete Source Areas RD - Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) and Zero-Valent Iron (ZVI) injection
- Submit Disposal Sites RA Completion Report

2007

- Conduct Source Areas RD Public Briefing
- Begin Source Areas RA
- Complete Off-Depot Groundwater RD - Permeable Reactive Barrier (PRB) and Monitored Natural Attenuation
- Conduct Off-Depot Groundwater RD Public Briefing
- Begin Off-Depot Groundwater RA

2008

- Receive Operating Properly and Successfully (OPS) determination from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the Main Installation RA
- Conduct a Public Comment Period for the Finding of Suitability to Transfer (FOST) # 5 (remainder of MI)

2009

- Receive EPA approval of Preliminary Closeout Report

2010

- Receive OPS determination for the Source Areas and Off-Depot Groundwater RAs
- Conduct a Public Comment Period for FOST #6 (remainder of Dunn Field)

These dates are based on current information and are subject to change. The Depot's environmental team will keep the community informed of the progress on the cleanup program through our regular community outreach activities such as public briefings, community information sessions, Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings, media releases, fact sheets and future issues of EnviroNews.

For more information, please contact the Community Relations Office at (901) 774-3683. □

What's New at your local Information Repository?

Need to check a document or find more information on the environmental cleanup program at the Memphis Depot? You'll find technical documents, meeting minutes, historical files and other data at our public Information Repositories, located in the Depot community.

Memphis/Shelby County Public Library - Cherokee Branch
3300 Sharpe Ave.

Mon. to Thurs. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Closed Friday and Sunday.

The Memphis Depot Community Reading Room
2163 Airways Blvd., Building 144

Please call ahead for an appointment: 774-3683

New Documents

The following documents have been added to the Information Repositories:

- **Main Installation, Finding of Suitability to Transfer 3**, June 2004, Rev. 4, CH2M Hill/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers;
- **Dunn Field, Finding of Suitability to Transfer 4**, February 2005, Rev. 2, MACTEC Engineering and Consulting, Inc./Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence;
- **Dunn Field Remedial Design Investigation Work Plan**, September 2005, Rev.1, CH2M Hill/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers;
- **Early Implementation of Selected Remedy, Interim Remedial Action Completion Report**, Rev. 1, September 2005, MACTEC Engineering and Consulting, Inc./Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence.
- **Main Installation Remedial Action Work Plan**, Rev. 1, July 2005, MACTEC Engineering and Consulting, Inc./Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence (AFCEE)

Environmental Justice Report Now Available Online

The Memphis Depot is one of five federal facilities that served as case studies in a report by the Federal Facilities Working Group of the National Environmental Justice Action Council (NEJAC). As a result of the study, the NEJAC made a series of recommendations to improve community involvement at federal sites, and specific recommendations regarding the case study facilities. The NEJAC report and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) responses to the recommendations can be viewed at the Depot reading room, or can be accessed online at www.epa.gov/region4/waste/fedfac/ffbnnejac.htm. □

