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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ® Huntsville Center

FACT SHEET

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Environmental Engineering

Huntsville Center has a large group of environmental, chemical, and mechanical engineers dedicated to environmental restoration and pollution abatement technology the world over. These highly trained personnel contribute to environmental policy development at the highest levels of Department of Defense (DOD), and support several programs designed to restore the environment at active Defense sites and at sites formerly owned by DOD.

Defense Environmental Restoration Program

Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) is a congressionally directed program (Public Law 99-190 and 99-199). The program has several goals:

- Identify, investigate and clean up contamination from hazardous substances and wastes;

- Correct other environmental damage (including the detection and disposal of unexploded ordnance) that creates an imminent and substantial danger to the public health or welfare, or to the environment;

- Demolish and remove unsafe building structures.

Formerly Used Defense Sites

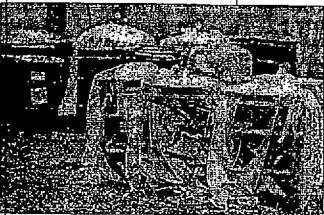
As part of DERP, Huntsville Center maintains the inventory data base of all sites formerly used by the Department of Defense. Currently, more than 7,000 sites are on the list.

The inventory phase of DERP includes identification and investigation of the site and determination of eligibility for environmental restoration under DERP.

Huntsville Center is responsible for ordnance engineering on both formerly used Defense sites and on active Defense sites. As the Corps of Engineers' Mandatory Center of Expertise for Ordnance and Engineering, Huntsville Center works to reduce risks to the general public on formerly used Defense sites.

About 950 sites may have ordnance contamination. These include former target ranges, artillery impact

areas, ammo storage areas and ammo manufacturing plants. The Center's design engineers work closely with the military's explosive ordnance disposal—or EOD—units to address hazardous ordnance problems at these sites.



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Active Defense Sites

Also under DERP, Huntsville Center manages environmental engineering programs for the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) and the Army Materiel Command (AMC).

DLA. Since 1985, the Center has been working closely with DLA as the Corps of Engineers' single point of contact for groundwater quality, contamination assessment, environmental audits and remedial design for hazardous waste remediation efforts at Defense depots, fuel supply points and stockpile centers.

AMC. In 1981, AMC requested Huntsville Center to support its environmental studies program. The Center provides contract management and technical support for environmental studies that may be assigned to the Center. These include:

Preparing Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Part B permits;

Designing hazardous waste facility closures;

Preparing groundwater quality assessments and remedial actions at installations where confirmed contamination exists;

- Hazardous Waste Minimization studies;
- Solid waste management units;
- Lagoon closures;
- Open burning/open detonation area permitting;

Explosive waste incinerator and DEAC furnace RCRA permit;

Hazardous and toxic waste drums.

Environmental Policy Development

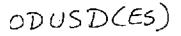
In another environmental program, Huntsville Center helps the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Environmental Security (ODUSD(E)) develop environmental policy. This partnership began in 1984, when ODUSD(E) sought Huntsville Center's support with a study of waste reduction at DOD facilities.

Support to the Under Secretary includes:

Maintenance and operation of the DERP Management information System;

 Preparation of the DERP Annual Report to Congress;
Development and refinement of the Defense Priority Model;

Various delivery orders for technical policy support.





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