



THE MEMPHIS DEPOT TENNESSEE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 31, 2000Jackie Noble
Command Affairs Officer

Public Invited to Comment on Proposed Cleanup Alternatives at the Memphis Depot

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE – For a 30-day period beginning August 14, the Memphis Depot Caretaker Division invites the public to comment on a Proposed Plan outlining the preferred cleanup alternatives for soil and groundwater at the Main Installation of the former Memphis Depot. Comments can be submitted in writing, by phone, or in person at the public comment meeting scheduled for August 24.

“The cleanup alternatives recommended in this plan are based on several years of detailed investigation and review by the state and federal environmental agencies,” said Shawn Phillips, the Depot Environmental Coordinator and member of the Base Realignment and Closure Cleanup Team (BCT). “This is an opportunity for members of the community to review those recommendations and provide feedback on the cleanup actions proposed for the site.”

The Proposed Plan presents preferred cleanup alternatives for soil at the Main Installation and for groundwater in the shallow water-bearing layer (fluvial aquifer) under the site. The alternatives recommended in the plan will ensure that the environmental conditions meet or exceed industrial standards for future use. According to the *Memphis Depot Redevelopment Plan*, most of the property will continue to be used as an industrial facility. Two exceptions to this are the Housing and Recreational Areas, which currently meet standards for these future uses.

The preferred cleanup alternative for soil involves excavating small areas of affected soil and using institutional controls, such as restricting residential construction, allowing only industrial activities across most of the Main Installation, and allowing only recreational use of the Golf Course and Southeast Recreational Area. In addition, excavated soil will be removed to a permitted landfill and replaced with clean soil.

The preferred cleanup alternative for groundwater involves a process of “enhanced bioremediation” in which nutrients are added to enhance the natural breakdown of compounds found in the groundwater. Groundwater will continue to be monitored over time, until the water is cleaned to acceptable levels.

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The Proposed Plan summarizes information that can be found in greater detail in the Main Installation Remedial Investigation (RI), the Soils and Groundwater Feasibility Study (FS), and other documents related to this environmental restoration project. All documents are available for public review at four Information Repositories, located at the Memphis Depot, Cherokee Branch Library, Memphis/Shelby County Health Department, and the Hillview Neighborhood Network Center.

During the 30-day public comment period from August 14 until September 14, citizens are invited to respond in writing to Mr. Shawn Phillips, BRAC Environmental Coordinator, Memphis Depot Caretaker Division, 2163 Airways Blvd, Bldg 144, Memphis, TN 38114-5210. Verbal comments can also be made on the Depot's Environmental Information Line at (901) 544-0618.

The formal presentation and public comment meeting will be held at the "J" Street Café at the Main Installation from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. on August 24. Prior to the meeting, an availability session will begin at 5:00 p.m. to allow the public to speak with representatives from the agencies involved in developing the plan.

The Proposed Plan is issued by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). Based on new information or public comments, DLA may modify the Preferred Alternative in consultation with EPA and TDEC, or select another response action presented in the Proposed Plan. Public comments will not be responded to during the public comment meeting. Written responses will be compiled and made available to the public at the Information Repositories following the public comment period.

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FINAL PAGE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

FINAL PAGE