



# THE MEMPHIS DEPOT TENNESSEE

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## ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 633

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4**

ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET, SW  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-3104



SEP 06 2001

4WD-FFB

Mr. Jeff McCauslin  
Deputy Director of Installations  
Defense Distribution Center  
2001 Mission Drive, Suite 100  
New Cumberland, Pennsylvania 17070-5000

Re: Letter of Appreciation, Record of Decision for the Main Installation at Defense Depot,  
Memphis Tennessee

Dear Mr. McCauslin:

Today, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 4, signed the final Record of Decision (ROD) for the Main Installation at the Defense Depot, Memphis Tennessee (DDMT). This decision document represents a major milestone toward achieving our ultimate objectives of completing the cleanup at the Memphis Depot, deleting the site from the National Priorities List (NPL), and transferring the property under the Base Re-alignment and Closure (BRAC) process so that it can be returned to productive use as an asset to the Depot community and Memphis/Shelby County.

I want to particularly express my appreciation to the Depot BRAC Team, including the representatives from Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), EPA, and all the support staff and contract personnel who collaborated in this effort. Although formal "teaming" has not been implemented at Tennessee Federal Facility sites, the Depot group followed one of the most fundamental principles of teamwork: they established close working relationships based on trust and respect. The openness of the team members promotes personal and professional trust on all sides. In addition, it encourages the regulators to bring to the table all available avenues at their disposal to expedite the cleanup process while still meeting their statutory mandates to protect human health and the environment. This has allowed the Depot Team to hold up under some pretty rough going at times, both through internal difficulties and disagreements, and under significant external pressures. Without such a foundation of trust, no team can be fully effective.

The professionalism and work ethic of the Memphis Depot Caretaker Staff is to be commended and emulated. They have represented the interests of DLA well, while at the same

time extending to the regulators both full cooperation and exceptional professional courtesy. As a regulator, these qualities are very refreshing for me to see

I congratulate DLA, the BCT, and the contractors for the quality of this decision document. It scrupulously follows the new EPA ROD guidance, and provides a clear and readable explanation of the process by which we reached the decision. Considering the high level of interest and concern expressed over the years by numerous community members, DLA will be well-served by this level of effort. I look forward to a smooth transition into remedial action at the Main Installation, and to an equally laudable effort with the operable unit at Dunn Field.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jon D. Johnston". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jon D. Johnston, Chief  
Federal Facilities Branch

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