

ADEM



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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May 17, 2005

Mr. Ronald M. Levy
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
Environmental Office, 291 Jimmy Parks Blvd.
US Army Garrison
Fort McClellan, Alabama 36205

RE: ADEM Review and Notice of Concurrence: Draft - Final Site Investigation (SI)
Report for the Former Rifle/Machine Gun Ranges, Parcels 100Q and 101Q, dated
October 2003.
Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama
Facility ID No. AL4 210 020 562
DSMOA Fund Code: 2535-223-0445

Dear Mr. Levy:

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM or the Department) has reviewed Fort McClellan's submittal of the subject *Site Investigation (SI) Report for the Former Rifle/Machine Gun Ranges*.

Parcels 100Q and 101Q collectively occupy 3,804 acres in the north-central area of Fort McClellan. ADEM understands that the Former Rifle/Machine Gun Ranges are two of seven known former rifle/machine gun ranges that have been identified by the Base Transition Force at the Main Post. In the submittal, Fort McClellan noted that the dates of operation and the types of ordnance fired at these ranges are unknown. Fort McClellan completed the SI effort to determine if chemical constituents resulting from past training activities are present and to determine whether or not an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment exists.

Fort McClellan's SI included 21 surface soil samples, 21 subsurface soil samples, 5 groundwater samples, and three surface water/sediment samples to provide characterization information. Under this SI effort, Fort McClellan also installed three permanent groundwater monitoring wells.

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Four metals and arsenic were identified as chemicals of potential concern (COPCs) in soil (aluminum, arsenic, iron, lead, and manganese). These contaminants were found at concentrations exceeding human health site specific screening levels (SSSLs) for residential land reuse, ecological screening values (ESVs), and established backgrounds values. One volatile organic compound (VOC) (1, 1, 2, 2-tetrachloroethane) detected at 0.012mg/L exceeded its SSSL (0.0002 mg/L) and was identified as a COPC in site groundwater. The monitoring well was resampled two additional times and the contaminant was reportedly not detected in the subsequent samples. Fort McClellan also identified twelve chemicals of ecological concern (COPECs) in surface water and two constituents (copper and lead) in sediment.

The SI Report also investigated the possibility that the aforementioned arsenic and metal COPCs and COPECs may be naturally occurring. For this investigation Fort McClellan compared its findings to site background levels using statistical and geochemical methods. Fort McClellan determined that the constituents were all naturally occurring except for the presence of lead in four surface samples and two sediment samples. The elevated lead concentrations ranged from 192 to 404 mg/kg; with the highest concentration only slightly above the residential Preliminary Remediation Goal (PRG) of 400 mg/kg. Fort McClellan found that the elevated lead concentrations occurred infrequently and determined them to be isolated "hot spots".

ADEM understands that the Former Rifle/Machine Gun Ranges is projected for industrial reuse. However, Fort McClellan has proposed a "No Further Action" recommendation with unrestricted land reuse for the area. ADEM concurs with Fort McClellan's recommendation of No Further Action and unrestricted land reuse with regard to CERCLA-related hazardous substances at Parcels 100Q and 101Q.

The Department understands that the subject Former Rifle/Machine Gun Range are located within the Alpha area of Fort McClellan. As a result, Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) issues remain unresolved at this time at the Former Rifle/Machine Gun Range. Further investigation is warranted to assess and remediate potential UXO issues at this site.

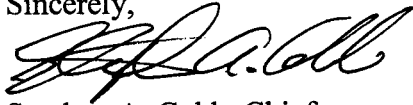
If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter please contact Ms. Shana Decker at (334)270-5646 or via e-mail at sdecker@adem.state.al.us.

Mr. Ronald M. Levy

May 17, 2005

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Sincerely,



Stephen A. Cobb, Chief
Governmental Hazardous Waste Branch
Land Division

SAC/SMD/mal

cc: Mr. Doyle Brittain/EPA Region 4
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Mr. Jim Grassiano/ADEM
Mr. Scott Weber/Army Environmental Center
Ms. Deirdra Hahn/ADEM
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Ms. Miki Schneider/JPA

File: Land Division/Hazardous Waste/Fort McClellan/Correspondence/2005