

## ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

POST OFFICE BOX 301463 36130-1463 • 1400 COLISEUM BLVD. 36110-2059

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

WWW.ADEM.STATE.AL.US

(334) 271-7700

JAMES W. WARR

DIRECTOR

November 28, 2001

DON SIEGELMAN

GOVERNOR

Facsimiles: (334)

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

**RE: ADEM Review and Concurrence: Final Site Investigation Report and Decision Document for the Hand Grenade Range, Range 32, Parcel 90Q-X, dated August 2001, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama**  
Facility I.D. No. AL4 210 020 562

Dear Mr. Levy:

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM or the Department) has reviewed the *Final Site Investigation Report and the Decision Document for the Hand Grenade Range, Range 32, Parcel 90Q-X*, both dated August 2001.

The subject documents were discussed during the Base Realignment and Closure Team (BCT) review meeting on August 21, 2001. During the BCT review meeting, the Department provided its comments on both documents in an interactive manner such that the Army and BCT stakeholders could jointly resolve the Department's comments. The Department's comments are noted in the documented minutes of this meeting. Range 32 is the Hand Grenade Range and was designated as Parcel 90Q-X. The site was classified as a Category 1 Parcel in the (Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. (ESE), January 1998), **[Final Environmental Baseline Survey]**, prepared for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. Category 1 parcels are areas where no storage, release, or disposal of hazardous substances or petroleum products has occurred. The parcel, however, was qualified with an "X" designation because of the potential for the presence of unexploded ordnance (UXO).

An overview of the discussion that took place during the August BCT meeting is presented below. The following is a paraphrased narrative of the meeting minutes issued by IT Corporation on August 21, 2001:

**Hand Grenade Range (Range 32): Parcel 90Q-X** - *The potential threat to human receptors at this site is expected to be low. Although the future of the site is projected to be passive recreational, the analytical data were screened against residential human health site-specific screening levels (SSSLs) to evaluate the site for potential unrestricted land reuse. Aluminum was detected in one groundwater sample (HR-90Q-MW04) at 12.5 mg/L, exceeding the SSSL of 1.56 mg/L and was slightly above the range of background (established as 9.6 mg/L). Because aluminum is prevalent at all sites and commonly exceeds the range of background, the concentration of aluminum at this site is believed to be of no cause for concern. All other metals concentrations that exceeded human health SSSLs in site media were below their respective*

Birmingham Branch  
110 Vulcan Road  
Birmingham, Alabama 35209-4702  
(205) 942-6168  
(205) 941-1603 [Fax]

Decatur Branch  
2715 Sandlin Road, S.W.  
Decatur, Alabama 35603-1333  
(256) 353-1713  
(256) 340-9359 [Fax]

Mobile Branch  
2204 Perimeter Road  
Mobile, Alabama 36615-1131  
(251) 450-3400  
(251) 479-2593 [Fax]

Mobile - Coastal  
4171 Commanders Drive  
Mobile, Alabama 36615-1421  
(251) 432-6533  
(251) 432-6598 [Fax]



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*background concentrations or also were within their range of background values (Science Application International Corporation (SAIC), July 1998, **Final Background Metals Survey Report, Fort McClellan, Alabama**).*

*The SSSL (0.0000936 mg/L) for the explosive compound 4-amino-2,6-dinitrotoluene was exceeded (0.00021 mg/L) in one groundwater sample from the five monitoring well sampling locations. The compound was not detected in any of the other samples collected at the site, but even this one elevated result indicates this parameter is generally within the range of the conservatively established SSSL. Currently, there is no established EPA drinking water standard or health advisory value for 4-amino-2,6-dinitrotoluene. However, the estimated hazard index (HI = 0.22) derived from comparing the SSSL to the single elevated sample result is less than the threshold limit of 1, suggesting that adverse health effects are unlikely. Based on the low concentration and limited spatial distribution in groundwater at the site, 4-amino-2,6-dinitrotoluene is not expected to pose an unacceptable risk to human health.*

*Ten metals (aluminum, barium, beryllium, chromium, iron, manganese, selenium, thallium, vanadium, and zinc) were detected in site media at concentrations exceeding both ecological screening values (ESVs) and their established respective background concentrations. However, with the exception of beryllium at two sample locations and zinc at one sample location, the concentrations were found to be within the range of background values. Beryllium (ESV of 1.1 milligrams per kilogram [mg/kg]) was detected at concentrations of 1.2 and 1.55mg/kg in surface sample locations HR-90Q-DEP01 and HR-90Q-DEP04, respectively. The concentrations of beryllium barely exceed the ESV. Zinc (ESV of 50 mg/kg) was detected at a concentration of 220 mg/kg in one surface soil sample (HR-90Q-MW05). The maximum established background level for zinc was 209 mg/kg. Thus the concentration of zinc slightly exceeded the range of background but is within the same order of magnitude. The site is located within a wooded area of the Main Post and is expected to support a viable and diverse ecological habitat. However, based on the low levels of metals detected, the potential risk to ecological receptors is expected to be low (IT Corporation (IT), March 2000, **Final Human Health and Ecological Screening Values and PAH Background Summary Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama**).*

As discussed in the meeting and as presented in the Final Site Investigation Report and accompanying Decision Document, with the exception of potential UXO items, it appears that this parcel does not pose a substantial risk to potential human and ecological receptors. The Department understands that this Decision Document is an Army-lead document under the signatory approval of the Army. However, the Department concurs with the BCT's recommendation that this site warrants no further action and an unrestricted use designation with regard to hazardous, toxic, and radiological waste (HTRW). UXO may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army. As such, this concurrence letter does not apply to UXO issues that may pertain to this site.

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For any questions or concerns regarding this matter please contact Mr. Philip Stroud at 334-270-5646 or via email at [pns@adem.state.al.us](mailto:pns@adem.state.al.us).

Sincerely,



Stephen A. Cobb, Chief  
Hazardous Waste Branch  
Land Division

SAC/ps

cc: Mr. Doyle Brittain/EPA Region 4  
Mr. Ellis Pope/USA COE, Mobile District  
Mr. Jim Grassiano/ADEM  
Mr. Mark Harrison/ADEM

File: ADEM Land Division/Hazardous Waste Branch/Fort McClellan, Correspondence, 2001



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4

ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

October 16, 2001

EMAIL & US MAIL

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Mr. Ron Levy  
BRAC Environmental Coordinator  
U.S. Army Garrison  
Environmental Office  
Building 215, 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Fort McClellan, AL 36205-5000

SUBJ: 1) Final SI Report for the Hand Grenade Range, Range 22, Parcel 90Q-X, &  
2) Final DD for the Hand Grenade Range, Range 22, Parcel 90Q-X  
Fort McClellan

Dear Mr. Levy:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the subject document. As agreed upon in the August 21-22, 2001, Project Team Meeting, EPA approves the subject document. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please call me at (404) 562-8549.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doyle T. Brittain".

Doyle T. Brittain  
Senior Remedial Project Manager

cc: Lisa Kingsbury, Ft. McClellan  
Ellis Pope, USA/COE  
Phil Stroud, ADEM  
Jeanne Yacoub, IT  
Daniel Copeland, CEHNC-OE-DC  
Maj. Wayne Sartwell, ALANG  
Maj. Bernie Case, ALANG