



Environmental Cleanup Program

FACT SHEET I

Fort McClellan, Alabama

June 1999



UST regulations

Congress in 1984 added Subtitle I to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act to address the problem of leaking underground storage tanks (USTs). Subtitle I requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop regulations to protect human health and the environment from contamination from leaking USTs. The EPA regulates this program under Title 40 CFR Part 280.

The EPA allows states to manage underground storage tank programs. In Alabama, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) regulates a UST program as stringent as the federal program under ADEM Administrative Code 335-6-15.

Abbreviations used in this fact sheet

ADEM

Alabama Department of Environmental Management

EPA

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

UST

underground storage tank

Fact sheets are published as needed to inform community members about the cleanup and closure of Fort McClellan, Alabama. Cleanup of sites throughout the post are being conducted under the regulatory process called the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (also known as Superfund). In September 1999 the current mission of Fort McClellan ends with the post being closed under Public Law 101-510, Base Realignment and Closure Act.

Underground storage tanks at Fort McClellan

The Army established a tank management program at Fort McClellan in the early 1980s under the guidance of Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) regulations. *(For more information about the regulations governing underground storage tanks, see the sidebar at left.)*

Prior to 1990, underground storage tanks (USTs) were replaced as needed. Tanks were emptied and removed when leaks were found or a facility was demolished. Beginning in 1990, however, a series of screenings, tank tightness checks and upgrades began on all USTs on post.

Between 1991 and 1996 under Fort McClellan's tank management program, many tanks were removed, closed in place and/or replaced. Initial and followup investigations were conducted to determine the condition of tanks and surrounding soils and groundwater, if applicable.

In September 1999 the Army will begin turning over much of Fort McClellan to other government agencies and to the community. To prepare Fort McClellan property for transfer under the closure program enacted by the Base Realignment and Closure Act, several steps



During an extensive and ongoing UST replacement program at Fort McClellan, an outdated steel tank was replaced with this double-wall, fiberglass fuel storage tank. The new 20,000-gallon capacity tank supports a major boiler plant on post and meets all regulator requirements under law.

have been taken.

All records of past tank investigations and closures have been reviewed to assure that previous UST activities meet current ADEM tank closure guidelines. The records search indicates that:

- A total of 157 old and current USTs at 79 parcel locations have been documented at Fort McClellan.
- 55 of these USTs at 33 parcel locations are currently used. The remaining 102 tanks have either been removed, closed in place and/or replaced.
- Contents of the tanks

include heating oil, waste oil, gasoline, diesel and fuel oil. Site investigations, including soil and/or groundwater sampling, are planned or currently being conducted at all UST areas to determine environmental conditions before the property is transferred.

Suitable cleanup actions will be performed for UST sites where releases from tanks have occurred.

USTs that are in operation at the time of base closure will be transferred with the property "as is" through the local redevelopment authority, called the Joint Powers Authority. ●

Underground storage tank program on target for closure



An on-going tank management program at Fort McClellan will help assure a smooth and timely transfer of post property to the community and other government agencies. More details about this program appear on the reverse side of this fact sheet.

Public participation program

Opportunities to participate in the environmental program at Fort McClellan are available throughout the cleanup and closure process. As actions are planned, they will be announced in local newspapers and other media. Public meetings about scheduled activities will be held, and RAB meetings are always open to the public. Newsletters and fact sheets like this one will be produced three times a year and also are available for review on the Internet web site:

www.mcclellan.army.mil/doe. If you are not currently on a mailing list to receive information like this fact sheet, contact either individual listed below to be added to the list.

Contacts

Ron Levy

Fort McClellan BRAC Environmental Coordinator

Phone: (256) 848-3539/3758

E-mail: LevyR@mcclellan-emh2.army.mil

Lisa Kingsbury

Fort McClellan BRAC Project Manager

Phone: (256) 848-7455

E-mail: KingsburyL@mcclellan-emh2.army.mil

Directorate of Environment
Building 141A, 13th Avenue
Fort McClellan, AL 36205



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