

DECISION DOCUMENT

1. PURPOSE OF REMEDIAL ACTION

This decision document describes the remedial alternative for the M-16 (Former Pesticide Storage Area) Site located on the Main Post of Fort Monmouth. The selected remedial alternative was chosen in accordance with the following regulatory requirements: CERCLA as amended by SARA, the NCP, RCRA, N.J.A.C. 7:26D (Cleanup Standards for Contaminated Sites), N.J.A.C. 7:26E (Technical Requirements for Site Remediation) and AR 200-1, as applicable.

A former pesticide storage and mixing area is located at the M-16 site. The facility (Bldg. 498) is a brick structure and was constructed in 1939. Pesticide management practices were conducted at the site until the late 1950's. Following this, the operation was moved to Building T-65. A total of 10 pesticide compounds have been detected above laboratory quantitation limits in site soil. Five pesticide compounds were found at concentrations exceeding the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (NJDEP) Direct Contact Soil Cleanup Criteria. The M-16 site is located within 50 feet of two family housing units and both sets of quarters have several small children residing within them. Furthermore, environmental sampling has confirmed that the contaminants are migrating horizontally in the direction of Oceanport Creek. The creek is located approximately 150 feet down gradient of the M-16 site. Ecologically speaking, the creek provides food and shelter to numerous species of waterfowl, fish and shellfish. The creek is utilized by local residents for fishing and crabbing purposes. The selected remedial alternative involves removing the contaminated soil from the site whereby eliminating the contaminants of concern.

This decision document was developed by the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Office, Fort Monmouth. All documentation has been submitted and approved by the NJDEP.

2. SUMMARY OF SITE RISK

The M-16 Site is located in an unsecure area and is accessible to the public. As previously mentioned, the M-16 site is located within 50 feet of two family housing dwellings and approximately 150 feet from Oceanport Creek. The major area of concern is the small children living in close proximity to the site. From an environmental standpoint, the creek provides food, shelter and a breeding area for numerous species of waterfowl, fish and shellfish. Laboratory analysis of the five pesticide compounds which include aldrin, dieldrin, 4,4-DDD, 4,4-DDE and 4,4-DDT have been quantified at 17.8 mg/kg, 54.9 mg/kg, 1,674.0 mg/kg, 55.1 mg/kg and 301.7 mg/kg respectively. Elevated levels of the referenced contaminants have been documented to cause adverse effects on living organisms.

3. SUMMARY OF REMEDIAL ALTERNATIVES

Approximately 770 cubic yards (1,000 tons) of contaminated soil shall be excavated and disposed of offsite. Excavation has been determined to be the most cost effective approach for eliminating all contaminants of concern at the site. The NJDEP Direct Contact Soil Cleanup Criteria for the referenced contaminants are as follows: aldrin (0.04 mg/kg), dieldrin (0.042 mg/kg), 4,4-DDD (3 mg/kg) 4,4-DDE (2 mg/kg) and 4,4-DDT (2 mg/kg). The contaminated soil in question contains spill residues from unused commercial chemical products as defined by 40 CFR Part 261.33 paragraph (e) and (f). In accordance with said regulation, the soil must be managed as a RCRA listed hazardous waste. Being a listed hazardous waste, all contaminated soils must be incinerated at a RCRA Part B Permitted Facility in accordance with the Land Disposal Restrictions cited under 40 CFR Part 268. Following soil removal, the site shall be resampled and the data submitted to the NJDEP. A no further action letter from the NJDEP shall be requested for the site.

4. PUBLIC/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

At the present time, the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Office is working with the NJDEP and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region II. Information relating to the site investigation and the planned remedial action has not been released to the general public.

5. DECLARATION

Because this remedy will not result in hazardous substances remaining on-site above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure, the five-year review will not apply to this action.


MARK H. JOHNSON
LTC, MI
Garrison Commander

This Decision Document has been reviewed and approved.

Ian Curtis
Case Manager
NJDEP, Bureau of
Federal Case Management
Name, Title


Signature

12-7-98
Date