

NPL Partial Site Deletion Narrative

Materials Technology Laboratory (USARMY) Watertown, Massachusetts

On November 22, 1999, EPA deleted the Watertown Arsenal Development Corporation (WADC) and the Commander's Quarters parcels of the Materials Technology Laboratory (MTL) site from the National Priorities List (NPL).

The site is located in Watertown (Middlesex County) Massachusetts. This partial deletion pertains only to the portion of Operable Unit 1 (OU 1), which includes the areas known as the WADC and the Commander's Quarters parcels, as well as OU 3, which includes Area I (located within the WADC parcel).

The remedy for the areas of concern contained within the WADC and Commander's Quarters parcels was selected and documented in the Area I Record of Decision (ROD) issued in June 1996; the Soil and Ground Water ROD issued in September 1996; and an Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) issued in January 1998. The remedy as outlined in the above-mentioned decision documents required excavation of soils in exceedance of established clean-up criteria, off-site disposal of excavated soil, sampling to confirm compliance with clean-up criteria, backfilling of excavations with clean fill, and continued protectiveness of the remedy in the future.

The Department of the Army implemented the selected remedy and completed all necessary soil excavation on the WADC and Commander's Quarters parcels in November 1997. Confirmatory soil sampling performed during excavation work documented compliance with the established clean-up criteria. Necessary institutional controls were provided for in a Grant of Environmental Restriction and Easement (Grant). This document defines the pertinent restrictions for various areas within the WADC and Commander's Quarters parcel and provides survey maps outlining the areas subject to restrictions. Through this Grant, the Department of the Army transferred certain rights to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in order to enforce and oversee the institutional controls. The Grant also provided that the Army retain certain enforcement and related access rights which it will hold co-extensively with the DEP. Since the level of residual contamination on the WADC and Commander's Quarters parcels requires limitations to the future use of the site, Five Year Reviews will be performed.

EPA believes that the criterion has been met for this partial deletion. In a letter dated December 28, 1998, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts provided their concurrence on the deletion of the WADC and Commander's Quarters parcels of the Materials Technology Laboratory Site.