

NPL Partial Site Deletion Narrative

Tobyhanna Army Depot Tobyhanna, Pennsylvania

On November 16, 2001 EPA deleted all portions of the Tobyhanna Army Depot (TYAD) site except for contaminated groundwater plumes at Operable Units 1 and 5 (OU1 and OU5) from the National Priorities List (NPL).

TYAD is located in the Pocono Mountains of northeastern Pennsylvania, approximately 20 miles southeast of Scranton, PA, in Coolbaugh Township, Monroe County. The installation covers approximately 2.2 square miles, measuring 1.6 miles east to west and 2.2 miles north to south at the widest point. TYAD was established when the United States purchased 33 square miles of land in 1909. Since then, TYAD has been used by the military for various functions ranging from artillery training to its current use as a communication-electronics maintenance and supply depot. TYAD has five Operable Units: OU1 (Areas A and B), OU2 (Former PCB Transformer Area), OU3 (Former Hazardous Waste Storage Areas), OU4 (Powder Ridge UXO Area), and OU5 (Inactive Sanitary Landfill). Operable Units 2, 3 and 4 have been deleted from the NPL, however, Operable Units 1 and 5 will remain until the performance standard specified in the Records of Decision are met.

PCB-contaminated soils were removed from OU2. OU3 was remediated according to an approved RCRA closure plan. Residual contamination at both sites is considered to be below risk-based levels thus providing for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure. The Records of Decision for both OU2 and OU3 state No Further Action is necessary.

The OU4 remedy consists of Institutional Controls (ICs) and Operation and Maintenance (O&M) activities necessary to maintain the integrity of the physical controls constructed during the Removal Action. The ICs and O&M activities that comprise this remedy include the following: maintenance of the physical controls (i.e., fencing and signs); increased security patrols to minimize trespassing on TYAD property, and specifically OU4; proprietary controls such as deed restrictions to be placed on the land if it is ever transferred outside of the Government; public education to inform TYAD personnel and visitors with business in the vicinity of OU4 of the potential for unexploded ordnance in the area; and periodic review to ensure that this remedial action remains effective in protecting the public. No remedial construction was required and the Army has implemented the IC and O&M procedures.

Operable Units 1 and 5 remain on the NPL due to contaminated groundwater plumes. In 1996, the Army excavated the source material and surrounding soils as a Removal Action for OU1. At OU5, the landfill was closed with an engineered soil cover in accordance with a state- and EPA-approved RCRA closure plan, permit and O&M plan. The OU1 and OU5 remedy consists of monitored natural attenuation and ICs. The Army will monitor groundwater on a semi-annual basis for 15 years at OU1 and 30 years at OU5. The ICs will prevent exposure to contaminated groundwater until monitoring data indicate that remediation goals have been met. Because hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants that will remain onsite at OU-4, the Army will conduct five-year reviews as required by CERCLA. Five-year reviews will also be conducted in the Excluded Areas at OU1 and OU5, which are not being considered for deletion due to long term groundwater monitoring.

EPA believes that the Army has implemented all appropriate response actions required at TYAD. Therefore, EPA, with the concurrence of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, is deleting this Site, except for the contaminated ground water plumes at OU1 and OU5 from the NPL.