NPL Partial Site Deletion Narrative

Letterkenny Army Depot (Southeast Industrial Area) Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

On September 21, 2010, EPA deleted a portion of the Letterkenny Army Depot (LEAD) Southeastern (SE) Area and LEAD Property Disposal Office (PDO) Area from the National Priorities List (NPL). This partial deletion pertains to the soil and groundwater of parcels 24, 27, 28, 2-53, 2-53L, 2-54, 2-54L, 2-70, 2-70L, 3-89, 3-90, and 3-91. The site covers 19,243 acres. The SE corner of the site encompasses 2,500 acres and contains warehousing, vehicle storage, administration, industrial/maintenance, recreational activities, and housing. The LEAD Areas are a former ammunition storage facility established in 1942. In 1947, a vehicle maintenance program was started. Additional missions were added over the years. The sites are located in Chambersburg, Franklin County, PA.

The SE and PDO areas are part of areas being transferred under the Base Realignment and Closure Initiative (BRAC) and have been transferred from the Army to the Letterkenny Industrial Development (LIDA) in three phases. The parcels to be deleted have been incorporated into the Cumberland Valley Business Park which consists of industrial land, developed land, small stands of trees, open grassy areas, administration buildings and former military housing. The parcels are accessible to the general public and maintained by the local townships.

The principal missions at LEAD currently include maintenance, modification, storage, and demilitarization operations on tactical missiles, conventional ammunition, and tactical wheeled vehicles. Historical operations involved cleaning, stripping, plating, lubrication, demolition, chemical/petroleum transfer/storage, and washout/deactivation of ammunition. Many activities involved the use and/or disposal of chlorinated solvents, primarily trichloroethene (TCE) and 1,1,1-tricholoethane (TCA), along with petroleum hydrocarbons and other solvents.

Removal activities included the excavation of approximately 45,000 tons of soil that was disposed of at an off-site waste facility. After removal, Risk Assessments were performed and showed concentrations were below unacceptable risks to people, plants, or animals based on current and future commercial/industrial use. Risks to people are also within acceptable limits based on a theoretical future residential use. Selected Remedies for site contamination have involved implementation of land use controls including: restricting property uses; restricting soil excavation, digging, drilling, or other soil-disturbing activities below a certain depth without prior approval; restricting construction for human occupation without prior approval; and restricting access or use of groundwater.

A Phase III Record of Decision was signed in 2003. It was determined that No Further Action was necessary for groundwater and soils of the parcels. Many original land use controls were removed; current land use controls restrict the use of Phase I parcels to commercial and industrial use only and prohibit residential use.

The EPA, with concurrence of the Common wealth of Pennsylvania, through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has determined that all appropriate response actions under CERCLA have been completed. Therefore, EPA is deleting the soil and groundwater of parcels 24, 27, 28, 2-53, 2-53L, 2-54, 2-54L, 2-70, 2-70L, 3-89, 3-90, and 3-91 from the NPL.