

# NPL Partial Site Deletion Narrative

## Cecil Field Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Florida

On May 21, 2003, EPA deleted a portion of the Cecil Field Naval Air Station (the site) from the National Priorities List (NPL). The site encompasses approximately 17,200 acres and is located 14-miles west of Jacksonville, Florida in Duval and Clay Counties. From 1941 until 1999, the site operated as Naval Air Station Cecil Field. While operating, the site provided facilities, services, and material support for the operation and maintenance of naval weapons, aircraft and other units of the operation forces. Some of these tasks included operation of fuel storage facilities and performance of aircraft maintenance. Maintenance activities generated a variety of waste materials including municipal solid waste, municipal wastewater treatment plant sludge, industrial wastes including waste oils, solvents, paints and spilled fuels, and waste pesticides. Contaminants of concern include pesticides, chlorinated solvents, waste fuels and metals.

The portions of Cecil Field to be deleted from the NPL include OU 4 (site 10), OU 5 (site 14), OU 12 (sites 44, 42 and the Old Golf Course) and additional areas which are not associated with an OU that have been evaluated as not posing a risk to human health and the environment.

Operable Unit 4 (site 10) occupies approximately 6.5 acres and was a rubble disposal area in the 1950s and 1960s. The Remedial Investigation (RI) did not identify any contamination which would pose a risk to human health or the environment. The primary source of contamination would be from demolition and rubble debris resulting from infrastructure demolition. Historical records and physical debris did not indicate the presence of solvents, petroleum products, or other hazardous materials. In July 1997, a Record of Decision (ROD) was signed for no further action. In June 1999, an Explanation of Significant Differences was signed to address arsenic surface soil contamination above the state residential cleanup target levels. In October 1999, 335 tons of arsenic contaminated soil were removed and taken to an approved landfill. No further action is required at this site.

Operable Unit 5 (site 14) was known as the Blue 5 Ordnance Disposal Area and consisted of 19 acres. From 1967 to 1977, the area was used for detonation of excess ordnance such as fuses, 100-pound bombs, large munitions and explosive materials that normally do not burn. Ordnance detonation generates residual metals, primarily aluminum and lead oxides with minor amounts of unreacted or partially reacted organics. The RI was completed in October 1997 and demonstrated that TNT is sporadically distributed at low concentrations that pose no explosive or biological hazards over the area of investigation. In July 1998, a ROD was signed for no further action.

Operable Unit 12 consists of four sites, site 32, 42, 44 and the old golf course. Removal actions have been completed at all four sites, however, because contamination remains at site 32 above residential levels, it is not part of the partial deletion area. Site 42 was known as the former boiler house/steam plant and general storehouse. The steam plant and storehouse were demolished about 40 years ago leaving only the foundations. Soil samples identified polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), total recoverable petroleum hydrocarbons and metals. An action memorandum was approved in September 2000 resulting in the excavation and off-site disposal of 2,420.36 tons of contaminated soil in March 2001. The site was backfilled with certified clean fill, graded and seeded.

Site 44 is referred to as the ditch from the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Organization (DRMO) to the active federally owned wastewater treatment building. The ditch received storm water runoff from the western edge of the east-west runways, the DRMO area and from the wash rack. Sampling identified lead, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides, PAHs, and inorganics in excess of ecological screening criteria in the ditch as well as PCBs above residential risk levels in and around the ditch. An action memorandum was approved in June 2000 resulting in the excavation and off-site disposal of 292 tons of contaminated soil in September 2000. The site was then backfilled with certified clean fill, graded and seeded.

The old golf course operated from the early 1940s until 1946 when the current golf course was constructed. Soil sampling identified arsenic above Florida's soil target cleanup levels. An action memorandum was approved in June 2000 resulting in the excavation and off-site disposal of 483 tons of contaminated soil in August 2000. The site was backfilled with certified clean fill, graded and seeded.

EPA, with concurrence from the State of Florida, has determined that no responses are necessary at the 16,527 acres which comprised a major portion of the Cecil Field Naval Air Station, and no further CERCLA response is appropriate or necessary in order to provide protection of human health and the environment other than the ongoing inspection, maintenance and monitoring activities. Therefore, EPA is deleting these portions of the site.