

NPL Partial Site Deletion Narrative

West Virginia Ordnance (USARMY) Point Pleasant, West Virginia

On April 26, 2004, EPA deleted five areas of the West Virginia Ordnance Works (WVOW) from the National Priorities List (NPL). The areas being deleted are the Operable Unit 10 (OU-10) South Acids Area, Cooling Tower Area, and Toluene Storage Areas; the Expanded Site Investigation 1 (ESI-1) Magazine Area; the ESI-4 Red Water Outfall Sewer; the ESI-6 Motorpool/Maintenance Area; and the ESI-7 Former Sewage Treatment Plant. The site is located six miles north of Point Pleasant, Mason County, West Virginia and currently encompasses approximately 2,188 acres. Contamination of the WVOW site originated from the operation of a trinitrotoluene manufacturing facility during World War II, and nitroaromatic (explosive) compounds are the primary contaminants of concern.

A memorandum of understanding was signed in 1983 between EPA and the Department of Defense (DOD) to establish responsibilities for remediating the site. The U.S. Army Toxic and Hazardous Materials Agency began the first remedial investigation and feasibility study in 1984 for DOD. Initially, only two OUs were established, and Records of Decision and Interagency Agreements were signed to address these areas. Later, the site was divided into more OUs until the current total of thirteen OUs and 10 ESIs was reached.

A focused remedial investigation was conducted on OU-10 in 1995. A removal was conducted in 2000 to remove asbestos-containing debris, and monitoring wells were installed in 2002 to periodically test and analyze ground water. Based on these investigations, it was determined that hazardous substances within OU-10 do not pose a threat and a ROD was signed in September 2003 documenting the conclusion that no remedial action was required at OU-10.

The southwest portion of ESI-1 overlaps with OU-7, the Point Pleasant Landfill. Several investigations have been conducted within ESI-1. As a result of the investigations, a Decision Document was executed on January 22, 2003, stating that no further action is necessary and that ESI-1 should be removed from the NPL, with the exception of the portion of ESI-1 that overlaps with OU-7.

Investigations consisting of soil and ground water sampling, geophysical surveys, and confirmatory excavations were performed in 1994, 1997, and 2003 at ESI-4. Evaluations of contaminant levels and site conditions indicated that ESI-4 poses no threat to human health. A Decision Document was executed on June 25 and 29, 2003, stating that no further action is necessary and that ESI-4 should be removed from the NPL.

The initial ESI-6 investigation conducted in 1994 included a geophysical survey and subsurface soil sample collection. A followup investigation was completed in 1997 and showed magnetic anomalies and low levels of petroleum contamination in site soils. In 2000, an underground storage tank and surrounding soils were removed from the locomotive area, which was the only likely source of contamination. On June 18, 2003, a Decision Document was executed stating that no further action is necessary and that ESI-6 should be removed from the NPL.

The initial ESI-7 investigation completed in 1994 consisted of the collection and analysis of surface water and sediment samples. On September 28, 2002, a Decision Document was executed stating that no

further action is necessary; however, concerns were later raised concerning the wastewater influent lines. In 2003, additional sampling was conducted and it was determined that ESI-7 poses no threat and requires no further action.

EPA, together with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and with concurrence from the State of West Virginia, has determined that all appropriate CERCLA response actions have been completed at OU-10, ESI-1, ESI-4, ESI-6, and ESI-7 and protection of human health and the environment has been achieved in these areas. Therefore, EPA is deleting OU-10, ESI-1, ESI-4, ESI-6, and ESI-7 of the WVOW site from the NPL.