

NPL Partial Site Deletion Narrative

Naval Industrial Reserve Ordnance Plant Anoka, Minnesota

On August 29, 2014 the EPA deleted a portion of the Naval Industrial Reserve Ordnance Plant (NIROP) site located in Fridley, Minnesota. The entire site is 82.6 acres. This partial deletion pertains to OU2, which includes all the unsaturated soils within the legal boundaries of the NIROP site, exclusive of unsaturated soils underlying the former Plating Shop Area.

The site is located in the northern portion of the Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Area in an industrial/commercial area within Fridley, MN. The site includes soils that have been contaminated as a result of the production of advanced weapons and disposal activities. The US Navy and/or its contractors produced advanced weapons systems beginning in 1940. During the early 1970s, paint sludges and chlorinated solvents were disposed of in pits and trenches in the North 40 area. The North 40 area is an undeveloped area of the site immediately north of the building. In the early 1980s, contaminant sources in the North 40 area and beneath the NIROP building were identified and trichloroethylene (TCE) was discovered in on-site ground water wells and in the city of Minneapolis drinking water treatment plant intake pipe.

From November 1983 to March 1984, approximately 1,200 cubic yards of contaminated soil and 43 55-gallon drums were excavated and disposed of off-site. The site was placed on the NPL in 1989. A removal action in 1996 excavated 23 55-gallon drums and 12 smaller containers. A sampling event in 1996 encountered free liquids and resulted in an additional removal action. A total of 31 55-gallon drums were discovered and removed for off-site disposal. A risk assessment for OU2 was conducted in 1996. It was determined that risk was inordinately influenced by one data point in a sub-area of OU2. During the summer of 2002 the Navy removed approximately 35 cubic yards of soil under a time critical removal action. This removal addressed the last known locations with unacceptable risks in surface soils. The Record of Decision for OU2 was signed in September 2003 and selected Land Use Controls (LUCs) as the selected remedy. The LUCs were incorporated into a Quitclaim Deed that was implemented on June 17, 2004. This deed acts as an environmental covenant that runs with the land.

The property is restricted to industrial or restricted commercial use until the EPA and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) determine that concentrations of hazardous substances in the soils have been reduced to levels that allow for less restrictive use. Disturbance of soil deeper than 3 feet below ground surface is prohibited in designated restricted areas. Plans are currently underway to redevelop the site into a commercial office/warehouse complex.

The EPA and the state of Minnesota, through the MPCA, have determined that all appropriate response actions under CERCLA at OU2, other than operation, maintenance and five-year reviews, have been completed. Therefore, the EPA is deleting OU2 from the NPL.