

NPL Site Narrative for George Air Force Base

GEORGE AIR FORCE BASE Victorville, California

Conditions at proposal (July 14, 1989): George Air Force Base (GAFB) occupies 5,347 acres in the Mojave Desert region near Victorville, San Bernardino County, California. It was established in 1941 to conduct tactical fighter operations and provide training for aircraft and maintenance personnel. Industrial operations, including maintenance of aircraft and ground support equipment, involved use and disposal of solvents.

GAFB is participating in the Installation Restoration Program (IRP), established in 1978. Under this program, the Department of Defense seeks to identify, investigate, and clean up contamination from hazardous materials. During IRP tests conducted between March and May 1986, the Air Force discovered trichloroethylene (TCE) in ground water on and off the base. The northeast section of GAFB, used for disposal of solvents, appears to be one source of the contamination, although several other areas on the base are also suspected of contributing to the contamination. In addition to TCE, benzene and 1,2-dichloroethane were detected in on-base monitoring wells at levels that exceed State and Federal drinking water standards. An estimated 11,000 people obtain drinking water from wells within 3 miles of hazardous substances on the base. The wells are upgradient of known contamination.

GAFB has installed additional wells to determine the extent of TCE contamination. Remedial action is planned to recover, treat, and dispose of contaminated ground water. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board is reviewing GAFB's workplan for these activities. GAFB is in the process of contracting for the remedial action.

Status (February 21, 1990): GAFB has contracted for the remedial action, which is scheduled to begin early in 1990.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at [ATSDR - ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.