

# Ogden Defense Depot

April 2002

Ogden, Utah, Weber County, Congressional District #1  
EPA ID# UT9210020922

**National Priorities List**  
**Construction Complete**

## **ABOUT THE OGDEN DEFENSE DEPOT SITE . . .**

Defense Depot Ogden, Utah (DDOU) was one of seven warehousing and distribution depots operated nationwide by the Defense Logistics Agency. Soil and groundwater contamination on the site led the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to add DDOU to its Superfund National Priorities List in 1987.

DDOU reached construction completion in September 1995. All remaining cleanup activity is under EPA and State of Utah oversight. Congress approved DDOU as a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Act installation in October 1995. Reuse of the base began in late 1997. DDOU officially closed on September 30, 1997.

## **BACKGROUND**

DDOU, located in Weber County, covers about 1139 acres in northwestern Ogden. Activated in 1941, it served as a warehousing and distribution facility. At one time it stored and distributed food, clothing, petroleum products, as well as medical, industrial, construction and electronic supplies to military installations and other federal agencies.

In the past, unknown quantities of both liquid and solid materials (including methyl bromide and mustard gas) were disposed of at DDOU in burning pits, burial pits or off-site disposal facilities.

On-site ground-water sampling identified volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including trichloroethane (TCE), vinyl chloride and dichloroethane (DCA) in the shallow aquifer. Soil was contaminated with semi-volatile compounds metals, including arsenic, lead, zinc, cadmium, mercury and barium, as well as low concentrations of pesticides.

After the site became a BRAC installation, an Environmental Baseline Survey (EBS) was conducted in July 1996. As a result, all areas/sites in question have been studied and addressed, so the property can be leased or transferred as soon as possible. The largest of these, the Plain City Canal, is a former irrigation ditch that was filled with debris from various sites around the facility, including a former burn pit. Removal of the contaminated debris was completed in 1999.

The site no longer poses any significant health risk.

## **CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED**

Major construction on all four of the DDOU Operable Units (OUs) has been completed. During fiscal year (FY) 97, two ground-water pump-and-treat systems were in operation and maintenance, with the third pump-and-treat system shutdown because the cleanup goals had been achieved. However, during the shutdown period, the contaminant levels rose above EPA Maximum Contaminant Levels, so all 3 systems operated during FY98.

The OU2 pump-and-treat system was shut down in the fall of 1998 to gather additional site data to determine either how to operate the system more effectively or to propose another alternative to complete the ground-water cleanup. Two additional source areas were located and currently are being remediated.

In November 1996, a new burial site for possible chemical-warfare material was identified at the Ogden Nature Center on property formerly owned by DDOU. This site has been designated as a Formerly Used Defense (FUD) site, and DDOU has led the cleanup begun in summer of 2000, with EPA and the State of Utah oversight.

The OU4 plume boundary was redefined, and DDOU designed an additional ground-water containment system to capture the entire plume. After redefining the plume boundary, further studies were conducted to be sure that all potential ground-water contaminant sources had been located. A couple of potential source areas were discovered and have been remediated.

The first Five-Year Review (OU2) was completed in July 1996. Five-year reviews for OU1 and OU4 were completed in July and August of 1998 respectively. OU3, which was a soil-only and fully excavated OU, does not require a five-year review. Another five-year review will be completed by October of this year.

All investigation has been completed. Ground-water cleanup is continuing.

Reuse of the base began late in 1997. Some of the old warehouses are now under lease for activities such as light manufacturing, warehousing, medical-

laser manufacturing, rail manufacturing, medical storage, and food supplement production.