



## REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT:

### Main Installation Passes Safety Standards for Industrial Use

The Remedial Investigation is completed for the Main Installation (now known as the Memphis Depot Business Park), and the results offer positive news for the Depot and the community of south Memphis. The full report is available at the Depot's Information Repositories.

The U.S. Army Engineer and Support Center and their contractor, CH2M Hill, collected the data and prepared the report. The Environmental Protection Agency, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and the Tennessee Department of Health reviewed and provided comments on the draft reports and approved the final report.

The RI report concludes that Depot operations have not significantly affected the environmental conditions at the Main Installation. Investigators found that, overall, the Main Installation is safe for current and future industrial and commercial workers.

Across the Main Installation, several compounds were found at levels higher than those found elsewhere in Memphis. Arsenic, dieldrin and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) were identified in surface soils at railroad tracks and roadways and where pesticides were applied around the warehouses and on the golf course. The arsenic levels are such that it is safe to work at the Depot and to use the recreational areas.

A few small areas were identified with elevated lead concentrations in the soil. One of these areas was cleaned up this summer as part of the removal action at the old paint shop and maintenance area in the southwest corner of the Main Installation. The other areas will be evaluated for possible future cleanup.

The Main Installation was divided into six geographic areas called functional

units, based on past land-use and anticipated future land-use. Groundwater in the shallow fluvial aquifer under the Main Installation became a seventh functional unit.

Using EPA-approved methods for sampling and analysis, soil in a total of 702 locations was sampled, resulting in 1,208 soil samples collected. The laboratory performed 99,264 analyses looking for 300 different compounds. The groundwater has been under investigation for several years and has been sampled on a regular basis.

The seven functional units of the Main Installation are identified below, along with the conclusions for each area.

#### **Functional Unit 1- 20 Typical Warehouses**

It is safe for current and future industrial and commercial workers to work in this area. Because of PAH levels at locations near the railroad tracks and roadways, homes cannot be built on these areas.

#### **Functional Unit 2-Southeast Golf Course/Recreational Area**

The golf course is safe to use as a golf course. The playground is safe to use as a playground. The baseball field is safe to use as a baseball field. It is safe for current and future industrial and commercial workers to work in this area. Because of dieldrin levels at the golf course, homes cannot be built there.

#### **Functional Unit 3-Southwest Open Warehouses**

It is safe for current and future industrial and commercial workers to work in this area. The sump in Building 1086 had elevated levels of chromium and lead. Elevated lead levels were also found in soils around the old paint shop and maintenance area in the southwest corner of the Main Installation. Cleanup for this sump and the surrounding area is complete.

## UPCOMING RAB MEETING

Join us at the next Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting to learn about the environmental cleanup program and to raise issues of interest or concern to you.

The RAB includes community members who review proposed plans and actions and provide input on the environmental cleanup activities.

**The next  
RAB meeting  
is Thursday,  
July 20th**

The RAB meeting will be held in the "J" Street Café at the Memphis Depot. On the agenda is a presentation on the risk assessment portion of the Main Installation Remedial Investigation report. □

Because of the lead levels around the old paint shop and maintenance area as well as PAH levels near the railroad tracks and roadways, homes cannot be built in these areas.

#### **Functional Unit 4-Northern and Open Areas**

Overall, it is safe for current and future industrial and commercial workers to work in this area. Higher than acceptable levels of lead were detected in a small area of soil north of the old paint shop and maintenance area near Building 949 and at one sampling location at Building 702 (demolished in 1997).