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Preferred Alternative for Soil:

After conducting a detailed analysis of these cleanup alternatives, the BCT chose a combination of Institutional Controls and Excavation, Transportation and Off-site Disposal as the Preferred Alternative for the cleanup of affected soil at the Main Installation. Excavation was chosen as a rapid, permanent and cost-effective solution, allowing the property to be transferred for unrestricted industrial use. Institutional Controls will provide additional layers of protection to ensure human health is not at risk during industrial and/or recreational use of the site.

GROUNDWATER

The following alternatives were evaluated for the cleanup of affected groundwater at the Main Installation:

1. No Action: No action would be taken at this site. Instead, naturally occurring environmental processes would be allowed to reduce the levels of substances detected in the shallow groundwater (also called "natural attenuation"). **BCT Assessment: Unacceptable Alternative.**

2. Institutional Controls with Long-Term Monitoring: Affected groundwater would be left in place, but deed restrictions and existing groundwater controls would prohibit the installation and use of groundwater production wells. Monitoring would record the progress of natural attenuation and possible movement of affected groundwater. It would take approximately 30 years to reach cleanup objectives using this alternative. **BCT Assessment: Acceptable Alternative**.

3. Enhanced Bioremediation: Compounds would be injected into the groundwater to speed up the natural biodegradation process that breaks down and/or removes compounds from the water. Groundwater monitoring would document changes in concentrations, and deed restrictions would prohibit the installation and use of groundwater wells until the completion of this alternative. It would take approximately 10 years to reach cleanup objectives using this alternative. **BCT Assessment: Acceptable Alternative.**

4. Air Sparging: Air would be pumped into the most affected groundwater to help flush out and remove compounds. This alternative would also include a groundwater-monitoring program and institutional controls to prohibit the installation and use of groundwater wells. It would take approximately 10 years to reach cleanup objectives using this alternative. **BCT Assessment: Acceptable Alternative.**

5. Extraction and Discharge to City of Memphis Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW): Groundwater would be pumped from approximately 12 wells in the most affected areas and discharged off-site to the POTW. This alternative would also include a groundwater-monitoring program and institutional controls to prohibit the installation and use of groundwater wells. It would take approximately 10 years to reach cleanup objectives using this alternative. **BCT Assessment: Acceptable Alternative.**

Preferred Alternative for Groundwater:

After conducting a detailed analysis of these cleanup alternatives, the BCT chose Enhanced Bioremediation as the Preferred Alternative. A contingency plan for more aggressive groundwater treatment, such as Air Sparging or Groundwater Extraction, would be developed and started if needed to prevent affected groundwater from moving off-site or into the deeper aquifer. CERCLA requires that the effectiveness of this alternative will be reviewed at least every five years for the protection of human health.

During the public comment period, the community is invited to review and comment on the cleanup alternatives presented in the Proposed Plan. The Depot hosted a Public Comment Meeting on August 24, 2000, to present the Proposed Plan to the community. The BCT will review all public comments and will take them into consideration before finalizing their decision on the Preferred Alternative.

The BCT's decision will be documented in a Record of Decision, which should be available to the public in January 2001. Written responses to all comments received during the public comment period will be included in the Record of Decision Responsiveness Summary and will be available at our Information Repositories. ❑

CWM PROJECT UPDATE:

Progress continues on Dunn Field

The chemical warfare materiel (CWM) removal project continues on Dunn Field, where the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and their contractors are now excavating the next portion of Site 1.

The CWM removal project at Site 1 is focused on locating and removing Chemical Agent Identification Sets (CAIS) that were buried under Dunn Field. Since excavation began May 4 in the northeast section of Dunn Field, more than 750 cubic yards of soil have been excavated.

All digging and removal activities take place inside the vapor containment structure (VCS), a 3,800 square-foot, tent-like structure designed to contain any material that is uncovered, and to filter the air during the excavation to provide maximum protection for the workers and the community. As of early August, the air-monitoring systems inside and outside the VCS had not detected any chemical warfare agent.

In early May, the CWM team found 24 empty glass bottles labeled "HS," which stands for sulfur mustard, in a cardboard storage box at Site 1. These 3-ounce bottles have been identified as components of the Chemical Agent Identification Set (CAIS) K941 Toxic Gas Set, M-1. This variety of CAIS was used to train soldiers on the proper procedures for cleaning mustard off of terrain or equipment. The mustard bottles found at Site 1 did not contain any mustard and, since they were found in the original storage box (not in the K941 shipping container) and because sample results detected no mustard, the CWM team determined the bottles had never contained mustard. The 24 bottles were distributed to the Product Manager for Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel, the U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit, the Edgewood Chemical Biologica and the Memphis museums.

A CWM team member works on a soil sifter inside the VCS.

By mid August, th small vials containi are approximately in diameter and ha Chemical Agent D chemical agents in caustic substance, th

For the latest infor of the community given by Mr. Clyde weekly CWM brie the Depot Commu Building 144. You trailer, located at G the community on a.m. until 2:00 p.m

For more informat appointment to wa the VCS, contact M at (901) 544-3115.