

Dunn Field Feasibility Study: Depot considers cleanup options for Dunn Field

What are the most effective options for restoring the environment at Dunn Field? The answers will soon be available in the Memphis Depot Proposed Plan, expected to be released for public comment this spring.

Before we reach the Proposed Plan stage, the Memphis Depot's environmental team must consider all cleanup options available. During the current phase, known as the Feasibility Study (FS), the team applies the best available science to find the most effective cleanup methods to ensure that Dunn Field is safe for future use.

Steve Offner, Project Manager for the Depot's environmental contractor CH2M Hill, presented a summary of the Dunn Field Feasibility Study (FS) at the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting in February.

The FS report (Revision 1) is part of the Depot's ongoing Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) process and has been reviewed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC).

"A cleanup alternative that is appropriate for one site may not be the most effective for another site," said Offner. "The purpose of the Dunn Field FS is to evaluate each proposed cleanup alternative against the cleanup goals for this particular site. And our primary goal is to ensure the protection of human health and the environment."

An important step in the FS is the identification of remedial action objectives (RAOs), or cleanup goals. RAOs were identified for the following areas of Dunn Field:

- sub-surface soil, which refers to the top 10 feet of soil on the site;
- disposal sites that include areas where containers of materials have been buried;
- the potential effects of environmental conditions in subsurface soil on indoor air quality; and
- impacted groundwater both on and off the site.

According to CERCLA guidelines, the range of cleanup alternatives considered in the FS must include:

- A no-action alternative;
- One or more alternatives that involve containment with little or no treatment;
- A range of alternatives to address the potential risk and eliminate or minimize the need for long-term management.

Proposed cleanup alternatives that met the CERCLA guidelines were first evaluated for their ability to meet the RAOs. Those that qualified were then further evaluated for technical efficiency, effectiveness and cost, resulting in the preferred options that will be presented for public comment in the Dunn Field Proposed Plan.

continued inside

Clyde Hunt says goodbye!

The Depot's Environmental Team and members of the Memphis Depot Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) took a few moments at the February RAB meeting to bid a fond farewell to Clyde E. Hunt Jr. After two years serving as the Depot's Remedial Program Manager, Clyde has returned to his former position with the Army Corps of Engineers (Memphis District).

Clyde joined the Depot's Environmental Team in January 2000 as the Corps' On-Site Coordinator and Technical Engineer Liaison during the chemical warfare materiel (CWM) removal project on Dunn Field. After the CWM project was completed, Clyde stayed on as the on-site Remedial Program Manager to assist Mr. John De Back, the BRAC Environmental Coordinator.

With a Bachelors degree in civil engineering and a Masters degree in engineering management, Clyde's experience and commitment to the community provided valuable direction for the entire Depot team.

Mr. DeBack will continue to chair the future RAB



Mr. Michael Dobbs (left), Environmental Program Manager for the Defense Distribution Center (DDC), presented a commemorative plaque to Mr. Clyde Hunt. Mr. Hunt also received a special DLA coin in honor of his service to the former Memphis Depot.

meetings, manage the environmental program and serve as a point of contact for the community.

For more information, contact Mr. DeBack at (901) 544-0622, or call the Community Relations Office at 901-544-0613.