

# Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

Former Camp Ellis Military Reserve  
Fulton County, Illinois

# FACT SHEET

April 2012

## ACRONYMS

- CEMR: Camp Ellis Military Reserve
- CERCLA: Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
- CSM: Conceptual Site Model
- DD: Decision Document
- DGM: Digital geophysical mapping
- DQO: Data quality objectives
- EE/CA: Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis
- FS: Feasibility Study
- FUDS: Formerly Used Defense Sites
- HTRW: Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste
- MC: Munitions constituents
- MEC: Munitions and explosives of concern
- MEC HA: Munitions and explosives of concern hazard assessment
- MMRP: Military Munitions Response Program
- MRS: Munitions Response Site
- MRSPP: Munitions Response Site Prioritization Protocol
- NDAI: No Department of Defense Action Indicated
- NFA: No Further Action
- PA: Preliminary Assessment
- PAHs: Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
- PAOI: Potential Areas of Interest
- RI: Remedial Investigation
- SARA: Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
- SI: Site Inspection
- SVOCs: Semivolatile Organic Compounds
- UXO: Unexploded Ordnance
- VOCs: Volatile Organic Compounds

## FS Report

A combined FS report will be prepared with all sites reported within a single document. The FS report will present the remedial action objectives, based on the results of the RI, and document the development and evaluation of remedial alternatives to achieve the remedial action objectives.

## Proposed Plan

The preferred remedial alternative(s) from the FS will be presented to the public as the selected remedy in a proposed plan, including either No Department of Defense Action Indicated (NDAI) or No Further Action (NFA), if site-related risks are found to be below acceptable limits. The proposed plan will be presented at a public meeting during the 30-day public comment period.

## Decision Document

The selected remedy will be documented in a DD, which will include a summary of responses to public comments received on the proposed plan. Any changes to the remedy based on public comment will also be documented.

## Technical Project Planning

The project team has developed a Conceptual Site Model (CSM) for Camp Ellis and is utilizing the TPP process to establish data quality objectives (DQOs) to guide the RI/FS process. As data is collected and analyzed, the CSM is updated and refined to focus efforts on collected the data necessary to meet DQOs.

## Public Involvement

Interested parties, landowners, and stakeholders will be interviewed and their comments and concerns will be incorporated into a Public Involvement Plan that provides a road map for communicating information to the public on the status of the RI/FS and any subsequent response actions.

Informational public meetings will be held at key decision points in the process and provide additional opportunities to have questions answered.

A public awareness program will be established to provide project updates and provide safety information to citizens. The program will utilize displays at public events as well as web-based materials. An Information Repository will be established to house project documents in a location accessible to the public.

More information on Camp Ellis and the current phase of work, including this fact sheet, can be found at: <http://bit.ly/CampEllis>

## The Three R's of Munitions Safety

- **R**ecognize - UXO can come in many shapes and sizes. It can be rusty or look like new. It can be out in the open, hidden in bushes or partially buried. The important thing to remember is that if you see what you think is UXO then you should retreat from the area and report it to authorities.
- **R**etreat - Make sure to never touch UXO, as they can be extremely dangerous. If you see UXO, immediately leave the area and do not disturb the item.
- **R**eport - If you come across what might be UXO, you should leave it be and report it to your local law enforcement by calling 911. They will be able to take care of the item. Do not use your cell phone near the item.

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## THE ARMY

- Is dedicated to protecting human health and the environment by making MRSSs and PAOIs safe to reuse.
- Is developing the MMRP by maximizing efficiencies and lessons learned from more than 20 years of environmental restoration experience.
- Will characterize the nature and extent of munitions-related contamination at the Camp Ellis MRSSs and PAOIs to make informed risk management decisions to select the appropriate remedial options.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**

In addressing environmental concerns at Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS), the Defense Environmental Restoration Program follows the procedures of the National Contingency Plan as authorized by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). The Department of Defense cleanup program covers Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive (HTRW) sites and those addressed under the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP). The Army's vision is to make Munitions Response Sites (MRSSs) and Potential Areas of Concern (PAOI) safe and clean for reasonable anticipated future use.

The objective of the Remedial Investigation (RI) / Feasibility Study (FS) is to achieve acceptance of a Decision Document (DD) that presents the final decision or remedy for all environmental concerns at the former Camp Ellis Military Reserve (CEMR). The RI will characterize the nature and extent of munitions and explosives of concern (MEC), munitions constituents (MC), and HTRW-related contamination at the former CEMR MRSSs and PAOIs in sufficient detail to complete the Munitions Response Site Prioritization Protocol (MRSPP) and prepare a MEC Hazard Assessment (HA) and human health and ecological risk assessment. The FS will evaluate appropriate remedial alternatives to mitigate the hazards or risks that are determined to be unacceptable.

## Background

The former CEMR is located in Fulton County, Illinois and was used for training of engineer, medical, signal corps, and quartermaster troops during World War II.



Engineers Training at Camp Ellis

Industrial areas included water filtration and sewage treatment plants, maintenance shops, and a warehouse area. Ranges and training areas employed small arms, hand grenades, rifle grenades, rockets, mortars, and practice mines.

## Cleanup Process

The CERCLA cleanup process starts with site identification followed by the preliminary assessment (PA) / site inspection (SI) and then RI/FS phases, leading to a proposed plan, record of decision, remedial design, and eventual remedial action. A removal action may be undertaken at any point in the process to immediately stop, prevent, minimize, stabilize, mitigate or eliminate the release or threatened release of contaminants to the environment. During an SI, generally only presence or absence of contamination is determined, while during an RI, nature and extent of contamination is determined.

At the former Camp Ellis, previous investigations, completed from 1998 to 2009, were generally equivalent to the PA/SI phase. A MEC removal action was completed at two areas in 2008 based on the results of the Engineering Evaluation / Cost Analysis completed earlier.

## RI/FS Field Activities

The current RI/FS will supplement the previously collected data and will include the following activities:

- Digital geophysical mapping (DGM)
- Intrusive investigation of anomalies
- Environmental sampling
- Material management

Field activities are scheduled to occur in late spring/early summer 2012 (minimally intrusive work only) and resume in the fall 2012, right after harvest.

## RI Report

A combined RI report will be prepared with all sites reported within a single document. The RI report will document the locations and density of MEC, nature and extent of MC and HTRW exceeding regulatory screening criteria in the affected media, analysis of contaminant fate and transport, and assessment of MEC hazards and risk from MC and HTRW to human health and ecological receptors.

