

What's Inside?

This fact sheet describes the environmental investigations and proposed cleanup action at the Former Lockbourne Air Force Base Landfill, near Lockbourne in Columbus, Ohio.

You are invited to a public meeting...

... to learn more about the Proposed Plan for the former landfill. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency will be there to listen to your comments.

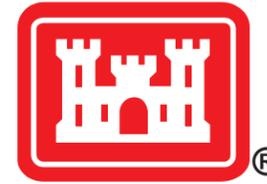
When: Thursday April 28, 2011
7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Where: Hamilton Township Community Center
6400 Lockbourne Road
Lockbourne, OH 43137
(614) 491-3963

If you have questions about the meeting or need specialized assistance to participate, please contact Brooks Evens at Andrew.B.Evens@usace.army.mil or (502) 315-6335 before April 22, 2011.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CELRL-PAO
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Place
Stamp
Here



Former Lockbourne Air Force Base Landfill

Columbus, Ohio

April 2011

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Building Strong®

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) invites the public to review and comment on the proposed cleanup of the former Lockbourne Air Force Base (AFB) Landfill. The Proposed Plan, which describes the recommended cleanup actions, will be available for public review and comment from April 21 through May 21, 2011, and will be discussed at a public meeting on April 28, 2011.

Site Description

The former Lockbourne Air Force Base (AFB) Landfill was used for waste disposal from approximately 1951 until 1979. Waste products included general trash from base housing and office buildings, construction and demolition debris, and lime sludge from the base water treatment plant. The landfill might also have received pesticides and herbicides, ammunition, airplane parts, and hazardous materials.

The Department of Defense (DoD) later transferred the property to the Rickenbacker Port Authority, which is now the Columbus Regional Airport Authority. As a result, the landfill is considered a Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS).

The site is located northwest of the Rickenbacker International Airport and Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base, and to the east of the village of Lockbourne. It is bordered by Vause Road to the north, Tank Truck Road to the southeast, and railroad tracks to the southwest. Big Walnut Creek is located approximately 0.75 mile west of the site.

Project History

DoD is responsible for evaluating and cleaning up DoD-generated environmental contamination at FUDS properties. The U.S. Army oversees the FUDS program for DoD. USACE manages the evaluation and cleanup of these properties.

USACE is the lead agency for environmental investigations at the former Lockbourne AFB Landfill site. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) provides regulatory oversight.

A series of investigations were conducted at the former landfill site. Site media, such as soil, groundwater, surface water, sediment, landfill seeps, and landfill gas were sampled and analyzed for chemicals potentially associated with landfill activities. This data was used to assess risks and to develop the proposed cleanup action.

The site was divided into two investigation areas, Area of Concern (AOC) 1 and AOC 2 (see Figure 1). AOC 1 is approximately 105 acres and occupies the western half of the parcel where waste disposal occurred. AOC 2 is approximately 40 acres and is located on the eastern side of the site. Although, there is scattered debris at AOC 2, no buried waste was found.

Key findings of the investigations include:

- Contaminants associated with waste materials in the landfill are primarily transported away from the site through surface runoff and soil erosion during heavy rainstorms.
- Exposure to contaminants in soil at the site could pose risks to human health and wildlife.
- Exposure to contaminants in groundwater could pose human health risks. However, contaminants are not likely to migrate far from the site in groundwater because there is limited groundwater movement. Also, most of the contaminants do not dissolve easily in water and have a tendency to bind strongly to soil, which also limits their movement away from the site.

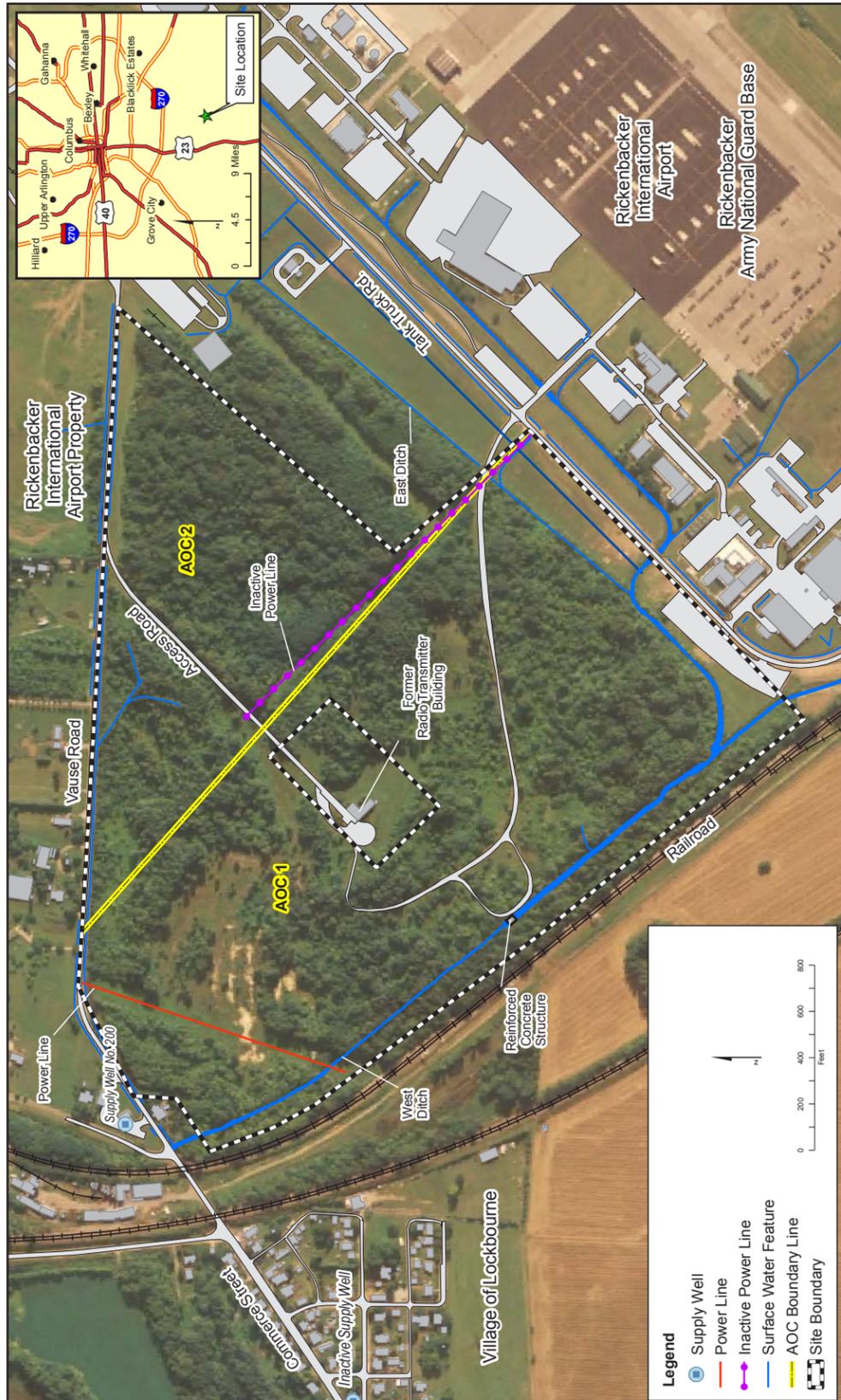


Figure 1 – Site Location and Features

- Groundwater at the site is not used for drinking water. The village of Lockbourne receives drinking water from the Columbus municipal water system, although some residents still use private wells.

Proposed Plan

USACE investigated the DoD-generated environmental contamination at the former Lockbourne AFB Landfill and is proposing to clean up the site.

The Proposed Plan describes the assessment of human health and ecological risks, cleanup alternatives evaluated, and the reasons for the proposed remedy. The proposed remedy includes the tasks below:

- The waste would be consolidated into one smaller area within AOC 1.
- Soil cover and vegetated topsoil would be placed over the area containing waste to minimize exposure to the waste and associated contamination.
- Long-term management activities would include additional sampling and inspections to evaluate protectiveness of the remedy after implementation.
- Institutional controls would be placed on the property to limit land and groundwater use and prevent intrusive activities on the landfill cover to minimize risk of exposure.

The other two cleanup alternatives evaluated included 1) no action and 2) construction of a compacted clay cap with long-term management activities and institutional controls.

Public Involvement

The public is encouraged to review and comment on the Proposed Plan. The 30-day public comment period is April 21 until May 21, 2011.

USACE, in coordination with Ohio EPA, will make its final decision after reviewing and considering comments submitted during the 30-day public comment period. All Proposed Plan comments received during the public comment period will be summarized, and responses will be provided in the Responsiveness Summary section of the Decision Document, which will present the selected cleanup action.



A soil cover is placed over a landfill to minimize exposure to waste and migration of contaminated surface soil via surface water runoff.

The Proposed Plan and supporting documents are available for public review at:

Columbus Metropolitan Library, Southeast Branch
3980 South Hamilton Road
Groveport, OH 43125
(614) 645-2275

Hours: Monday – Friday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday – Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday – 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Proposed Plan and information used to recommend the preferred cleanup alternative is also available online at: <http://bit.ly/LockbourneAFB>.

Written comments should be mailed (postmarked) by May 21, 2011, to:

Brooks Evens
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CELRL-ED-E-E
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059
Andrew.B.Evens@usace.army.mil