



# Environmental Activities at the Control and Launch Areas Former Nike CL-48 Site

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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## Overview

The Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) provides for the cleanup of Department of Defense (DoD) sites owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed by the U.S. prior to October 17, 1986. The Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) is DoD's preferred framework for environmental restoration. CERCLA is a Federal law passed in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). The DoD has delegated the execution of the Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) program to the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The former Nike CL-48 Site is a FUDS site having USACE as the lead agency managing the environmental investigation and cleanup program at this site. Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides regulatory oversight. When a property is investigated, a determination is made whether the media that was impacted while owned/operated by the DoD presents a risk to human health and the environment. This former Nike missile site, does not present any unacceptable risks to human health and the environment.



*The Control Area (top) and the Launch Area (bottom) of the former Nike CL-48 Site*

## Background

The former Nike CL-48 Site comprised two areas – a Control Area and a Launch Area, as well as a 1.7 mile open space between the Control and Launch Areas. The property is found in the cities of Garfield Heights and Independence, Ohio, about 10 miles south of downtown Cleveland, Ohio.

The U.S. Government acquired the former Nike Site CL-48 property from landowners in 1956 and completed construction of the facility in 1957. The former Nike CL-48 Site was operated as a Nike Ajax missile facility until 1961 and was declared excess in 1965. After being declared excess, the former Launch Area was acquired by the Independence Board of Education in 1967 and the former Control Area was acquired by the Garfield Heights Board of Education in 1970.

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## Summary of Environmental Investigations

To evaluate the nature and extent of potential contamination associated with the previous operation of the former Nike CL-48 Site, CERCLA environmental inspections/investigations have been performed, including a Pre-CERCLIS Screening Assessment in 2001, a Preliminary Assessment in 2007, a Site Inspection in 2009, and most recently, a Remedial Investigation in 2012. More than 50 soil and groundwater samples have been collected at this site over this period to evaluate risks to human health and the environment from residual chemicals in site media. No cancer or noncancer risks for current and future occupants on the property were found to exceed the acceptable risk levels at both the Control and Launch Areas, as presented in the Final RI Report (2012) that had concurrence from Ohio EPA.

## What's Next?

The USACE and Ohio EPA will be soliciting input from the community on the recommended alternative of No Further Action for this site. The Proposed Plan document, which presents this recommended alternative, will be made available to the public in early August. The public will have 30 days to review and comment on the document.

**For more information about this site**, please visit <http://bit.ly/NikeCL48> or contact Katelyn Newton at the Public Affairs Office for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Louisville District at (502)-315-6773 or Katelyn.c.newton@usace.army.mil.

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