

FINAL

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

Battery Disposal Area

FORMER VICTORY ORDNANCE PLANT

FUDS Site Number E05IL004500

Decatur, Macon County, Illinois

SEPTEMBER 2012

Prepared for:



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
LOUISVILLE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
Louisville, Kentucky

FINAL

This Final Community Relations Plan serves as a guide for the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in providing opportunities for public information and input regarding the investigation and cleanup of the Former Victory Ordnance Plant, Decatur, Illinois. It is also designed to assist the local community in becoming meaningfully involved in and informed about the project.

This Final Community Relations Plan is being released to the public by USACE for review and comment. If you are interested in submitting comments or have questions about this plan, please contact the following:

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For more information on the Former Victory Ordnance Plant, visit <http://bit.ly/FormerVOP> or request information by contacting Ms. Newton at 502-315-6773.

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ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

Battery Disposal Area, Former Victory Ordnance Plant, a Formerly Used Defense Site

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announces the availability for public review of files comprising the Administrative Record for the selection of the remedial response action at the former Battery Disposal Area at the former Victory Ordnance Plant located in Decatur, Illinois. The Administrative Record is part of the Information Repository, which is located at the Decatur Public Library, 130 N. Franklin St., Decatur, IL 62523 and at the District Office, 600 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Place, Louisville, KY 40202.

The Administrative Record includes documents that form the basis for the selection of a remedial response action at this Formerly Used Defense Site project. Documents now in the Administrative Record files include the Final Site Inspection, Former Victory Ordnance Plant Decatur, Illinois, October 2008. Other documents will be added to the Administrative Record

files as the project work progresses. These additional documents may include the proposed plan, technical reports, comments and new data submitted by interested persons, and the response from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to significant comments.

Written comments on the Administrative Record should be sent to the following point of contact:

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APPENDIX I

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Figure 2-1	Site Location Map
Figure 2-2	Site Layout Map

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AOPC	Areas of Potential Concern
BDA	Battery Disposal Area
bgs	below ground surface
Bldg.	Building
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
COC	Chemical of Concern
COPCs	Contaminants of Potential Concern
CRP	Community Relations Plan
DERP	Defense Environmental Restoration Program
DoD	Department of Defense
DSD	Decatur Signal Depot
EEl	Envirodyne Engineers, Inc.
ft	feet
FUDS	Formerly Utilized Defense Site
GE	General Electric
GSA	General Services Administration
IAC	Illinois Administrative Code
IEPA	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
msl	mean sea level
PA	Preliminary Assessment
PAHs	polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
PE	Professional Environmental Engineers, Inc.
Plexus	Plexus Scientific Corporation
PRG	Preliminary Remediation Goals
RI	Remedial Investigation
SI	Site Inspection
SPLP	Synthetic Precipitation Leaching Procedure
SVOCs	Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds
TACO	Tiered Approach to Corrective Action
TCRA	Time Critical Removal Action
URS	URS Group, Inc.
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USCB	United States Census Bureau
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
VOCs	Volatile Organic Compounds
VOP	Victory Ordnance Plant

1.0 OVERVIEW

This Community Relations Plan (CRP) has been developed on behalf of the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Louisville District to provide a framework for public involvement activities at the former Victory Ordnance Plant (VOP) in Decatur, Illinois. The former VOP is an approximate 237-acre site located in Macon County of Decatur, Illinois. The Battery Disposal Area (BDA), which comprises approximately 3.7 acres of the 237 acres of the former VOP, is a former Department of Defense (DoD)-related disposal pit located in Parcel 1 of the installation. The site is being investigated in accordance with the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) for Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS). Investigations performed to date include a Contaminant Evaluation in 1987, a Preliminary Assessment in 2006, a Site Inspection (SI) in 2007, a Remedial Investigation (RI) in 2010, and additional RI activities in 2012.

This CRP defines the scope and focus of the Corps' public participation activities and presents an organized, targeted approach for effective communication and positive, beneficial public involvement during ongoing and future investigations and response actions at both sites.

1.1 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this CRP is to facilitate a dialogue and promote a dynamic two-way communication between the United States Army Corps of Engineers and residents of the surrounding community regarding cleanup activities of the former VOP. It is the objective of the USACE to foster and maintain a climate of trust and credibility through proactive interaction with the community, supplying accurate and timely information about planned actions and progress, provide the affected community an opportunity to participate in the environmental restoration process and respond to issues or concerns in a timely manner. Subsequently, this CRP will accomplish the following:

- Provide for the exchange of information regarding activities proposed for the project;
- Solicit comments and involvement by the public, elected and civic leaders, and concerned agencies that could potentially lead to more informed Corps decisions, products, or project solutions; and
- Provide a centralized point of contact for the public and the media to express concerns and serves as an effective communication network for distributing desired information regarding restoration matters at the project site.

Section 4.10 presents the proposed schedule of community relations activities and corresponding remedial actions.

1.2 PLAN ORGANIZATION

The CRP provides the reader with descriptions of the key elements of the involvement of the public in the project. It is organized into the following sections:

- **SECTION 1.0 – OVERVIEW** describes the purpose, objectives, and the organization of the community relations plan.
- **SECTION 2.0 – SITE BACKGROUND** describes the site history, site description and location, and previous investigation activities.
- **SECTION 3.0 – COMMUNITY BACKGROUND** describes the community profile, history of community involvement, key community concerns, response to community concerns, and summary of communication needs.
- **SECTION 4.0 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRAM** lays out the community relations program and presents a projected schedule for implementation. It also presents the information contact, administrative record file and information repository, fact sheets and newsletters, news releases, articles for newspapers, trade publications, public notices, notices to targeted audiences, public comment period, and public meetings.
- **SECTION 5.0 – REFERENCES** provides the sources of information used in the development of this document.

The CRP was prepared according to the following guidance documents:

- US Army, 2004. *Environmental Quality Formerly Used Defense Sites Program Policy*. ER 200-3-1
- USACE, 2004. *Public Participation in the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites*. EP 1110-3-8
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), 1992. *CERCLA/SUPERFUND Orientation Manual*. EPA/542/R-92/005
- USEPA, 2005. *Superfund Community Involvement Handbook*. EPA 540-K-05-003

2.0 SITE BACKGROUND

This section describes the site history, description and location, and the previous investigation activities.

2.1 SITE HISTORY

The former VOP is an approximate 237-acre site located in Decatur, Illinois (see Figure 2-1 – Site Location Map). DoD activities began at the site property in 1943 when the VOP was built. The Caterpillar Military Engine Company managed an operation for manufacturing and assembling radial diesel engines for M-4 tanks and power trains for Caterpillar D-7 tractors. The tractors were stored in the northeast corner of the property. The plant manufactured tank engines that included clutches and transmissions, but did not produce ammunition or explosives. Prior to production of power trains, 150 jet engines were manufactured at VOP. Caterpillar Military Engine Company operation ended in 1945 when the property was determined to be surplus and designated for disposal by the General Services Administration (GSA) (URS, 2008).

In 1946, with the exception of 26.17 acres, the property was returned to the DoD from the GSA for the establishment of the Decatur Signal Depot (DSD). According to a former employee, the DSD was used for storing the Army's signal and communications equipment and supplies and for repair and/or disposal of communications equipment and supplies. Carbon tetrachloride was used to clean components of equipment and was reported by a former employee to have evaporated after use. Equipment that was not repaired was reportedly buried onsite along with other wastes including cleaning chemicals, waste paint, occasional firearms, and radio batteries. Reportedly, the National Guard units would bring used batteries, small ammunitions, and weapons to DSD for disposal (URS, 2008).

In 1947, the remainder of the VOP property (26.17 acres) was sold to General Electric (GE). GE operations consisted of custom molding of plastics by both injection and compression and assembly of phonographs and related components.

DSD was declared excess real property on 14 July 1961 and was sold as four separate parcels:

- Parcel 1 was sold to Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, later acquired by Bridgestone-Firestone North America Tire that operated a tire manufacturing plant on the property from February 1963 until December 2001. In fall of 2003, Weiss Realty bought the BFNT portion for development of a new industrial area. According to Macon County Recorder's Office, Parcel 1 was again sold on 2 May 2005 to Katmandu Associates.
- Parcel 2 was sold by quitclaim deed to GE in 1962. GE transferred a portion of the property to Illinois Power Company in 1963. IPC constructed a transformer substation on the property. IPC is now called Ameren IP. Season-All Industries bought the remaining property from GE in 1978. Season-All Industries built custom aluminum storm windows, storm doors, and replacement windows. It also extruded, heat treated, and painted aluminum that was used in the assembly process. Climate Control purchased

the Season-All property in 1993. Climate Control makes compressors for air conditioning units and conducts some machining of metals.

- Parcel 3 Illinois Power Company purchased 3.5 acres from GE on August 30, 1963. Currently, Ameren IP operates the substation that was owned by IPC. This area is located in between Katmandu Associates and Climate Control.
- Parcel 4 was sold to the City of Decatur on 7 March 1962 as a site for a firehouse.

The above four parcels, in addition to the 26.17-acre tract sold to General Electric in 1947, comprised all lands associated with the former Victory Ordnance Plant. The site was subject to exceptions and easements noted in individual quitclaim deeds. There were no restrictions restoration or recapture clauses in any of the disposal documents.

The Battery Disposal Area comprises approximately 3.7 acres of the 237 acres of the former VOP (See Figure 2-2 – Site Layout Map). Historical operations at the installation have resulted in the alleged disposal of defective communications equipment, supplies, and batteries at the Battery Disposal Area. Further, other reportedly buried hazards included cleaning chemicals, waste paint, and occasional firearms.

The Battery Disposal Area is located directly east of the former Bridgestone Firestone North American Tire's Machine Shop Building A (Bldg. 103). Bldg 103 had rooms for sandblast, battery storage and maintenance repair shop. The original bias tire manufacturing began for Bridgestone in February 1963. In 1969, equipment was added to the plant for the manufacture of radial tires, and over time, the bias tire manufacturing operations were phased out. Bridgestone has made many improvements and has added structures to the area since it began operation. Bridgestone closed the plant in December 2001. Katmandu Associates, LLC is the current owner of the property.

The former disposal pit's dimensions are thought to be 15 feet deep by 30 feet long by 30 feet wide and located 5 to 10 feet below grade. At least once during the late 1950s, six dump truck loads of batteries were disposed of onsite. The approximate location is thought to be in an open area south of the railroad spur running from the east side of the Firestone finished products warehouse (Plexus, 2006). Batteries buried in the pit ranged in size from a flashlight battery to a six-volt wet cell. The majority of batteries disposed were low voltage dry and wet cell batteries.

The RI identified semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and metals as contaminants of potential concern (COPCs) in surface and subsurface soil, and metals as COPCs in groundwater.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) began investigation of the battery disposal area in 1987 after receiving a complaint from a former DSD employee. Further investigation of

the battery disposal area followed and is discussed in Section 2.3, Previous Investigation Activities below.

2.2 SITE DESCRIPTION/LOCATION

The former VOP is located at 2500 North 22nd Street in Decatur, Illinois and resides in an urban setting in Decatur, Illinois. The Battery Disposal Area (site) is approximately 3.7 acres, and is located directly east of the former Bridgestone Firestone North American Tire's Machine Shop Building A (Bldg. 103). The land use in the area of the site is primarily industrial; however, there is a residential area to the southeast, a small residential area located to the northwest, and a third residential area located to the north. The site area is relatively flat and the elevation ranges from 665 to 670 feet (ft) above mean sea level (msl).

2.3 PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION ACTIVITIES

To evaluate the nature and extent of potential contamination associated with the Battery Disposal Area, various environmental investigations have been performed, including a Contaminant Evaluation in 1987, a Preliminary Assessment in 2006, a SI in 2007, a RI in 2009, and additional RI activities in 2012.

2.3.1 Contamination Evaluation Report

Because of a complaint received by the IEPA from a former DSD employee, the Battery Disposal Area was first investigated by Envirodyne Engineers, Inc. (EEI) in 1987. EEI interviewed former employees of Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, and one noted that he had observed six dump truck loads of batteries being disposed of in a disposal pit during the late 1950s. The employee reported that the disposal pit was located in an open area south of the railroad spur running from the east side of the Firestone finished products warehouse and approximated the dimensions of the pit to be 15-feet deep by 30-feet long by 30-feet wide. The waste was reported as having been buried from five to ten feet below grade. The main types of batteries reportedly disposed of were low voltage dry and wet cell batteries (URS, 2008).

According to another former employee, the Battery Disposal Area may have served as a dumping ground for defective communications equipment and supplies. Carbon tetrachloride was reportedly used to clean components of equipment, but the means for disposal of carbon tetrachloride is unknown. The former employee claimed that it evaporated after use. Other wastes such as cleaning chemicals, waste paint, and occasional firearms reportedly were buried onsite.

Finally, EEI also reported that during the operation of the DSD, burning and firefighter training exercises were conducted. The burning operations took place weekly while the firefighter practice sessions were performed every four to six weeks. Materials such as autos, flammables, wood, and other combustible materials were burned during the training sessions. The burning area was located adjacent to (just north of) the suspected battery disposal pit. No evidence of

surface contamination was observed during the site inspection conducted by EEI in 1987 (URS, 2008).

2.3.1.1 Installation of Monitoring Wells

To determine if the groundwater onsite had been contaminated by past disposal operations, three monitoring wells (DG-1, DG-2, and DG-3) were installed in August 1987. Wells were located in a triangular configuration to best pinpoint the extent of a groundwater plume. DG-1 was installed north of the suspected disposal pit as the upgradient monitoring well; DG-2 was installed to monitor the flow of groundwater to the south-southeast of the disposal pit; and DG-3 was installed to monitor the flow of groundwater to the south-southwest of the disposal pit.

2.3.1.2 Soil Sampling

Four soil samples were collected and analyzed for metals during the monitoring well installation activities. Three samples were obtained from monitoring well borehole location, and one background sample was collected from north of the disposal pit and railroad tracks.

The results of metals analysis revealed that all metals concentrations were found below or near the detection limits. Mercury and selenium were not detected in any of the soil samples. Arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, silver, and zinc were detected at low levels in all the samples (EEI, 1988).

2.3.1.3 Groundwater Sampling

Groundwater samples were collected from each well in September 1987. Five times the volume of standing water in each well was purged using a Teflon bailer. The groundwater samples were analyzed for metals. The levels detected in the groundwater samples were below detection limits except for barium, chromium, iron, manganese, sodium, and zinc (EEI, 1988). Chromium, iron, and zinc concentrations in well DG-3 were detected three to six times higher than the concentrations in up gradient wells (EEI, 1988). Since Well DG-3 was positioned down gradient of the suspected disposal pit area, it is possible that there may have been a release of these metals. Barium, manganese, and sodium were detected at levels higher than the parameter detection limit; however, these results were comparable to the levels observed in the upgradient well.

The groundwater sample results were compared to the State of Illinois Water Quality Standards and only iron and manganese were exceeded in all wells (including the upgradient well DG-1). The proposed recommended maximum contaminant level, maximum contaminant level, and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act groundwater protection criteria were not exceeded (EEI, 1988).

2.3.2 Preliminary Assessment

A comprehensive site-wide Preliminary Assessment (PA) was completed at the former VOP in 2006 (Plexus 2006). The PA included a review of available file information, collection and review of historic aerial photographs, interviews, and a site reconnaissance. During the PA, soil concentrations were compared to USEPA Region IX Preliminary Remediation Goals (PRGs) and IEPA Tiered Approach to Corrective Action Objectives (TACO) values for soil, with the most conservative values used to determine if results exceeded acceptable levels. Additionally, groundwater concentrations were compared to Groundwater Quality Standards for Class I groundwater contained in 35 Illinois Administrative Code (IAC) 620 and TACO objectives for those compounds not listed in 35 IAC 620.

Evaluation of previous sampling results indicated the presence of iron and manganese at levels above applicable state comparison criteria in groundwater at all the locations on the property; however, these levels did not exceed federal criteria. The PA, which only included an assessment of possible environmental concerns associated with the former DoD activities, concluded the following:

- The area of potential concern (AOPC) was identified as a 3.7-acre site that resembles a large mowed lawn (EEI, 1988).
- Historical operations at the former VOP indicated the disposal of defective communications equipment, supplies, and batteries. Other reportedly buried hazards include: cleaning chemicals, waste paint, and occasional firearms. Reportedly, the National Guard units would bring used batteries, small ammunitions, and weapons to DSD for disposal.
- Soil sampling at the former VOP has not revealed metals contamination (EEI, 1988).
- Groundwater sampling at the former VOP has confirmed that there may have been a release of chromium, iron, and zinc from the site. Iron and manganese exceeded the State of Illinois Water Quality Standards in all samples (EEI, 1988).

2.3.3 Site Inspection

In October 2008, URS completed a SI to document the presence or absence of contamination associated with the suspected Battery Disposal Area located on the former VOP. The SI included a review of available file information, a site reconnaissance, geophysical surveys, surface and subsurface soil testing and analysis, and sampling and analysis of groundwater from existing groundwater monitoring wells.

The geophysical field surveys were performed and the results indicated that the site may contain several discretely located disposal cells. Based on the results of the geophysical survey, a Multi-Incremental (MI[®]) soil samples were collected where subsurface anomalies were indicated. All of the soil samples were analyzed for SVOCs, PAHs, pH, Total Metals, and synthetic precipitation leaching procedure metals. A portion of the soil samples were also

analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Groundwater samples were collected from the three site wells and analyzed for VOCs, SVOCs, PAHs, and metals.

Surface soil samples indicated that five PAHs and SVOCs were present above PRGs: benzo(a)anthracene, benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, dibenzo(a,h)anthracene, and indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene. URS suggested that these concentrations were consistent with what would be expected in an area subject to anthropogenic sources of PAHs, including (but not limited to) vehicular emissions, coal and oil combustion, and municipal and industrial incinerators, but could not rule out that the PAH contamination could be related to military activities, including maintenance and cleaning.

Subsurface soil samples collected from five grids in the Battery Disposal Area had much lower concentrations of PAHs and SVOCs than those in surface samples. Benzo(b)fluoranthene was the only SVOC detected above the screening value and lead was the only metal above the screening value. URS collected an additional headspace sample in Grid #6 because they noted discolored soil and odors indicating the potential presence of paint and/or solvents. This sample (4 feet below ground surface [bgs]) was above the PRGs for lead and hexavalent chromium, chromium III and total chromium. All other samples were below PRGs for other chemical constituents, and pH values were within the neutral range.

Regarding the groundwater sampling results, only magnesium, sodium, and zinc were detected. Zinc was below the PRG, and magnesium and sodium (which did not have applicable preliminary remediation goals (PRGs) were both below their respective Recommended Dietary Allowances. As such, none of the metals were considered chemicals of concern (COC). However, URS noted that a review of well construction information indicated that top of wells screens for each well were located far below the groundwater level at time of sampling, and that wells were in very poor condition (cracked pads, corroded casing, and high levels of sedimentation). Contaminants perched in groundwater above the screened intervals would therefore be unlikely to be detected during the SI sampling.

Based on the SI findings, additional field investigation activities were recommended, including reinstallation of groundwater monitoring wells, the collection of additional surface and subsurface soil testing to accurately delineate the vertical and horizontal extent of the contamination zone, and the collection of groundwater samples from the newly installed wells.

2.3.4 Remedial Investigation

In 2009, a RI was conducted by PE. The purpose of the RI of the former VOP was to further evaluate the nature and extent of contamination at the site and to characterize the current and potential risks to human health and the environment. The RI field investigation activities were performed in August 2009 and focused on delineating the extent of the constituents of interest in soil (metals and PAHs) and groundwater (metals). PE collected additional discrete surface soil samples and performed additional subsurface soil sampling at the potential discrete disposal areas identified in the SI. Several trenches were excavated through the anomalous

areas to characterize the nature and depths of any buried waste or disposal cells. Lastly, PE decommissioned the three monitoring wells installed in 1987 and installed three new monitoring wells screened at intervals Illinois EPA considered better to capture potential groundwater contamination.

2.3.4.1 Surface Soil Sampling and Results

PE collected thirty (30) discrete surface soil samples. The surface soil samples were analyzed for a variety of constituent groups, including volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs), total metals, Synthetic Precipitation Leaching Procedure (SPLP) metals, hexavalent chromium, and pH. No surface soil samples contained concentrations of VOCs exceeding screening levels. Six polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) were detected in soil samples at concentrations above screening levels. Eight metals (aluminum, arsenic, cadmium, chromium (VI), cobalt, iron, manganese, and vanadium) were detected in soil samples at concentrations above screening levels or the Illinois EPA Tiered Approach to Corrective Action Objectives (TACO) values. PE combined data from the RI and SI, 46 samples in total, to evaluate surface soil at the Battery Disposal Area. No surface samples contained concentrations of VOCs exceeding screening levels. Six different PAHs were detected above screening levels in a majority of the surface soil samples. Eight metals were detected at concentrations above the screening levels or TACO background values for aluminum, arsenic, cadmium, chromium (VI), cobalt, iron, manganese, and vanadium.

2.3.4.2 Subsurface Soil Sampling and Results

A total of 21 subsurface soil samples was collected during the RI. Fifteen MI[®] subsurface soil samples were collected from Grids 4, 6, 9, 11, and 16; (each grid having one sample taken at 3-5, 6-8 and 9-11 feet bgs). The subsurface soil samples were analyzed for VOCs, SVOCs/PAHs, total metals, SPLP metals, hexavalent chromium, SPLP metals, and pH. PE tested for VOCs by collecting three discrete samples from 3-5, 6-8, and 9-11 feet bgs for each anomalous soil area.

Five trenches were excavated through five anomalous areas located on Grid 4, Grid 6, Grid 9, Grid 11, and Grid 16 with the intent to characterize the nature and depth of the alleged buried waste. Two of the five trenches were excavated in areas (Grid 9 and Grid 16) not previously sampled during the SI.

Soil borings were advanced in three grids (Grid 5, Grid 7, and Grid 10), chosen based upon the geophysical results, to verify the depth of the BDA. The three borings were continuously sampled by hollow-stem auger with a two foot split spoon sampler. The borings were visually classified and logged using the Unified Soil Classification System. Two discrete samples were collected from the three borings SB01 (14-feet bgs and 23-feet bgs), SB02 (10-feet bgs and 18-feet bgs), and SB03 (10-feet bgs and 18-feet bgs). The six, in total, discrete subsurface soil samples were tested for PAHs, SVOCs, total metals, SPLP metals, hexavalent chromium, and pH.

PE combined data from the RI and SI, 31 samples in total, to evaluate subsurface soil at the BDA. No subsurface soil samples contained concentrations of VOCs exceeding screening criteria. Six different PAHs were detected at concentrations above the screening levels in subsurface soil samples. The most elevated concentrations of PAHs were observed in samples collected from Grid 16, with the maximum concentrations of most PAHs contained in the 68 ft sample interval. Eleven metals were detected at concentrations above the screening levels or the TACO background values in subsurface samples for aluminum, arsenic, cadmium, chromium (VI), cobalt, iron, lead, manganese, mercury, thallium, and vanadium. The most elevated concentrations of metals were observed in the samples collected from Grid 4, with the maximum concentrations of all but one of the metals contained in the 35 foot sample interval. Between three to eight batteries were observed in the trench excavated in Grid 4.

2.3.4.3 Groundwater Sampling and Results

PE sampled groundwater from the newly installed monitoring wells for VOCs, SVOCs, SPLP metals, total metals, and hexavalent chromium. Six metals were detected in groundwater samples at concentrations above screening levels. Aluminum and manganese exceeded screening levels in MW1R and MW3R. Aluminum, arsenic, cobalt, iron, manganese, and vanadium exceeded screening levels in MW2R.

2.3.5 Additional Remedial Investigation Activities

As a result of batteries that were uncovered during trenching efforts (primarily in Grid 4) of the 2009 RI field activities, additional trenching was performed in August 2012. One test pit was excavated in Grids 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10. Additional batteries were observed in Grid 4.

The USACE is proceeding with a Time Critical Removal Action (TCRA) to be completed by 01 DEC 12. Once the removal action is completed, a Proposed Plan and a Decision Document will be prepared under CERCLA recommending No Further Action. A TCRA Action Memorandum will be prepared in lieu of a Feasibility Study report.

3.0 COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

This section describes the history of the site, general profile of the site and vicinity, community involvement history, and community issues and concerns.

3.1 COMMUNITY PROFILE

Decatur was founded in 1823 and is located along the Sangamon River and Lake Decatur in Central Illinois. Decatur is home to Millikin University and Richland Community College as well as the corporate headquarters of Archer Daniels Midland Corporation. According to the United States Census Bureau (USCB), Decatur's population declined by 7.0% from 81,500 in 2000 to 76,122 in 2010.

According to the USCB 2010 census data, Decatur's population is 53.2% female, 46.8% male, 71.6% Caucasian, 23.3% African American, 0.2% American Indian and Alaska Native, and 0.9% Asian. In addition, the USCB 2010 census data indicates that 6.7% of the population is under 5 years old, 22.1% of the population is under 18 years old and 16.9% is 65 years or older.

3.2 HISTORY OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

To date, there has not been any community involvement at the former VOP, other than an informational web page established at <http://bit.ly/FormerVOP>. Future community involvement activities are scheduled for the Fall of 2012.

3.3 KEY COMMUNITY CONCERNS

To date, no community concerns have been documented.

3.4 RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Since there have not been any community concerns regarding the former VOP, response to community concerns has not been necessary.

3.5 SUMMARY OF COMMUNICATION NEEDS

To date, community involvement efforts have not yet been initiated. Future activities may include conducting community interviews, releasing public notices, and holding public information meetings in order to identify community communication needs.

4.0 COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRAM

The overall goal of the Community Relations Program for the former Victory Ordnance Plant is to allow the community to learn about and participate in the decision process for addressing environmental concerns at the former battery disposal area. This section summarizes the program and presents the schedule for implementation.

The USACE's specific goals for the Community Relations Program are to foster and maintain a climate of understanding and trust by:

- collecting information about the concerns of the community and affected or interested parties,
- supplying accurate and timely information about planned actions and progress,
- providing affected parties and the communities with the opportunity to participate in the environmental restoration process,
- responding to issues and concerns in a timely manner

The USACE will implement the public involvement activities discussed in this section, which discusses information contacts, the administrative record file and information repository, fact sheets and newsletters, news releases, public notices, and public meetings. The USACE will focus its community involvement efforts on getting public input on the issues that are most important to community members and organizations.

4.1 INFORMATION CONTACT

The USACE will serve as the main point of contact to receive and respond to requests for information on the VOP activities, and to coordinate the implementation of this plan. The USACE Technical Manager will play an active role in providing project related information to the public. The contact information for the USACE Technical Manager and Public Affairs Specialist will be displayed on all public notices, pamphlets, updates, and other correspondence. Contact information is contained in Appendix A.

4.2 ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD FILE/INFORMATION REPOSITORY

The Administrative Record is the body of documents that forms the basis for the selection of a particular response during a response action. Documents that are included are relevant documents that were relied upon in selecting actions taken at the site.

An Administrative Record/information repository will be established in September/October 2012 that will contain all planning and decision-making documents. The proposed location for the administrative record and information repository are included in Appendix F.

4.3 COMMUNITY MAILING LIST

A mailing list will be used to distribute news releases, fact sheets, and other types of pertinent information about the site. The USACE will establish community mailing lists consisting of interested and affected individuals, local officials, and media representatives in the areas surrounding the former VOP. The USACE will maintain and regularly update this mailing list. The USACE will include information in all fact sheets and at public meetings on how individuals and groups can be added to the mailing lists. In addition, individuals who contact the USACE with inquiries about the site will be added to the mailing list at their request.

4.4 COMMUNITY INTERVIEWS/SURVEYS

Interviews or surveys with community stakeholders will be conducted to identify community interests and concerns. These interviews/surveys will allow the USACE to gather information on residents' awareness of and concerns about the site, determine the types of information residents want to receive and how the USACE can best provide that information. A sample questionnaire is presented in Appendix G. The community interviews/surveys will be tentatively conducted in September 2012.

4.5 PUBLIC NOTICES

Public notices provide an official announcement of proposed decisions or activities that will take place at the site. Public notices often provide the public with the opportunity to comment on a proposed action. Public notices may consist of newspaper advertisements, notices in community newsletters, public service announcements on local radio and television stations, and public notice signs/bulletin boards onsite. A sample public notice is contained in Appendix H.

4.6 PUBLIC MEETINGS

A public meeting is a forum open to the community and general public that is structured and formal in nature. The purpose of the meeting is to present information to the public and receive feedback from them. The goal of the meeting is to facilitate communication between the USACE and stakeholders.

A public meeting provides an opportunity to assess the level of community interest in the project. Public meetings allow for an unfiltered, consistent message to be delivered from an official source. Meetings also provide a means to determine the need for and best method of providing ongoing communication with a specified audience or the community at large.

4.7 FACT SHEETS AND NEWSLETTERS

Fact Sheets are prepared on a specific topic and should include facts supporting the topic. It is written in brief and uses simple terms. Comprehensive fact sheets will be developed as needed

to easily convey information regarding the former VOP site and related issues. A sample Fact Sheet is contained in Appendix I.

Newsletters are developed to provide detailed information about an area of concern or give an update on the entire environmental investigation. Newsletters will be prepared as warranted and mailed to those on the site mailing list. Newsletters created on an as needed basis are the preferred method of communication and the best way to get updated environmental information on VOP to the community.

4.8 NEWS RELEASES

A news release outlines a major event, provides background information on VOP and lists a contact person. A media advisory addresses very briefly the who, what, when, where, why of the event and a contact person to reach for more information.

4.9 COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN REVISIONS

As new information becomes available, the Community Relations Plan will be revised, as necessary, to update facts and verify information, assess the community relations program to determine whether the same or different approaches will continue to be taken, and to develop strategies to prepare the community for any activities that may take place at the former VOP. Conducting interviews or surveys with involved local officials, property owners, and other stakeholders may provide additional information for revising the CRP.

4.10 PROPOSED SCHEDULE

The projected schedule for implementation of the above community involvement activities are depicted in the table below. This table relates the community involvement activities to the remaining environmental milestones for the former Victory Ordnance Plant.

ACTIVITY	START DATE	END DATE
Contact property owners, public officials, other stakeholders	Mon 9/24/12	Fri 9/28/12
Conduct Community Interviews/Surveys and Issue Fact Sheets	Mon 9/24/12	Fri 9/28/12
Establish Information Repository	Mon 9/24/12	Fri 10/5/12
Initiate and maintain the Administrative Record file	Mon 10/8/12	Fri 10/12/12
Issue Public Notice of Availability of Administrative Record/Information Repository via news release and public notice	Mon 10/15/12	Fri 10/26/12
Determine need for Restoration Advisory Board	Mon 10/29/12	Fri 11/2/12
Time Critical Removal Action	To be completed by 12/01/12	
Issue Proposed Plan	Wed 1/30/13	Wed 1/30/13

ACTIVITY	START DATE	END DATE
Issue news release and public notice advertising Proposed Plan comment period and invitation to public meeting	Thu 1/31/13	Thu 1/31/13
Hold Public Meeting	Tue 2/12/13	Tue 2/12/13
Public Comment period	Tue 2/12/13	Thu 3/14/13
Revise Proposed Plan	Thu 3/14/13	Mon 4/29/13
Issue Decision Document	Fri 6/28/13	Fri 6/28/13

5.0 REFERENCES

- Envirodyne Engineers, Inc. (EEI). 1988. Contamination Evaluation for Former Decatur Signal Depot. Prepared for USACE Buffalo District. April.
- Plexus Scientific Corporation (Plexus). 2006. Former Victory Ordnance Plant, Preliminary Assessment. Prepared for USACE, Louisville District. August.
- Professional Environmental Engineers, Inc. (PE), 2011. Remedial Investigation of the Battery Disposal Area at the Former Victory Ordnance Plant.
- US Army, 2004. *Environmental Quality Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Program Policy*. ER 200-3-1.
- URS Group, Inc. (URS), 2008. Site Inspection, Former Victory Ordnance Plant, Decatur, Illinois—Final.
- USACE, 2004. *Public Participation in the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) for Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS)*. EP 1110-3-8.
- USEPA, 1992. *CERCLA/SUPERFUND Orientation Manual*. EPA/542/R-92/005.
- USEPA, 2005. *Superfund Community Involvement Handbook*. EPA 540-K-05-003.
- United States Department of Commerce, Census Bureau website:
<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/17000.html>

APPENDIX A
USACE CONTACTS

CONTACTS LIST FOR USACE LOUISVILLE DISTRICT

TECHNICAL MANAGER:

USACE, Louisville District
Dr. David J. Brancato, Technical Manager
600 Martin Luther King Jr. Place
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
(502) 315-6494
david.j.brancato@usace.army.mil

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER:

USACE, Louisville District
Katelyn C. Newton, USACE Public Affairs Specialist
600 Martin Luther King Jr. Place
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
(502) 315-6773
katelyn.c.newton@usace.army.mil

APPENDIX B
REGULATORY AGENCIES

CONTACT LIST FOR STATE AGENCIES

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Michael Haggitt, P.E.
Federal Facilities Unit
Remedial Project Management Section
Bureau of Land
1021 North Grand Ave. East
P. O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

APPENDIX C
ELECTED OFFICIALS

CONTACT LIST FOR STATE OFFICIALS

GOVERNOR:

Pat Quinn
Office of the Governor
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706
Phone: 217-782-0244

UNITED STATES SENATORS:

Richard J. Durbin
525 South Eighth Street
Springfield, IL 62703
Phone: 217-492-4062

Mark Kirk
607 East Adams, Suite 1520
Springfield, IL 62701
Phone: 217-492-5089

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE:

Bobby Schilling
3000 41st St., Suite 2
Moline, IL 61265
Phone: 309/757-7630

ILLINOIS STATE SENATOR:

Kyle McCarter
105B Capitol Bldg
Springfield, IL 62706
Phone: 217-782-5755

ILLINOIS STATE REPRESENTATIVE:

Adam M. Brown
242-W Stratton Office Bldg.
Springfield, IL 62706
Phone: 217-782-8398

MAYOR:

Mayor Mike McElroy
c/o City of Decatur
#1 Gary K. Anderson Plaza
Decatur, IL 62523
Phone (217) 424-2804 / Fax (217) 424-2732

APPENDIX D
MEDIA CONTACTS

CONTACT LIST FOR MEDIA

NEWSPAPERS:

Decatur Herald-Review
601 East William St.
Decatur, IL 62523
(217) 429-5151

Decatur Tribune
PO Box 1490
Decatur, IL 62525

RADIO:

WSOY AM 1340
250 N Water St, Suite 100
Decatur, IL 62523

TELEVISION:

WAND TV 17
904 South Side Drive
Decatur, IL 62521

APPENDIX E

PROPOSED PUBLIC MEETING LOCATION

DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY
130 N. Franklin St.
Decatur, IL 62523
424-2900, x102

Cost:

J. Elizabeth Madden Auditorium (seats 150) Rental charges are: \$100 for 2 hours, \$180 for 4 hours and \$360 for 8 hours.

A. E. Staley Jr. Manufacturing Company Conference Room (seats 25) Rental charges are: \$60 for 2 hours, \$100 for 4 hours and \$210 for 8 hours.

The Board Room (seats 15) is available from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Rental charges are: \$40 for 2 hours, \$70 for 4 hours and \$140 for 8 hours.

Children's Auditorium (seats 100) Rental charges are: \$80 for 2 hours, \$140 for 4 hours and \$280 for 8 hours.

Meeting rooms are available from Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., and Sunday from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. (September through May)

APPENDIX F

PROPOSED REPOSITORY LOCATION

APPENDIX G

COMMUNITY INTERVIEW/SURVEY QUESTIONS

Dear Resident,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Louisville District has been conducting environmental restoration of the former Victory Ordnance Plant under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program-Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS). The project addresses a former disposal area encompassing approximately 0.25 acres within a 3.7-acre parcel referred to as the Battery Disposal Area (BDA) *located* within the former VOP FUDS property. The BDA was alleged to have been used by the VOP Decatur Signal Depot (DSD) operation as a disposal pit for batteries (Former Victory Ordnance Plant, Decatur, IL, Final Preliminary Assessment. Plexus Scientific Corporation, July, 2008). Your responses to the questions regarding the USACE environmental restoration project will be used to prepare a Community Relations Plan. Your opinion is important, so please complete the survey and return it as soon as possible in the envelope provided. Thank you.

1. How long have you lived in Decatur, IL?

< 2 years 2-5 years 5-10 years 10-20 years 20+ years

2. Are you familiar with the former Victory Ordnance Plant which operated between 1946 and 1961?

Yes No

If yes, when did you become aware of the USACE environmental restoration project?

3. Have you received any information about the environmental restoration project?

Yes No

If yes, how have you heard about the project?

Newspapers Radio Television Newsletters School

Friend/Neighbor Public meeting Library Website

4. Have you reviewed any of the documents on the project in the Decatur Public Library?

Yes No

5. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most concerned, how concerned do you think *the community* is about the environmental restoration project at the former Victory Ordnance Plant? (Please circle)

1 2 3 4 5

6. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most concerned, how concerned are *you* about the environmental restoration project at the former Victory Ordnance Plant? (Please circle)

1 2 3 4 5

7. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most informed, how informed do you consider yourself about the environmental restoration activities? (Please circle)

1 2 3 4 5

8. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the best, how would you rate the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' efforts to keep local residents informed about the site? (Please circle)

1 2 3 4 5

9. Have you contacted the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for information about the environmental restoration activities?

Yes No

If yes, were you satisfied with the information you received?

Yes No

10. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest, please rate the progress of the environmental restoration project over the past 5 years. (Please circle)

1 2 3 4 5

11. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most credible, how would you rate the credibility of the following sources or officials about the project? (Please rate each)

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (federal)
- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (state)
- Decatur City Officials
- Macon County (current landowner)
- Media

12. On what do you base your answers to question 11? (Please check all that apply)

- Personal experience with officials
- News media reports
- Family/friends
- Website
- Other

13. Do you understand the roles of the federal and state agencies involved with the project?

- Yes No

14. Would you like to be kept informed about the environmental restoration activities?

- Yes No

If yes, which of the following would be your preferred method to receive information? Please indicate your first (1), second (2), and third (3) choice.

- Public Meeting Radio Newspaper Website
- Newsletter Email Mailing Family/Friends School

15. How often do you think information about the environmental restoration activities should be distributed?

- Weekly Monthly Quarterly Annually As needed

16. What do you think is the major environmental issue at the former Victory Ordnance Plant?

17. Are there any comments you would like to share about the environmental restoration project at the former Victory Ordnance Plant?

If you would like to be added to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' mailing list for future updates on the project, please provide the following information:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Email address _____

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Please mail in the enclosed business reply envelope.

Privacy Act Statement

Authority: 10 U.S. Code (USC) 2705.

Principal Purpose: To identify the attitudes and concerns of area residents concerning activities at the project site. The requested information will be used to develop a Community Relations Plan for the specific project in question. The information will also be used by the USACE to develop a mailing list of individuals interested in receiving fact sheets and other general information about the study. Disclosure of the requested information is voluntary. Failure to provide all the requested information may lessen the effectiveness of the public involvement program for the project.

APPENDIX H

SAMPLE PUBLIC NOTICE



ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

Battery Disposal Area, Former Victory Ordnance Plant, a Formerly Used Defense Site

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announces the availability for public review of files comprising the Administrative Record for the selection of the remedial response action at the former Battery Disposal Area at the former Victory Ordnance Plant located in Decatur, Illinois. The Administrative Record is part of the Information Repository, which is located at the Decatur Public Library, 130 N. Franklin St., Decatur, IL 62523 and at the District Office, 600 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Place, Louisville, KY 40202.

The Administrative Record includes documents that form the basis for the selection of a remedial response action at this Formerly Used Defense Site project. Documents now in the Administrative Record files include the Final Site Inspection, Former Victory Ordnance Plant Decatur, Illinois, October 2008. Other documents will be added to the Administrative Record files as the project work progresses. These additional documents may include the proposed plan, technical reports, comments and new data submitted by interested persons, and the response from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to significant comments.

Written comments on the Administrative Record should be sent to the following point of contact:

Dr. David J. Brancato
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District
600 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Place
Louisville, KY 40202-2230

For more information please contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District Public Affairs Specialist at (502) 315-6773 or at katelyn.c.newton@usace.army.mil.

APPENDIX I

SAMPLE FACT SHEET



Environmental Activities at the Former Victory Ordnance Plant Battery Disposal Area

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

History

The Former Victory Ordnance Plant (VOP) is an approximate 237-acre site located in Decatur, Illinois. DoD activities began at the site in 1943 when the VOP was built. The Battery Disposal Area, which is now being investigated following the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process, is approximately 3.7 acres.

Under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program-Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS), the U.S. Army is responsible for environmental restoration of all properties that were formerly owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed by the United States and under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense.

Corps environmental cleanup programs focus on protecting human health and the environment and seek to reduce risk to human health and the environment in a timely and cost-effective manner.



History of Environmental Investigations

The Department of Defense is responsible for evaluating and cleaning up Department-generated environmental contamination at FUDS properties. The U.S. Army oversees the FUDS program for the Defense Department. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) manages the evaluation and cleanup of these properties. USACE is responsible for environmental restoration of the former VOP. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency provides regulatory oversight. Environmental activities at the former VOP have been under way since 1987.

To evaluate the nature and extent of the potential contamination associated with the Battery Disposal Area, at the Former Victory Ordnance Plant, various environmental investigations have been performed, including a Contaminant Evaluation in 1987, a Preliminary Assessment in 2006, a Site Inspection in 2007, a Remedial Investigation (RI) in 2009, and additional RI activities in 2012.

What's Next?

The USACE will be performing a Time Critical Removal Action (TCRA) to be completed by 01 DEC 12. After the TCRA is completed, a Proposed Plan and a Decision Document will be prepared under CERCLA recommending No Further Action. The Proposed Plan will be released in early 2013 and the public will be invited to provide comments and input during the 30-day public comment period.

For more information contact the Louisville District Public Affairs Specialist at (502) 315-6773 or katelyn.c.newton@usace.army.mil.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – LOUISVILLE DISTRICT

600 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Place

Louisville, KY 40202

<http://www.lrl.usace.army.mil/orf/>