

TECHNICAL BRIEFING – DRAFT FINAL PROPOSED PLAN – FOR 25 PICATINNY SITES WITHIN PICA 001, 006, 022, 085, 143, 146, 163, 171, 192 AND 199 – MAY 2012

The document reviewed was a draft final Proposed Plan (PP) for 25 Picatinny Sites within PICA 001, 006, 022, 085, 143, 146, 163, 171, 192, and 199 dated May 2012. The PP is the culmination of the remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) process in which the affected environmental media at a site are evaluated and then suitable response actions are identified. Based on the available data the preferred response action is No Action. The report states the following: “There are no unacceptable risks for the current or reasonably anticipated future uses based on soil, sediment, surface water, or groundwater samples collected of these sites. No action under the CERCLA/NCP process is therefore considered to be protective of human health and the environment.”

The sites included in this PP are as follows:

PICA 001: Tetryl Pits

- Site 17 – Northern tetryl pits
- Site 18 – Southern tetryl pits

PICA 006: Unspecified

- Site 16 – Guncotton line

PICA 022: Power Plant

- Site 50 – Still House and Hazardous Waste Storage Tank (Bldgs 519 and 519A)
- Sites 63/65 – Steam and Power Plant (Bldg 506)

PICA 085: 500 Area

- Site 32 – Storage Tanks (Bldg. 553)
- Site 33 – Storage Tanks (Bldg 527A)
- Site 46 – 90-Day Waste Accumulation Area (Bldg 507)
- Site 97 – Post Engineering Maintenance Shop (Bldg 501)
- Site 105 – Propellant Plant (Bldg 511)
- Site 147 – Poach House (Former Bldg 520)
- Site 148 – Nitrocellulose Production Facility (Former Bldg 527)
- Site 150 – Propellant (Former Bldg 555)
- Site 184 – Refrigeration and Inert Gas Plant (Former Bldg 523)

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PICA 143: Unspecified

- Site 108 – Ordnance Facilities and Flare Testing Laboratory

PICA 146: Unspecified

- Site 113 – Propellant Plant (Bldg 561)

PICA 163: Former Nitration Buildings

- Site 35 – Nitroglycerin Processing Area (1360s Buildings)
- Site 91 – Rocket Motor Assembly Facility (Bldg 301)
- Site 161 – Nitration Building (Bldg 1031)
- Site 166 – Storage Magazines (Bldgs 1354, 1357, and 1359)
- Site 168 – Propellant Roll House (Bldg 1400), Propellant Cutting Building (Bldg 1402), and Propellant Extrusion Building (Bldg 1403)
- Site 169 – Propellant Plants (Bldgs 1408, 1408A through 1408C, 1409 and 1411)

PICA 171: Ordnance Buildings

- Site 162 – Spent Acid Storage Tanks (Bldg 1070), Crystallizing Building (Bldg 1071), and Solvent Storage Building (Bldg 1071C)
- Site 171 – Ordnance Facilities (Bldgs 3106, 3109, and 3111)

PICA 192: Unspecified

- Site 189 – Apple Tree Recreational Area

PICA 199: Unspecified

- Site 199 – Abandoned Pistol Range and Former Manure Dumping Area

The sites are extremely varied in usage or former usage. Some sites have been used for storage, others for manufacturing, and still others for maintenance. Most of the sites have had sumps, catch basins, catch boxes, settling tanks, catch tanks, wastewater discharge areas, and/or compressor vent discharges – an indirect mechanism by which contaminated material was introduced into the environment. They also have similar risk characteristics in common.

Levels of concerns for the sites were taken from different sources as follows:

Soil

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Non-Residential Soil Remediation Standards (NRSRS) or in their absence, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Industrial Regional Screening Levels (IRSL) were used.

Sediment

The lower of Interim Sediment Quality Guidelines (ISQGs), New York Sediment Criteria, and sediment quality benchmarks were used. In their absence, Effect Range – Low values (ER-Ls) from NJDEP were used. If no ER-Ls, then the lower of IRSL and NRSRS were employed.

Surface Water

Promulgated New Jersey Surface Water quality Criteria. If absent, then USEPA Water Quality Criteria were utilized. If absent, then USEPA Tap Water Regional Screening Levels were used. If background concentrations were greater than guidance criteria, then the background level was be used.

Groundwater

The lower value of New Jersey Groundwater Quality Standards (GWQS), New Jersey Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), Federal MCLs, or Federal non-zero Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs) were used. If none of the above criteria are available, then Federal Health Advisories or USEPA RSLs for Tap Water were used.

Some of the sites had groundwater addressed as part of the Mid-Valley Groundwater Area site. Some sites had other media addressed in another feasibility study (FS).

For all sites under consideration baseline human health risk assessments, lead blood models (for sites where lead was present), and ecological risk assessments were conducted for the sites as part of various remedial investigations (RIs) that were completed at the sites. Additional evaluation or reevaluation of

some of the HHRA and lead blood models were conducted for some sites since the completion of the RI due to the revised or updated toxicity values.

Land use was considered to be military/industrial. The potential receptors evaluated for current and future exposure were as follows: industrial/research worker, construction excavation worker, on-site visitor, adult resident, and child resident. Residential use of the property is not reasonably anticipated. All risk values were between 1×10^{-6} and 1×10^{-4} and the values of the hazard index (HI) were less than 1 for current and reasonably anticipated future use scenarios. The PP states that No Action is the recommended response action on the basis of no unacceptable risk.