FACT Sheet

Former Nebraska Ordnance Plant ■ Mead, Nebraska

Bedrock Assessment

As part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) commitment to public safety, water supply wells that are within one mile from the delineated groundwater contamination plumes are sampled on a regular basis. There are currently 75 water supply wells in the sampling program. Water supply wells located less than one mile from the delineated groundwater contamination plumes are in the one-mile buffer zone and are sampled once a year. Water supply wells located less than one-half mile from the delineated groundwater contamination plumes are in the half-mile buffer zone and are sampled twice a year. Currently, there are 72 water supply wells with no detections of Department of Defense (DOD) contaminants above the defined safe drinking water levels established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality. Three water supply wells currently have concentrations of trichloroethene (TCE) and/or hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine (RDX) above the project action levels (TCE – 5 micrograms per liter [µg/L] and RDX – 2 µg/L) and have a whole house granular activated carbon unit installed to treat the water.

If at any point a water supply well in the sampling program is confirmed to contain TCE and/or RDX above their respective action levels, then either a whole house granular activated carbon unit will be installed or bottled water will be provided to ensure protectiveness of the resident. The whole house granular activated carbon unit will be maintained by the USACE at no cost to the landowner. Water supply wells that have a whole house granular activated carbon unit installed are sampled at the inlet and outlet of the treatment unit during each sampling event to monitor the effectiveness of treatment. The results of all water supply well testing are sent directly to each landowner.

In addition to the regular sampling of water supply wells conducted by the USACE, the EPA sampled over 140 water supply wells in 2009 that were located outside the one-mile buffer zone. There were no detections of DOD contaminants in any of those water supply wells.

The USACE is planning on conducting an updated well inventory in the Fall of 2016.

Bedrock Aquifer Groundwater Monitoring Wells

In Spring 2016, the USACE installed three new clusters with three new monitoring wells each into the bedrock aquifer. These nine new bedrock monitoring wells (see figure on back of fact sheet) are collocated with three existing groundwater monitoring well clusters MW-90, MW-180, and MW-157. The new bedrock monitoring well clusters were installed deeper into the bedrock aquifer compared to the existing monitoring wells.

Following the installation, the nine new bedrock monitoring wells were sampled and the results showed concentrations of TCE and RDX above the action levels.

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For more information or any questions concerning the former Nebraska Ordnance Plant project, please contact:

Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Kansas City District
601 East 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106
Phone: (816) 389-3846

or go to the project website at:

http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/EnvironmentalProjects/NOP.aspx

Information repository documents are available for review at:

Mead Public Library
316 South Vine Street
Mead, Nebraska 68041
Phone: (402) 624-6605

Hours
Tuesday: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 2-6 p.m.
Wednesday: 4-8 p.m.
Thursday: 10-11 a.m. and 2-6 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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Based on those results, additional bedrock monitoring wells will be installed downgradient from the newly installed bedrock monitoring well clusters. The installation of the new downgradient bedrock monitoring wells is anticipated to begin in late Summer 2016. All of the new bedrock monitoring wells will be sampled and added to the sitewide groundwater monitoring program.

The results of the groundwater samples collected from those new downgradient bedrock monitoring wells will help guide the decision process for planning additional field activities related to the bedrock aquifer.