

NEWS Letter

Former Nebraska Ordnance Plant ■ Mead, Nebraska

Open House at New Location

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be hosting our winter Open House on Wednesday January 20, 2009 at the Yutan VFW Country Club in Yutan, Nebraska. The Yutan VFW Country Club is located south off Highway 92 at 1581 Yutan Road.

The open house meeting will be from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with our technical staff in attendance to answer specific questions regarding the former Nebraska Ordnance Plant. Representatives from US Environmental Protection Agency and Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality are expected to attend as well. A variety of handouts and displays will be available along with refreshments. Additionally, a brief informational presentation will be given on the 2008 Containment Evaluation. The presentation will be given at 5:00, 6:00, and 7:00 p.m.

For further information regarding the meeting, contact Kristine Stein, Project Manager, at (816) 389-3172.

Load Line 4 Treatment Plant Construction Update

The Corps of Engineers is pleased to announce the completion of construction for the Load Line 4 Groundwater Treatment Plant at the former Nebraska Ordnance Plant. The construction of the new Load Line 4 Groundwater Treatment Plant began on August 24, 2009 with construction completion occurring only a few months later on December 31, 2009. Crews have been hard at work erecting the building, placing the treatment equipment, and assembling

the treatment system. The Load Line 4 Groundwater Treatment Plant and Focused Extraction Well 15 are now fully operational with initial start up testing and programming being completed during January 2010. This facility treats groundwater contaminated with trichloroethene using the same successful air stripper technology currently in use at the Load Line 1 Groundwater Treatment Plant.



LL4 Groundwater Treatment Plant (photo by ECC)

Operations and Maintenance Summary

As of the end of December 2009, operation of the Main Treatment Plant, Advanced Oxidation Process Treatment Plant, and Load Line 1 Groundwater Treatment Plant have resulted in an estimated mass removal and/or treatment of:

TCE (Trichloroethene) – 11,496 pounds

- 355 pounds from the Main Treatment Plant (February 2002 – December 2009)
- 85 pounds for the Load Line 1 Groundwater Treatment Plant (February 2006 – December 2009)
- 11,056 pounds for the Advanced Oxidation Process Treatment Plant (March 2008 – December 2009)

January 2010

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

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or go to the project website at

<http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/projects/mead>

Information repository documents are available for review at:

Mead Public Library

316 South Vine Street

Mead, Nebraska 68041

(402) 624-6605

Hours

Tuesday: 9-11 AM, 2-7 PM

Wednesday: 9-11 AM

Thursday: 9-11 AM, 2-7 PM

Saturday: 9-1 PM



US Army Corps
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RDX (Hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine) – 156 pounds

- 156 pounds from the Main Treatment Plant (February 2002 – December 2009)

A total of more than 9,724,444,000 gallons of groundwater have been treated by the three plants since startup of the Main Treatment Plant in 2002. Both the Main Treatment Plant and Load Line 1 Groundwater Treatment Plant process water from the containment wells. The high mass removal generated by the Advanced Oxidation Process Treatment Plant is due to the nature of Focused Extraction Well 11, a focused extraction well installed in a portion of the Load Line 1 plume with high concentrations of TCE.



Treatment units at the Main Groundwater Treatment Plant (photo by ECC)

Underground Storage Tank Removal

The Corps of Engineers contractor, Kingston Environmental, conducted a geophysical investigation in late September 2009 to determine the exact locations of 24 underground storage tanks at the former Nebraska Ordnance Plant. These tanks were believed to be located near the four former Load Line areas on University of Nebraska property. Results of the geophysical survey indicated that only 2 of the 24 tanks remain and are scheduled for removal by Kingston Environmental. Each tank is 40-feet in length and 10-feet in diameter with a capacity of approximately 25,000 gallons. An additional 25,000 gallon tank located near the University of Nebraska Agronomy building will also be removed as part of this contract. Excavation and construction equipment will be on site in late March 2010 to begin removal of the tanks and associated soil. The contractor will remove any fuel or oil prior to excavation. The tanks and any soil above state regulatory levels will be transported off-site for disposal. Soil sampling will be conducted in the excavation areas to ensure Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality standards are met. The excavation areas will then be backfilled with clean soil.

Operable Unit 3 Update

The Corps of Engineers has hired a new contractor to prepare a work plan for a Supplemental Remedial Investigation for Operable Unit 3. Surface water, vapor intrusion, and a burn layer recently identified in the North Burning Grounds area are included in the supplemental investigation. The contractor will perform a comprehensive review of all existing documentation on the operable unit and will prepare a work plan describing any additional field investigations and reporting necessary to thoroughly characterize the operable unit. The contractor is scheduled to begin the documentation review in January 2010. The draft work plan is scheduled to be submitted in June 2010.

Results of the 2008 Containment Evaluation

Every year the Corps of Engineers evaluates the groundwater containment system to ensure that it is operating successfully. The hydraulic containment system at the site consists of extraction wells at the leading edge of the RDX and TCE plumes. The objective of the containment evaluation is to use chemical data to verify that the hydraulic containment system is containing these plumes.

The primary containment evaluation tool at the site is the network of downgradient compliance wells used for groundwater monitoring. Containment is evaluated based on the data routinely collected from the compliance monitoring wells.

Groundwater chemical data collected in 2008 from compliance monitoring wells showed that the system of extraction wells is containing the groundwater above the Final Target Groundwater Cleanup Goals. No Operable Unit 2 Record of Decision chemicals of concern were detected in the compliance monitoring wells above cleanup goals.

In addition to the chemical sampling results from the compliance wells, information such as chemical sampling data from monitoring wells located throughout the site, regional water levels measured from wells, and contaminant concentration trends in select monitoring wells is used as part of the yearly containment evaluation process. The evaluation of this information helps to identify any potential future concerns with hydraulic containment. At this time, no future potential concerns have been identified.