



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**®

**Kansas City District**

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## **Proposed Plan Fact Sheet Former Forbes Atlas Missile Site S-5 Lyon County, Kansas**

You have the opportunity to provide comments on the Proposed Plan for the Former Forbes Atlas Missile Site S-5 (S-5 Site) in Lyon County, Kansas. The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), with the support of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), has issued the Proposed Plan and would like to hear your views on it.

The Proposed Plan summarizes the results of the investigations and previous response action which demonstrates that the S-5 Site poses unacceptable risk to human health for future residents. The recommended final action in the Proposed Plan is In-Situ Treatment with Long-term Monitoring and Contingent Alternate Water Supply for the S-5 Site. The public is invited to participate in the decision-making process by providing comments on the Proposed Plan. The final action will be selected after review and consideration of public comments.

The S-5 Site was an operational intercontinental ballistic missile launch facility from 1959 to 1965. The Atlas Missile Program was an important but short-lived element of the United States' defense system. The S-5 Site was one of nine (9) former Series "E" Atlas Missile Sites located around Forbes Air Force Base (AFB), Topeka, Kansas. The site is surrounded by agricultural grazing lands.

Environmental contamination at the S-5 Site resulted from waste management practices during the facility's operational period. Much of this is groundwater contamination beneath the site. Contaminants in the soil were not detected above respective screening criteria. Sediment and water samples taken the main sump, sediment trap, flame tunnel, and various pits located in and around the missile base structure, were determined to be potentially a source of groundwater contamination at the Site. In 2018, an Interim Remedial Action was performed to remove the water and sediments from the sump, sediment trap, and flame pit structures.

The site has been investigated by both USACE and the USEPA as documented in the following reports, which are available as part of the Administrative Record:

- 1991 USACE Confirmation Study
- 2007 USEPA Preliminary Assessment
- 2018 USACE Remedial Investigation
- 2018 Interim Remedial Action
- 2020 Feasibility Study
- 2021 Proposed Plan

### What is the remedial alternative?

In-Situ Treatment with Long-term Monitoring and Contingent Alternative Water Supply is selected because it would provide destruction of volatile organic compound mass in groundwater and provide data to evaluate treatment progress. Monitoring will continue until remedial action objectives are achieved. A contingent alternate water supply is included in case land use is changed to residential and would prevent direct exposure to contaminated groundwater.

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# Invitation to Comment on the Proposed Plan

## Submit Written Comments



### Public Comment Period:

**July 19-August 24, 2021**

USACE will accept written comments on the Proposed Plan during the Public Comment Period. Submit your comments to:

ATTN:  
Ms. Calley Havens  
USACE Kansas City District  
CENWK-PME-S  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896  
[Calley.w.havens@usace.army.mil](mailto:Calley.w.havens@usace.army.mil)

Comments must be received verbally, postmarked, or emailed by August 24, 2021.

### What happens next?

Public comments will be reviewed by the USACE and considered in the selection of the final remedy. All comments will be evaluated. Afterwards the selected remedy will be published in a Decision Document (DD). The USACE will respond to comments in a section of the DD called the Responsiveness Summary.

## Public Meeting



You are invited to a meeting sponsored by USACE to hear about the Proposed Plan for contaminated groundwater at the former Forbes Atlas Missile Site S-5. Your input on the Proposed Plan is an important part of the decision-making process.

The USACE will hold a virtual public meeting on July 26, 2021 @ 6 PM to explain the Proposed Plan via the following Webex link:

<https://usace1.webex.com/meet/calley.w.havens>

Or, join by phone:

**1-844-800-2712, US Toll Free**

**Access Code 199-544-3533**

## Location of Administrative Record:



### Council Grove Public Library

829 West Main Street  
Council Grove, Kansas 66846  
Phone: 620-767-5716  
FAX: 620-767-7312  
E-mail: [cglib@tctelco.net](mailto:cglib@tctelco.net)

### Hours of Operation:

Mon-Tue 11 AM to 6 PM  
Wed-Fri 11 AM to 4 PM

The Proposed Plan as well as Remedial Investigation Reports are located here.

You can also access the Proposed Plan online at:

<https://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/Environmental-Projects/Forbes-Atlas-Missile-Site-S-5/>