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PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING THE RECORD OF DECISION FIVE-YEAR REVIEW
ALLEGANY BALLISTICS LABORATORY ROCKET CENTER WV
2/1/2012
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PUBLIC NOTICE
Record of Decision Five-Year Review
Allegany Ballistics Laboratory, West Virginia

The Department of the Navy and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 3, with concurrence from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP), are beginning a Five-Year Review of five existing Record of Decision (ROD) documents and ongoing remedial (environmental cleanup) actions at the Allegany Ballistics Laboratory (ABL), in Mineral County, West Virginia. This is the fourth 5-year review for ABL. A Five-Year Review is required by Section 121 of Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) for remedial actions which result in any hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants remaining at a site at levels that do not allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure.

The purpose of the 5-year review is to ensure that these remedial actions are providing adequate protection of human health and the environment. The Navy will submit draft findings of the 5-year review to EPA and WVDEP in January 2013. The final report will be made available to the public by October 2013.

Community members who have questions or information about the effectiveness of the remedies that would help the review team are encouraged to contact the Public Affairs Officer:

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Where to find the RODs and related information:

These RODs and other information about the environmental cleanup program are available on the public website, by clicking on the "Administrative Records" tab. The Allegany Ballistics Laboratory Administrative Record file contains all documents that the Navy and regulators used as the basis for these RODs.

Website: <http://go.usa.gov/TsM>

RODs and Remedial Actions to be reviewed:

Operable Unit (OU1) - Site 5 Landfill cap and Surface Soil: A landfill cap (consisting of a geosynthetic clay layer and flexible membrane cap) was placed in the subsurface at Site 5 in October 1997 to reduce potential exposure risks and to reduce contaminant leaching from the landfill waste and degradation of groundwater beneath.

OU2 - Site 5 Groundwater, Surface Water, and Sediment: A permeable reactive barrier (PRB) was installed in the subsurface at Site 5 in May 2006 to address trichloroethene in alluvial groundwater. Groundwater is monitored to determine the progress of the PRB wall and for natural attenuation (evaluation of reductions in contaminants through naturally occurring processes, i.e. biodegradation, dispersion, and dilution). Land use controls are in place to prohibit groundwater use.

OU3 - Site 1 Groundwater, Surface Water, and Sediment: A groundwater extraction and treatment system has been in operation since September 1998 to address volatile organic compounds (VOCs) (chemicals with properties that readily allow them to vaporize) in groundwater. Groundwater, surface water, and sediment are monitored to evaluate the effectiveness of the extraction system. Land use controls are in place to prohibit the on-site use of untreated groundwater.

OU5 - Site 10 Groundwater: Site-wide groundwater is extracted and discharged into the Site 1 treatment system to address VOCs in alluvial groundwater. Groundwater monitoring is conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of the extraction system. Land use controls are in place to prohibit groundwater use.

Site 11 - Production Well "F" and Site 12 – Building 167 Solid Waste Management Units: A ROD was signed in January 2012 to address VOCs and metals in groundwater at Sites 11 and 12. The selected remedy was focused enhanced anaerobic biodegradation, monitored natural attenuation, and institutional controls. The remedial action for Site 11 and 12 is expected to take place in September 2012.