

Public Notice of Explanation of Significant Differences to the Final Soils Record of Decision

Iowa Army Ammunition Plant (IAAAP)

LEGALS

Superfund Site
Middletown, Iowa

In 1998, the Army and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) signed a Final Record of Decision (ROD) for Soils OU-1 that describes the potential treatment alternatives and the selected treatment remedy for contaminated soils at various areas throughout the IAAAP. These soils are impacted with explosives, explosives-plus-metals, semi-volatile organic compounds, and metals contamination. The treatment remedy was initially Low Thermal Treatment Desorption and was changed to the contingent biological remedy via the Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) for the Final ROD for OU-1 in 2003.

The Army recently discovered that the selected biological remedy for explosives contamination is not as efficient as a chemical treatment method employing alkaline hydrolysis. The Army is, therefore, issuing this ESD to revise the remedy to a methodology using alkaline hydrolysis to treat explosive-contaminated soils. This revised remedy will meet the ROD-specified performance standards for the treatment of the contaminants more quickly and cost effectively than was believed possible at the time of the 1998 ROD and subsequent 2003 ESD.

This ESD will describe to the public the nature of the significant changes, summarize the information that led to making the changes, and affirm that the revised remedy complies with applicable regulations. The Army is currently proceeding with soil treatment activities while the ESD is being prepared as allowed by EPA and Army guidance. The ESD will be placed in the IAAAP's Administrative Record file located online at www.iaaap.adminrecord.com.

For more information, contact Rodger Allison, U.S. Army, IAAAP, 319-753-7130 or Matt Jefferson, U.S. EPA Region 7, 913-551-7520.

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