



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District

**Former Raritan Arsenal; Edison, New Jersey
Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS)**

**Public Information Meeting
30 October 2013
Edison Senior Center
2963 Woodbridge Avenue • Edison, New Jersey**

Meeting Summary

Introduction

One member of the public and a reporter from News Channel 12 attended the open house (scheduled for 7:00 – 7:30) and spoke with Ms. Sandra Piettro of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Project Manager and other project team members.

At 8:20 pm, when no one else had arrived, the meeting was adjourned. Mr. Jay Elliott from Edison Township remained until 9:00 pm, in case someone came late.

Presentation

(Not given, but attached to these minutes)

Questions from Community Members and Answers Provided

(None)



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Former Raritan Arsenal Remedial Investigation – Phase I




Presentation for Public Information Meeting – October 30, 2013

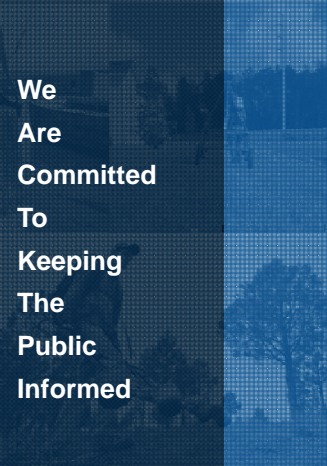
*Formerly Used Defense Sites Program (FUDS)
Former Raritan Arsenal
Edison, New Jersey
Contract # W912DY-09-D-0060, Task Order 003*

A Munitions Remedial Investigation is Beginning


This presentation provides information about upcoming work near Centre Place at Edison




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The
Public
Informed



Focus of the Remedial Investigation (RI)




- Since 1989, numerous investigations and removal actions have been completed at the former Raritan Arsenal.
- This investigation focuses on 12 specific areas of the former Arsenal
- The purpose is to:
 - Characterize the nature and extent (i.e., what is it, and where is it) of munitions and explosives of concern (MEC), munitions constituents (MC), and other hazardous and toxic wastes that are specifically related to a known/documented Department of Defense release.
 - Perform human health and ecological risk evaluations, as well as complete a MEC hazard assessment.
 - Collect sufficient data to define remedial alternatives in the Feasibility Study that will follow.




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Specific Areas of Focus

Area ID	Name of Area	Acreage
Area 1	Former Demolition Area	0.57
Areas 6, 6A, 6B	Former Burning Ground and Impoundment Area	130
Area 10	Former Wastewater Treatment and Magazine Area	140
Area 11	Former Dredged Material and Explosives Area	11
Area 12	Former Dredged Material and Explosive Detonation Area	82
Area 13	Submerged Dock Area	23
Area 16	Former Magazine Area	277
Area 18D	Trench of Shell Casings	31
Areas 9 and 19	Former Magazine Areas	294
DSA	Dredge Spoils Area	645






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Investigation Area near Centre Place at Edison

Area ID	Name of Area
Area 1	Former Demolition Area
Areas 6, 6A, 6B	Former Burning Ground and Impoundment Area
Area 10	Former Wastewater Treatment and Magazine Area
Area 11	Former Dredged Material and Explosives Area
Area 12	Former Dredged Material and Explosive Detonation Area
Area 13	Submerged Dock Area
Area 16	Former Magazine Area
Area 18D	Area to be Investigated
Areas 9 and 19	Former Magazine Areas
DSA	Dredge Spoils Area





Investigation Area near Centre Place at Edison



Property is owned/used by:




- General Services Administration (GSA)/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Middlesex County/ Middlesex Community College







History of Area 18D

- Used heavily during operation of the former Arsenal
 - A 1-acre parcel in the center of Area 18D contains a known MEC burial trench.
- Two removal actions during construction of Centre Place at Edison:
 - In October-November 2005, a total of 1,623 practice or inert bombs were removed from Area 18D. Several bombs were left in place, 25-30 feet below the ground.
 - In March 2006, 476 empty or inert bombs were removed from four trenches 20-25 feet below the ground.



World War I Practice Bomb (MK 1, 25-lbs):
The casing was thin and it was suitable for practice only.
They were stored empty. A spotting charge would have been added shortly before the bomb was used.



A Phased Approach

Phase I

- Locate buried metallic objects that might be munitions

November 2013

Phase II



- Dig up and identify metallic objects
 - Are they unrelated objects (pipe, rebar, fence posts) or munitions?

January 2014

Phase III

- Sample soil for munitions compounds where munitions were found

June 2014



Phase I – Site Preparation and DGM (Nov – Dec 2013)

■ Phase I is scheduled to start November 4, 2013.





■ Vegetation will first be cut and cleared to allow for surface clearance and Digital Geophysical Mapping (DGM).


■ Surface clearance: walk over the area and pick up metallic objects on the surface that could interfere with the DGM.

■ In the unlikely event that a munitions item is discovered on the surface:

– If it is deemed safe to move, it will be moved to a remote location where it will be destroyed.

– If it is not safe to move, engineering controls such as sandbags, soil, etc. will be used to conduct a safe controlled detonation





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What is Digital Geophysical Mapping or DGM?

■ Geophysical technicians slowly walk over the areas to be investigated using Electromagnetic Induction (EMI) instruments.

– DGM is not *intrusive*: it does not require that anything buried under the ground be disturbed



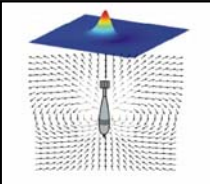
– Subsurface “anomalies” (metallic objects) are recorded electronically


– A digital map is created so anomalies can be located in the next phase of the investigation.

■ Skilled geophysicists and munitions experts will:

– Analyze the data collected

– Select subsurface anomalies that might be munitions and should be further investigated







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Phase II – Intrusive Investigation (Jan – March 2014)






- Phase II is scheduled to start in January 2014, after subsurface anomalies have been identified, prioritized and selected for investigation.
- Unexploded ordnance technicians will:
 - Re-locate the mapped anomalies using surveying equipment.
 - Carefully excavate anomalies using a combination of hand tools (*shovels, trowels*) and heavy equipment (*tracked excavators, backhoes*).
 - Identify the anomalies and determine whether they are munitions or “cultural debris “ (*metal objects such as pipes, fence posts, etc.*)
 - Inspect munitions and determine whether they can be moved safely, or will need to be destroyed in place.
- For safety reasons during these intrusive investigations, exclusion zones are established to keep “non-essential personnel “out of the areas that are being actively investigated.



Phase II – Intrusive Investigation (January – March 2014)

- Currently, it is anticipated that intrusive investigations of anomalies will be required in the following areas:
 - Area 10
 - Area 12
 - Area 13
 - Area 18D
 - Dredge Spoils Areas 
 - These are places where sediments that were dredged from the river may have been deposited in the 1950s
- Specific locations will depend on Phase I results







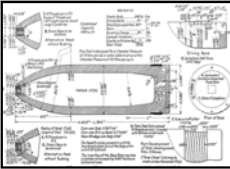




Phase III – Sampling & Analysis (June – July 2014)

■ Phase III will begin after identifying and classifying any munitions that are recovered during Phase II.

■ Munitions experts and scientists will identify the types of compounds (*specific metals and explosives*) that make up those recovered munitions.

■ Environmental samples will be collected and analyzed for those specific compounds, to ensure that they have not been released into the environment.





Schedule				
Phase	Task	Duration (business days)	Projected Start	Projected Finish
Phase I	Mobilization and Site Set-up	5 days	Wed 10/23/13	Fri 10/25/13
	Terrestrial (Land Sites) Surveying	12 days	Fri 10/25/13	Mon 11/11/13
	Vegetation Clearance	9 days	Mon 11/4/13	Thu 11/14/13
	Surface Clearance	11 days	Tue 11/5/13	Tue 11/19/13
	Terrestrial DGM Surveys	10 days	Mon 11/11/13	Fri 11/22/13
	River (Underwater) Digital Geophysical Mapping (DGM) Surveys	10 days	Mon 11/4/13	Fri 11/15/13
Phase II	Intrusive Investigation	January – March 2014		
Phase III	Sampling & Analysis	June – July 2014		

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Safety and Coordination

- The US Army Corps of Engineers
 - Is committed to investigating these areas with the utmost concern for the safety of the public.
 - Is committed to keeping the general public, stakeholders, and local government informed about what is happening, and when it will be happening.
 - Will schedule additional meetings throughout the phases of the investigation so all interested parties remain well informed.



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Questions

- If you have questions that were not answered tonight, please contact:
Ms. Sandra L. Pietro, Project Manager
Phone – 917-790-8487
Email – Sandra.L.Pietro@usace.army.mil
- For more information about investigations at Raritan Arsenal, see the project website:
www.nan.usace.army.mil/Raritan
- To sign up for future mailings and public meetings:
 - Make sure you signed the sign-in sheet tonight
 - Send an email to Sandra.L.Pietro@usace.army.mil
 - Sign up for Edison Township's e-mail/cell phone alerts at www.edisonnj.org



Thanks for your participation!



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