

**FIVE-YEAR REVIEW
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM
JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, ALASKA**



April 2023

INTRODUCTION

Elmendorf Air Force Base (AFB) (EPA Identification Number AK8570028649), forms part of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) which is located in southcentral Alaska, adjacent to the cities of Anchorage and Eagle River. JBER-Elmendorf (JBER-E) comprises the west and south of the installation which encompasses 13,100 acres. While military missions of the U. S. Air Force (USAF) and Army units remain separate, JBER consolidated service-specific programs performing installation support functions, such as environmental services. The USAF, as the supporting component of JBER, is responsible for management of all Environmental Restoration Programs.

FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

The USAF, as the lead agency for environmental cleanup at JBER-E, announces the Five-Year Review of eleven (11) Environmental Restoration Program sites at JBER-E. This review is a detailed evaluation of the environmental cleanup work being performed under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). The objective of the evaluation is to determine if a selected remedies are functioning as intended and continue to remain protective of human health and the environment. If a remedy is found to be not protective, recommendations for additional activities are documented in the Five-Year Review. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation are the regulatory agencies participating in this review process.

This is the sixth Five-Year Review for JBER-Elmendorf, the most recent was completed in 2018. CERCLA requires that a review is conducted at least once every five years after a remedy is selected until hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants no longer remain on site above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure.

The review will determine whether the selected remedies documented in records of decision (RODs) remain protective of human health and the environment. Periodic reviews are required because exposure assumptions, toxicity data, cleanup levels and remedial action objectives could have changed over time.

The community is encouraged to participate in the review process. Background information and RODs for JBER are available electronically at <http://ar.afcec-cloud.af.mil> with sites listed under the former installation name (Elmendorf AFB, AK). Documents are also on file in the Information Repository at the Alaska Resources Library and Information Services (ARLIS). Community members can contribute information about site activities to Stantec, Inc, through May 6, 2023. Upon completion, results of this Five Year Review, will be summarized in a report which will be available for public review at the web site listed above and at ARLIS.

ACRONYMS

AFB	Air Force Base
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
JBER	Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson
LUC	land use control
MNA	monitored natural attenuation
NFA	no further action
OU	operable unit
ROD	record of decision
TCE	trichloroethylene
USAF	U.S. Air Force

Steps in the Five-Year Review Process

Document Review	A review of the records of decision (RODs) and updates to the RODs since the last Five-Year Review. This includes review of the cleanup objectives and operation, monitoring, and optimization records.
Site Inspection & Interviews	To document if land use or site conditions have changed in ways that impact the protectiveness of the remedy, each site will be inspected and interviews will be conducted with operations personnel, community members, and regulators.
Assessment of Remedy Protectiveness	A comparison of cleanup standards in the ROD to current regulatory standards, site conditions, and remedy performance to determine if the ROD cleanup standards and actions are protective of human health and the environment.
Final Report	The report presents the purpose of the review, applicable regulations, site chronology and background, remedial actions and basis for remedial actions, progress since the last Five-Year Review, technical assessment of remedy protectiveness, and recommendations for any required or suggested improvements or follow-up actions. If the Review findings show that a remedy is not protective, the report will state what steps are required to achieve protectiveness. The report also discusses when the next review is due and what areas will be included or excluded and why.

Summaries of JBER-Elmendorf Operable Units and Sites Included in this Five-Year Review.

Operable Unit 1

- Site: LF059
- Contaminant: trichloroethylene (TCE) in groundwater
- Remedy: groundwater monitoring and land use controls (LUCs)

Operable Unit 2

- Site: ST041
- Contaminant: fuel in groundwater
- Remedy: Groundwater monitored natural attenuation (MNA) to ensure contaminant reduction through natural biological and physical processes; LUCs

Operable Unit 4

- Sites: FT023 and SD029
- Contaminants: fuel and solvents in groundwater
- Remedy: MNA and LUCs for groundwater.

Operable Unit 5

- Site: ST037
- Contaminants: fuel and TCE in groundwater and seep water
- Remedy: MNA and LUCs for groundwater, also treatment of seep water

Operable Unit 6

- Sites: LF002, LF003, LF004, SD015 and WP014,
- Contaminants: fuel and solvents in groundwater and soil
- Remedy: MNA and LUCs for groundwater, also high-vacuum extraction for soil and groundwater at SD015.

Site DP098

- Contaminant: TCE in soil and groundwater
- Remedy: excavation/off-site disposal of contaminated soil, MNA and LUCs for groundwater

DEFINITIONS

- LUC** A land use control is an administrative or physical measure that limits human exposure by restricting activity, use, and/or access to properties with residual contamination.
- MNA** Monitored natural attenuation is a technique used to test for or measure the breakdown of contaminants in soil and groundwater by natural physical, chemical, and biological processes.
- NFA** No further action is a term used to indicate that there are no contaminants present, or that any contaminants that were present have been remediated to applicable cleanup levels.
- OU** A group of sites with similar contaminant types (fuels, solvents, etc.), contaminant sources (leaking tanks, spills, etc.), or geological location.
- ROD** Public document that explains which cleanup alternative has been selected and specifies the cleanup objectives.
- TCE** A solvent that was routinely used to remove grease from equipment and parts.

For More Information

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Information Repository

Alaska Resources Library & Information Services
(ARLIS)
University of Alaska Anchorage Consortium Library
3211 Providence Drive
Anchorage, Alaska
Reference Desk: (907) 272-7547

JBER Official Website

<https://www.jber.jb.mil/Services-Resources/Environmental/Restoration.aspx>

Administrative Record

USAF Civil Engineer Center, Administrative Record
<http://ar.afcec-cloud.af.mil>
with sites listed under the former installation name
(Elmendorf AFB, Alaska).

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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