

U.S. AIR FORCE
ELLSWORTH AFB, SD

Next RAB Meeting

Mark your calendars!
The next Restoration Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., May 22, 2012 at Douglas Middle School. For more information, please call 385-2677, or 385-5056.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

<http://www.ellsworth.af.mil/library/environmental.asp>

View the following:

- RAB presentations
- Public announcements
- Meeting information
- Past newsletters

VISIT THE INFORMATION REPOSITORY!

The Information Repository is located at the South Dakota Air & Space Museum, and is available Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. View our website for more information.

Record of Decision Amendment

In March 2012, the Air Force, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources signed a record of decision (ROD) amendment identifying changes to the selected remedy for cleaning up contaminated groundwater on-base at

the OU-11 Basewide Groundwater Operable Unit. The primary remedy for groundwater cleanup on the installation is in-situ reductive treatment (IRT). Extraction/treatment systems were shut down in November 2011 and are currently being maintained as backup.

For more information on the ROD Amendment, see the October 2011 *Restoration News* newsletter on our website.

Please note, there are no changes to the selected remedy (monitored natural attenuation) for the contaminated off base groundwater.

Partial Deletion from National Priorities List!

The Environmental Protection Agency issued a Notice of Intent to delete Operable Unit 1 (Fire Protection Training Area) and two areas of concern: the Gateway Lake Ash Study Area and the Pride Hangar Study Area of the Ellsworth Air Force Base Superfund Site, from the National Priorities List (NPL).

This partial deletion pertains to surface soil, unsaturated subsurface soil,

surface water, and sediments. Of the 12 Operable Units originally identified, only OU-11 (Basewide Groundwater) remains on the NPL. The other Operable Units were deleted in 2006.

What Does a Partial Deletion from the NPL Mean?

A partial deletion is a way the EPA can communicate successful cleanup of parts of the Ellsworth AFB site.

Contact Us!

- Let us know if you have any topics you would like us to address in the next newsletter or at the next RAB meeting
- You can also request results from recent groundwater sampling conducted on your property
- Contact us at (605) 385-2677 or send a request to:

**28 CES/CEANR
2125 Scott Drive
Ellsworth AFB, SD 57706**

East Off-Base Groundwater Exit Strategy

Ellsworth Air Force Base finalized an *Exit Strategy Report* for the east off-base groundwater plume in October 2010. The *Exit Strategy Report* outlines a strategy to attain site closeout for the east off-base plume.

A groundwater investigation was conducted in 2009-2010. A total of 307 groundwater samples were collected from 335 soil borings. Based on these results, 19 additional monitoring wells were installed. These 19 new monitoring wells, in addition to 11 existing monitoring wells, make up the optimal monitoring network for the east off-base groundwater plume.

The exit strategy milestones for the east off-base plume are as follows:

- A minimum of four samples must be collected from each well starting in 2010 (total of 30 wells).
- Concentrations of contaminants must be stable or declining.

■ Concentrations must be less than the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for three consecutive years. At this point, sampling frequency at individual monitoring well changes from annual to every five years.

■ Once all 30 wells have attained these milestones, all 30 wells will be sampled simultaneously for verification.

Once the milestones for site closeout have been met, the east off-base portion of the groundwater plume can be deleted from the National Priorities List (NPL), the monitoring wells abandoned, and groundwater use restrictions can be removed.

The figures on the reverse page illustrate off-base plume results for 2011 and 2012. In April 2011, only three off-base monitoring wells had concentrations equal to or above the MCL. In March 2012, all off-base monitoring wells had concentrations below the MCL!

After groundwater use restrictions are lifted, Ellsworth will no longer be obligated to provide free water to those landowners currently receiving free water. At that point, landowners will be responsible for paying their own water bill. The earliest this could happen is during the year 2015, although it is possible that it could take longer.

When groundwater use restrictions are lifted, it will be okay to install new wells and use existing wells without a modified Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) (currently, a modified MOA is required to pump the groundwater for non-potable purposes (irrigation and swimming)). We will continue to provide updates on the east off-base plume in our newsletter and at RAB meetings.

Note: An exit strategy has not yet been developed for the southwest plume.

East Off-Base Plume TCE Results (Starting in 2010)

Well ID	Four or More Samples Available (starting 2010)?	Trend (requires four samples)	<MCL for three Consecutive Years?	Spring 2010 TCE Result (µg/L)	Spring 2011 TCE Result (µg/L)	Spring 2012 TCE Result (µg/L)	Consecutive Years <MCL
MW96BG0408	No - 3		Yes	2.1	1.6	1	3
MW96BG0422	No - 3		Yes	0.44F	0.78F	1.2	3
MW96BG0425	No - 3		Yes	2.7	2	1.6	3
MW972406	No - 3		Yes	2.4	2.4	3	3
MW972408	No - 3		Yes	3	3.1	2.4	3
MW972410	No - 3		No	5.3	4.2	3.3	2
MW982415	No - 3		Yes	0.32F	0.31F	0.36F	3
MW982416	No - 3		No	5.6	4.6	4.1	2
MW982422	No - 3		Yes	3.8	3	2.4	3
MW002422	No - 3		Yes	3.9	3	2.7	3
MW002423	No - 3		Yes	<1	<1	<1	3
MW09OB01	No - 3		Yes	3.6	3	2.7	3
MW09OB02	No - 3		Yes	3.9	3.2	2.9	3
MW09OB03	No - 3		Yes	4.9	3.6	3.6	3
MW09OB04	No - 3		No	6	5.3	4.5	1
MW09OB05	No - 3		No	5.3	4.4	3.9	2
MW09OB06	No - 3		No	5.5	4.4	4.3	2
MW09OB07	No - 3		No	6	5.1	4.4	1
MW09OB08	No - 3		Yes	4.9	4.6	4.4	3
MW09OB09	No - 3		Yes	<1	<1	<1	3
MW10OB01	No - 3		Yes	3.6	2.5	2.5	3
MW10OB02	No - 3		Yes	4.8	3.6	2.6	3
MW10OB03	No - 3		Yes	2.4	2.6	3.7	3
MW10OB04	No - 3		Yes	2.8	2.4	2	3
MW10OB05	No - 3		Yes	3.8	3.4	2.8	3
MW10OB06	No - 3		No	5	4.3	3.5	2
MW10OB07	No - 3		No	5.9	5	4.3	1
MW10OB08	No - 3		Yes	3.2	3.5	3.1	3
MW10OB09	No - 3		Yes	4.5	3.7	2.8	3
MW10OB010	No - 3		Yes	1.2	1.5	1	3

Notes:

J = Result is estimated

F = Result between method detection limit and reporting limit

<1 = Below reporting limit

Bold = Detected at or above the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 5 ug/L

