



California Former Castle AFB

Facility and Location

Castle Air Force Base (AFB) (1941-1995) is a former Air Force Strategic Air Command base located northeast of Atwater, northwest of Merced, and about 123 miles east-southeast of San Francisco. The base was closed in 1995. It is now known as the Castle Airport Aviation and Development Center. The Castle Air Museum (CAM) Foundation has been in existence since the Air Force established the base museum in 1981. When Castle AFB closed in 1995, the CAM Foundation assumed all responsibility for managing and displaying the museum's collection of 44 planes which are on loan from the Air Force, among them a B-24, a B-36, and an SR-71. Just before closure, the Air Force conveyed two buildings and about 20 acres to the CAM Foundation under a public benefit conveyance sponsored by the Department of Education.

Media Sampled and Findings

Groundwater — Prior to 2007, 16 of 17 groundwater samples taken detected perchlorate with a high concentration of 1.6 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

Not Applicable. All samples were below the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb.