



California Pyrite Canyon

Facility and Location

The Pyrite Canyon site is located near the Stringfellow Superfund site in an unincorporated portion of Riverside County, north of Glen Avon. Portions of the site are being used for construction, storage, and maintenance. Structures in use consist of scattered concrete bunkers and Quonset huts. Several abandoned and dilapidated buildings are on the eastern side of the canyon. The property is owned by several private entities.

In 1956, with the cooperation of the state of California, the site owner converted a portion of his properties for use as a hazardous waste dump. Reports suggest that sometime during the 1950s, Universal Propulsion Company leased a site adjacent to the dump, on either side of Pyrite Canyon, for the manufacture and testing of explosive devices. Military munitions were produced or demilitarized at this location and may present an explosive hazard.

The Army evaluated the Pyrite Canyon site under its Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) program. This site was not an active installation or one used by DoD. Since the Pyrite Canyon site was privately owned and operated, it is not eligible for further FUDS program consideration.

Media Sampled and Findings

Groundwater — Prior to 2007, one sample detected perchlorate at 81 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

No further action is planned as confirmatory sampling, done by private stakeholders, showed no detections and that DoD is not a responsible party.