



Minnesota

Arden Hills Army Training Site and Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant

Facility and Location

The original Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant (TCAAP) is listed on the National Priorities List and is approximately four square miles. The Arden Hills Army Training Site (AHATS) field training area is a portion of the original TCAAP and consists of 1,500 acres and is roughly two miles long and over one mile wide. AHATS consists of ten training areas. Its rolling terrain and vegetation is well suited for training of company sized elements during inactive duty training weekends. Historically, AHATS has been able to support three to five units (depending on strength) training concurrently with no negative impact on training objectives. AHATS has no live fire ranges.

Training done by units at AHATS greatly varies, but generally falls into one of the following categories: land navigation (mounted and dismounted), practice hand grenade range, rope bridge site, reaction drills, tactical operations center operations, helicopter landing zones, maneuver and convoy operations, reconnaissance, operations, patrolling, drivers training, winter operations, and field training exercise and bivouac.

Construction of TCAAP began in August 1941 and production started in February 1942. During World War II, the plant produced more than four billion rounds of ammunition. After World War II, it engaged in repacking ammunition and demilitarizing unusable ammunition. The repack program was completed in 1947 and the demilitarization program was completed in 1951. The plant began producing ammunition again in 1950. From 1950 to 1957, TCAAP produced small arms ammunition and metal parts of 105mm and 155mm artillery projectiles. The plant was placed on standby status from August 1958 to December 1965 when it was announced that the plant would be reactivated. By September 1966, the plant was producing ammunition for the Vietnam War. An enclosed range was built on the site in the late 1960s to proof test cartridges. Other aspects of the facility were modernized in the late 1960s. The plant was placed on a layaway status, in several stages, from 1971 to 1974 but continued to support defense contractor production through 2005. The remaining portion of the plant is surplus federal government property.

Media Sampled and Findings

Sampling was initiated following a concern from a TCAAP Restoration Advisory Board member. In July 2003, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) was petitioned to undertake a Public Health Assessment at TCAAP. Included in the list of concerns was perchlorate. In responding to the request, ATSDR solicited support from the Minnesota Department of Health, who in turn sought assistance from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). MPCA is a signatory to the TCAAP Federal Facilities Agreement. MPCA decided that groundwater sampling was appropriate to resolve the concern. TCAAP declined to perform any sampling on the basis that there are no records indicating the use of perchlorates



at the installation. MPCA elected to perform the sampling and sampled eight locations in December 2003, two additional locations in March 2004, and all ten locations a second time between June and July 2004.

Groundwater — Prior to 2007, 2 of 22 samples from four locations detected perchlorate with a high of 0.2 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

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