



District of Columbia Spring Valley

Facility and Location

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is cleaning up the Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) Spring Valley. Located in the northwest section of Washington, D.C., the site was known as the American University Experiment Station during World War I and was used by the federal government for research and testing of chemical agents, equipment, and munitions.

Media Sampled and Findings

Groundwater — In 2011 16 of 18 samples detected perchlorate from 2.3 to 39 ppb. In 2010, 34 of 36 samples detected perchlorate from 0.11 to 50 ppb. In 2007, 47 of 53 samples detected perchlorate from 0.09 to 146 ppb. Prior to 2007, 50 of 71 samples detected perchlorate from 0.20 to 124 ppb. Perchlorate has been found in background samples ranging from 0.3 to 0.5 ppb.

Surface Water — In 2011, two of two samples detected perchlorate at 2.7 and 3.4 ppb. In 2010, 18 of 18 samples detected perchlorate from 0.35 to 20 ppb. In 2007, 33 of 34 samples detected perchlorate from 0.21 to 15.7 ppb. Prior to 2007, 17 of 17 samples detected perchlorate from 0.55 to 9.94 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

Groundwater samples were above the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb. USACE and its project partners, Environmental Protection Agency Region III and the D.C. Department of the Environment, continue to investigate and characterize the two individual perchlorate plumes to determine if an upgradient source exists. The plumes may be connected and may extend south of the FUDS property boundary. The source of perchlorate has not been identified. The groundwater quality upgradient of Dalecarlia Reservoir is below levels of concern. Studies and investigations are ongoing, and the Army will continue to monitor this site.