



Mississippi Gulf Ordnance Plant

Facility and Location

The Former Gulf Ordnance Plant (GOP) is located in Monroe County at Prairie, approximately three miles southwest of Aberdeen. Former GOP consisted of approximately seven 800 plus acre tracts. The original acreage acquired by the Army in the early 1940s consisted of six 600 plus acre tracts in fee, one 130 acre tract by lease, and 40 acres by easements.

The site was constructed in the early 1940s to serve as an ammunition plant during World War II. The plant had a pistol range for guard target practice. The processes at the plant included loading and assembly lines for ammunition (including cluster bombs), manufacture of large projectiles (including 20mm, 40mm, 57mm, 75mm projectiles, 4.5 inch rockets, and 100 pound bombs), ordnance storage, demolition and burn areas as well as trenches and burial pits for ammunition.

The Army began shutdown procedures and decontamination of the GOP on August 17, 1945. On July 26, 1946, a Decontamination Certificate was written, advising that "the plant has been satisfactorily decontaminated to a standby condition which is not a complete decontamination of the plant; additional decontamination will be required." On August 28, 1946, all demilitarization (i.e., burning) ground and demolition operations at the plant were completed.

The Air Force reacquired the acreage, originally conveyed to the state of Mississippi in 1948, in 1953 for use as a vehicle storage station. The acreage was again reported excess to the General Services Administration in 1955 and 1960, with property disposals being accomplished from 1955 through 1976. Property acquisitions by the city of Aberdeen and Monroe County occurred in 1948, 1962, 1964, and 1976. The site is located near residential areas and adjacent to a public school.

Media Sampled and Findings

Groundwater — In 2007, two samples reported no detection.

Appropriate Actions

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