



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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July 7, 2021

Gary Richards
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Kansas City District
Environmental Programs Branch, PME-S
601 East 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2824

**Re: Concurrence for Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) property No. F10WA0088;
Draft Final Preliminary Assessment Report Formerly Used Defense Sites, Former
Winslow Nike Battery 82 Site, Bainbridge Island, Washington**

Dear Gary Richards:

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) has completed its review of the project documents. Conclusions and recommendations for the project presented in the report include the following:

- The Property is located approximately on Bainbridge Island in Kitsap County, Washington. The Property was an active United States (U.S.) Army installation and operated as Nike Ajax (S-82) Battery A, 4th Battalion, 4th Artillery Regiment.
- The Property is 224.58 acres and is comprised of two non-contiguous areas: the former Control Area (16 parcels spanning 167.86 acres) and the former Launch Area (13 parcels spanning 56.72 acres). The former Control Area is currently mixed use with private residences, recreational facilities, commercial properties, and a school. It was obtained by the General Service Administration (GSA) for use by the U.S. Army between 1954 and 1955 through a combination of condemnation proceedings, purchases, and no-area/no-cost licenses. The former Launch Area is currently mixed use with private residences and recreational facilities. It was obtained by GSA for use by the U.S. Army between 1955 and 1956 through a combination of condemnation proceedings, purchases, and no-area/no-cost licenses.

- The Site Survey Form/Inventory Report and aerial photographs indicate that operations involving Hazardous Toxic and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) occurred on the 6.67 fee-owned acres (currently Eagledale Park) of the former Control Area. There is no evidence that an Underground Storage Tank (UST) removal or soil sampling took place at the former Control Area; therefore, petroleum contaminated soil may be present. There was a potential for a release of waste and excess quantities of the aforementioned contaminants at Nike sites. No sampling was performed at the former Control Area. Therefore, Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) contamination may be present in soil, groundwater, and surface water.
- Four USTs containing diesel fuel or heating oil were present at the former Launch Area. UST-1 and UST-2 were removed and confirmation sampling identified petroleum-contaminated soil which was also subsequently removed. However, UST-3 was closed in place due to a portion of the tank being located partially underneath the Missile Assembly and Test Building. UST-4 was located south of the pump house at the former Launch Area and was removed and disposed of off-site. A previous investigation report indicated that no soil confirmation sampling was conducted at the closed-in-place UST-3 or the excavation for removed UST-4. Petroleum-contaminated soil may be present under and adjacent to the missile assembly and test building as well as south of the pump house building.
- Operations pertaining to munitions occurred at the former Launch Area. It is presumed that munitions operations and HTRW only occurred on the 17.83 fee-owned acres (currently Strawberry Hill Park) of the former Launch Area. Department of Defense (DoD) activities involving military munitions entailed the assembly, fueling, warheading, readying, storage, maintenance, deroading/disassembly, and (potentially) disposal of non-explosive Nike Ajax missile components. There was no indication that Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) were abandoned or later discovered at the former Launch Area. The Nike Ajax Missile carried explosive warheads and contained other explosive components. However, no evidence of explosives disposal at the property was found.
- Nike Ajax missiles contained weapon payloads consisting of high explosives, chemical weapon payloads would not have been used. Therefore, the presence of Recovered Chemical Warfare Material is not anticipated.

- Law Enforcement Services conducted an environmental investigation for the United States Army Corps of Engineers at the former Launch Area in 1986. The data revealed that no actionable levels of VOCs, hydrocarbons (diesel, gasoline), metals or nitrates were detected in any of the water samples. The conclusion of this report is that there were no actionable levels of contamination of groundwater, soil, or surface water in samples taken from the site and that no additional studies need to be conducted at the former Launch Area.
- In 1987 and 1988, two 20-foot concrete towers were removed, along with wooden pilings and concrete walkways and stairs at the former Control Area. At the former Launch Area, a concrete pad near the former generator building, along with the retaining wall between the two missile magazines was removed. The backfill and reseeded of disturbed areas was conducted, as well as the removal of an iron pipe at the north end of the former Launch Area. Disposal of debris in the northern magazine was also completed. No unsafe buildings or debris were observed during the 2018 site visit. Therefore, there are no evident BD/DR hazards associated with DoD activities that warrant a project at either the former Control Area, nor the former Control Area.

The Washington State Department of Ecology concurs with the conclusions and recommendations that further DoD action is recommended for the Property for HTRW and CON/HTRW. Additionally, there is no recommendation of further action for MEC, MC, RCWM, and BD/DR pertaining to DoD activities at the Property.

Ecology does not assume any liability for any release, threatened release, or other conditions at the site, or for any actions taken or omitted by any person or his/her agents or employees with regard to release, threatened release, or other conditions at the site.

The state, Ecology and its officers and employees are immune from all liability and no cause of action of any nature may arise from any act or omission in providing this determination.

Thank you for working with the Department of Ecology. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (360) 515-6583 or at ronnie.johnson@ecy.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Ronnie Johnson
Munitions Cleanup
Toxic Cleanup Program