

**FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR
BOILER PLANT NO. 3, BUILDING 1076, PARCELS 14(7) AND 235(7)
FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

JUNE 2001

**U.S. ARMY ANNOUNCES
DECISION DOCUMENT**

This Decision Document presents the determination that no further remedial action will be necessary to protect human health and the environment at Boiler Plant No. 3, Building 1076, Parcels 14(7) and 235(7) at Fort McClellan (FTMC) in Calhoun County, Alabama. The location of the parcels at FTMC is shown on Figure 1. In addition, the Decision Document provides the site background information used as the basis for the no further action decision.

This Decision Document is issued by the U.S. Army Garrison at FTMC with involvement by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT). The BCT consists of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region IV, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM). The BCT is responsible for planning and implementing environmental investigations at FTMC.

Based on the results of the site investigation (SI) completed at Boiler Plant No. 3, Building 1076,

Parcels 14(7) and 235(7), the U.S. Army will implement no further action at the site. This decision was made by the U.S. Army with concurrence by the BCT.

This Decision Document summarizes site information presented in detail in background documents that are part of the administrative record for Boiler Plant No. 3, Building 1076, Parcels 14(7) and 235(7). A list of background documents for Parcels 14(7) and 235(7) is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for Parcels 14(7) and 235(7) is available at the public repositories listed on Page 3.

**REGULATIONS GOVERNING
SITE**

FTMC is undergoing closure by the BRAC Commission under Public Laws 100-526 and 101-510. The 1990 Base Closure Act, Public Law 101-510, established the process by which U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) installations would be closed or realigned. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program requires investigation and cleanup of federal properties prior to transfer to the public domain. In addition, the Community Environmental Response

Facilitation Act (CERFA) (Public Law 102-426) requires federal agencies to identify real property on military installations scheduled for closure that can be transferred to the public for redevelopment or reuse. Consequently, the U.S. Army is conducting environmental studies of the impact of suspected contaminants at parcels at FTMC. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC follows the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process.

SITE BACKGROUND

FTMC is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of northeastern Alabama near the cities of Anniston and Weaver in Calhoun County. FTMC consists of two main areas of government-owned properties: the Main Post and Pelham Range. Until May 1998, the FTMC installation also included the Choccolocco Corridor, a 4,488-acre tract of land that was leased from the State of Alabama. The Main Post, which occupies 18,929 acres, is bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega National

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR BOILER PLANT NO. 3

Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. (ESE), 1998, *Final Environmental Baseline Survey, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, prepared for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, January.

IT Corporation (IT), 2001, *Final Site Investigation Report, Boiler Plant No. 3, Building 1076, Parcels 14(7) and 235(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, June.

IT Corporation (IT), 2000, *Final Human Health and Ecological Screening Values and PAH Background Summary Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, July.

QST Environmental, Inc. (QST), 1998, *Final Site Investigation Work Plan, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, March.

Science Applications International Corporation, 1998, *Final Background Metals Survey Report, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, July.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), 2000, *Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories*, EPA 822-B-00-001, Office of Water, Washington D.C., Summer.

Forest. Pelham Range, which occupies 22,245 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

Boiler Plant No. 3, Building 1076 (Parcel 235[7]) is located off Fremont Road in the northwestern portion of the FTMC Main Post (Figure 1). Boiler Plant No. 3 was built in 1954 and was decommissioned in 1999. At the time of decommissioning, the plant was maintained and operated by Johnson Controls, Inc. and was fired by natural gas. However, the plant could also operate using heating oil, which was used as a backup fuel source. Heating oil was used in the past as the primary fuel source (ESE, 1998).

Two 15,000-gallon steel underground storage tanks (UST)

were installed at the site in 1953 and were used to store No. 4 heating oil. The two steel USTs were removed in 1991 and replaced with two 15,000-gallon fiberglass USTs. A closure report for the removal of the two 15,000-gallon steel USTs was not available (ESE, 1998). The replacement USTs were located just east of the old USTs.

The two 15,000-gallon fiberglass USTs (Parcel 14[7]) installed in 1991 were located under a concrete pad south of Building 1076 (Figure 1). The USTs were used to store heating oil. These USTs were removed by Karst Environmental, Inc. in September 2000 in accordance with ADEM regulations. At the time of closure, the USTs were noted to be in excellent condition and without holes observed in the tanks.

SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the environmental baseline survey (ESE, 1998) was used to group areas at FTMC into standardized parcel categories using DOD guidance. All parcels received a parcel designation for one of seven CERFA categories, or a non-CERCLA qualifier designation, as appropriate. The seven CERFA categories include CERFA Uncontaminated Parcels (Categories 1 and 2), CERFA Contaminated Parcels (Categories 3 through 7), and CERFA Qualified Parcels. Boiler Plant No. 3, Building 1076, Parcels 14(7) and 235(7), were categorized as CERFA Category 7 parcels in the environmental baseline survey. CERFA Category 7 parcels are

**PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES
FOR FORT McCLELLAN**

Anniston Calhoun County Public Library

Reference Section

Anniston, Alabama 36201

Point of Contact: Ms. Sunny Addison

Telephone: (256) 237-8501

Fax: (256) 238-0474

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Houston Cole Library

9th Floor

Jacksonville State University

700 Pelham Road

Jacksonville, Alabama 36265

Point of Contact: Ms. Rita Smith (256) 782-5249

Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

areas that are not evaluated or that require further evaluation (ESE, 1998).

With the issuance of this Decision Document, Parcels 14(7) and 235(7) are recategorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response.

SITE INVESTIGATION

In 1998, QST Environmental, Inc. (QST) conducted an SI at Boiler Plant No. 3, Building 1076, Parcels 14(7) and 235(7) to determine whether chemical constituents are

present at the site at concentrations that present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment (QST, 1998; IT, 2001).

QST collected seven subsurface soil samples and four groundwater samples during the SI at the site. Subsurface soil samples were collected at depths greater than 8 feet below ground surface. Groundwater samples were collected from two temporary monitoring wells installed during the SI and from two existing UST compliance wells at the site. Samples were analyzed for metals, volatile organic compounds (VOC), and semivolatile organic compounds (SVOC). In addition, two soil samples were analyzed for total organic carbon.

To evaluate whether detected constituents present an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment, the analytical results were compared to human health site-specific screening levels (SSSL) for FTMC (IT, 2000). The SSSLs were developed as part of human health and ecological risk evaluations associated with SIs being performed under the BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC. Additionally, metals concentrations exceeding SSSLs were compared to media-specific background screening values (Science Applications International Corporation, 1998). The potential threat to human receptors is expected to be low. Although the site is projected for

reuse by the Alabama Army National Guard, the analytical data were screened against residential human health SSSLs to evaluate the site for unrestricted land reuse. In soils, with the exception of iron in one sample, the metals concentrations that exceeded SSSLs were below their respective background concentration or within the range of background values and thus do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health. VOC and SVOC concentrations in soils were below SSSLs.

In groundwater, several metals were detected in two samples at concentrations exceeding SSSLs and background concentrations. However, the samples with the elevated metals results were collected from small-diameter (1-inch) direct-push temporary wells. It is likely that the samples had high turbidity, which caused the elevated metals results. Chloroform (0.0022 milligrams per liter [mg/L] and 0.0018 mg/L) and naphthalene (0.0035 mg/L) were detected at concentrations marginally exceeding SSSLs (0.00115 mg/L and 0.003 mg/L, respectively). However, the chloroform and naphthalene concentrations were below EPA drinking water standards and health advisory values (EPA, 2000) and are not expected to pose a threat to human health.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

The two 15,000-gallon USTs associated with the boiler plant were removed in September 2000. UST removal activities were conducted in accordance with ADEM regulations.

DESCRIPTION OF NO

FURTHER ACTION

Remedial alternatives were not developed for Parcels 14(7) and 235(7). No further action is selected because further remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at this site. The metals and chemical compounds detected in site media do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the site is released for unrestricted land reuse. Furthermore, Parcels 14(7) and 235(7) are recategorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. The U.S. Army will not take any further action to investigate, remediate, or monitor Boiler Plant No. 3, Building 1076, Parcels 14(3) and 235(3) (formerly Parcels 14[7] and 235[7]).

The following costs are associated with implementing the no-action alternative:

Capital Cost:	\$0
Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs:	\$0
Present Worth Cost:	\$0
Months to Implement:	None
Remedial Duration:	None.

DECLARATION

Further remedial action is unnecessary at Boiler Plant No. 3, Building 1076, Parcels 14(3) and 235(3) (formerly Parcels 14[7] and 235[7]). The no further action remedy protects human health and the environment, complies with relevant federal and state

regulations, and is a cost-effective application of public funds. This remedy will not leave in place hazardous substances at concentrations that require limiting the future use of the parcel, or that require land-use control restrictions. The site is released for unrestricted land reuse. Parcels 14(7) and 235(7) are recategorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. There will not be any further remedial costs associated with implementing no further action at Boiler Plant No. 3, Building 1076, Parcels 14(3) and 235(3) (formerly Parcels 14[7] and 235[7]).

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Any questions or comments concerning this Decision Document or other documents in the administrative record can be directed to:

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Environmental Coordinator
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ACRONYMS

ADEM	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
BCT	BRAC Cleanup Team
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESE	Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc.
FTMC	Fort McClellan
IT	IT Corporation
mg/L	milligrams per liter
QST	QST Environmental, Inc.
SI	site investigation
SSSL	site-specific screening level
SVOC	semivolatile organic compound
UST	underground storage tank
VOC	volatile organic compound

Prepared under direction of:

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Date

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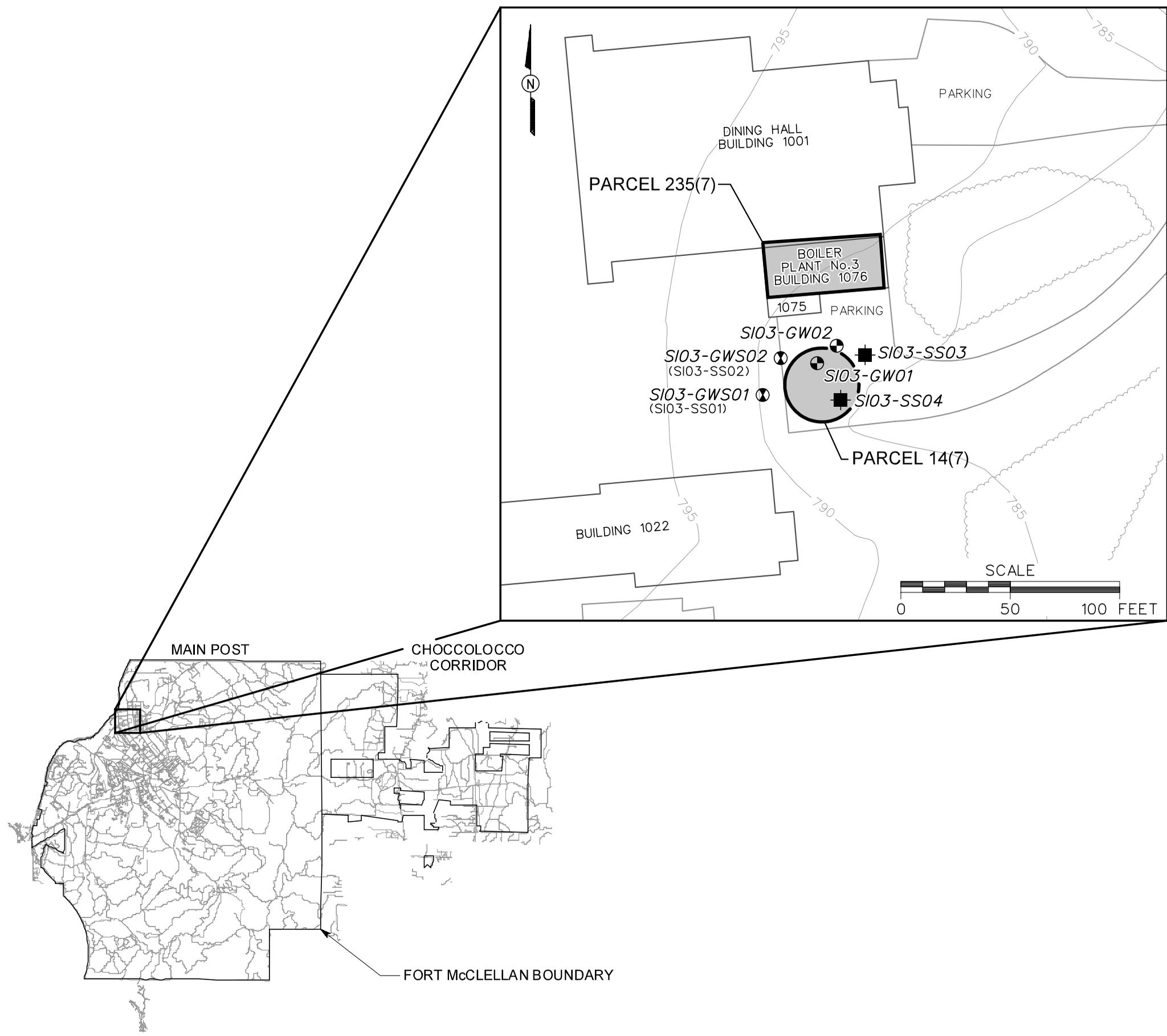
Date

Approved by:

Glynn D. Ryan
Site Manager
Fort McClellan, Alabama

Date

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 PROJ. NO.: 783149
 INITIATOR: T. WINTON
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- LEGEND**
- UNIMPROVED ROADS AND PARKING
 - PAVED ROADS AND PARKING
 - BUILDING
 - TOPOGRAPHIC CONTOURS (CONTOUR INTERVAL - 5 FOOT)
 - TREE / TREELINE
 - PARCEL BOUNDARY
 - GROUNDWATER AND SUBSURFACE SOIL SAMPLE LOCATION
 - SUBSURFACE SOIL SAMPLE LOCATION
 - COMPLIANCE WELL LOCATION

FIGURE 1
SITE MAP
BOILER PLANT No.3
PARCELS 14(7) AND 235(7)

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
 MOBILE DISTRICT
 FORT McCLELLAN
 CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA
 Contract No. DACA21-96-D-0018