

**FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR
THE FORMER TRANSFORMER NEAR BUILDING 3798
PARCEL 57Q
FORT McCLELLAN, ALABAMA**

ISSUED BY: THE U.S. ARMY

OCTOBER 2000

BCT 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 the Former Transformer near Building 3798, Parcel 57Q at Fort McClellan (FTMC) in Calhoun County, Alabama. The location of Parcel 57(Q) 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 FTMC Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT). The BCT is comprised of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (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 the Former Transformer near Building

3798, Parcel 57Q, 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 greater detail in background documents that are part of the administrative record for the Former Transformer near Building 3798, Parcel 57Q. A list of background documents for Parcel 57Q is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for Parcel 57Q 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 is comprised 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 comprises 18,929 acres, is bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR PARCEL 57Q

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), 2000a, *Draft Site Investigation Report, Former Transformer near Building 3798, Parcel 57Q, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, January.

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

IT Corporation (IT), 1998, *Final Site-Specific Field Sampling Plan Attachment Site Investigation at the Former Transformer at Building 3798 (Parcel 57Q), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, September.

National Forest. Pelham Range, which comprises 22,254 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

An electrical transformer was previously attached to a power pole located approximately 260 feet southwest of Building 3798 (Figure 1) at FTMC. This site is located near Summerall Gate, to the southeast of the road. The closest stream/drainage is approximately 700 feet from the Former Transformer site, east and west. The soils at this site are classified as Anniston and Allen gravelly loams, 6 to 10 percent slopes, eroded (AcB2) category. This unit consists of friable soils that have developed in old alluvium washed from sandstone and shale onto foot slopes and along the base of mountains. The texture of subsoil ranges from light-gray loam to clay or silty clay loam. The alluvium ranges in thickness from 2 feet to more than 8 feet and is underlain by highly fractured limestone and shale. Infiltration and runoff are medium, permeability is moderate,

and the capacity for available moisture is high (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1961). Bedrock beneath the Parcel 57Q has been mapped as the Shady Dolomite (Osborne et al., 1989). There were not any borings advanced during the SI at Parcel 57Q that penetrated bedrock.

SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the Environmental Baseline Survey (EBS) (Environmental Science and Engineering [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 Parcels (Category 1); CERFA Disqualified Parcels (Categories 2 through 7); and CERFA Category 1 Qualified Parcels (ESE, 1998). The Former Transformer near Building 3798 was categorized as a CERFA Category 1 Qualified Parcel.

CERFA Category 1 Qualified Parcels are those parcels that were identified as having no evidence of CERCLA-related hazardous substance or petroleum product storage, release, or disposal, but which do contain other environmental or safety concerns (ESE, 1998).

SITE INVESTIGATION

An SI was conducted at the Former Transformer near Building 3798, Parcel 57Q to determine whether chemical constituents are present at the site at concentrations that would present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment (IT, 2000b). A surface soil sample was collected from the base of a utility pole, which had formerly held an electrical transformer. The electrical transformer had been removed from the utility pole and a small area of soil excavated beneath the transformer. A confirmatory soil sample was collected and analyzed for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

**PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES
FOR FORT MCCLELLAN**

Anniston Calhoun County Public Library

Reference Section

Anniston, AL 36201

Point of Contact: Ms. Sunny Addison

Tele: (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 Rd, No.

Jacksonville, AL 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.

Analysis for PCBs was selected because the former transformer may have contained PCBs.

During the SI, the soil sample was collected from the upper 1-foot of soil at the base of the utility pole located approximately 260 feet southwest of Building 3798.

The surface soil sample contained PCB Aroclor 1260 at a concentration of 0.026 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg). To evaluate whether detected constituents present an unacceptable risk to the environment, the analytical result was compared to human health site-specific screening levels (SSSL) and ecological screening

values (ESV) for FTMC. The SSSLs were developed as part of human health and ecological risk evaluations associated with site investigations being performed under the BRAC environmental restoration program at FTMC.

The concentration of PCB Aroclor 1260 exceeded the ecological SSSL but was below the residential human health SSSL.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Remedial actions were not conducted at the Former Transformer near Building 3798, Parcel 57Q.

DESCRIPTION OF NO FURTHER ACTION

Remedial alternatives were not developed for Parcel 57Q. No further action is selected because remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at this site.

Contamination found in the soil at Parcel 57Q does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or to the environment. Therefore, the site is released for unrestricted future land use with regard to hazardous, toxic, and radioactive wastes (HTRW) activities. The

U.S. Army will not take any further action to investigate, remediate, or monitor the Former Transformer near Building 3798, Parcel 57Q.

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

Remedial action is unnecessary at Parcel 57Q. The no further action remedy protects human health and the environment, complies with federal and state regulations that are legally applicable or relevant and appropriate to this remedial action, 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 to exposure. The site is released for unrestricted future land use with regard to HTRW activities. There will not be any further remedial costs associated with implementing no further action at Parcel 57Q.

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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GLOSSARY

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
ESV	ecological screening values
FTMC	Fort McClellan
HTRW	hazardous, toxic, and radioactive wastes
mg/kg	milligrams per kilogram
PCB	polychlorinated biphenyl
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
SI	Site investigation
SSSL	Site-specific screening level

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