

National Priorities List published in the **Federal Register** on November 1, 1995.

The remaining parcels comprising the Cecil Field Naval Air Station Superfund Site will remain on the NPL. Response actions are either underway at these parcels or the parcels do not require any further response action other than operation and maintenance activities and enforcement.

**DATES:** EPA will accept comments concerning this proposal to delete specified parcels from the Site until March 31, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted to Deborah A. Vaughn-Wright, Remedial Project Manager, Federal Facilities Branch, Waste Management Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 61 Forsyth Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30303, (404) 562-8539, fax (404) 562-8518, e-mail [vaughn-wright.debbie@epa.gov](mailto:vaughn-wright.debbie@epa.gov).

Comprehensive information and deletion docket for this site is available through the public docket which is available for viewing at the Site Information repositories at the following locations:

(1) U.S. EPA Region 4, Library, 61 Forsyth Street, Atlanta, GA 30303, (404) 562-8190. Hours: Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and

(2) Building 907, 13357 Lake Newman Street, Cecil Commerce Center, Jacksonville, Florida 32252, Phone: (904) 573-0336.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Deborah A. Vaughn-Wright, Remedial Project Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 61 Forsyth Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30303, (404) 562-8539, Fax (404) 562-8518, e-mail [vaughn-wright.debbie@epa.gov](mailto:vaughn-wright.debbie@epa.gov).

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##### **I. Introduction**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 announces its intent to delete approximately 16,496.14 acres of land from the Cecil Field Naval Air Station Superfund Site, Jacksonville, Duval and Clay Counties, Florida from the National Priorities List (NPL). The NPL constitutes appendix B to the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 CFR part 300, which EPA promulgated pursuant to section 105 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability

Act (CERCLA) of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 9605.

The NPL is a list of facilities which EPA determined may pose a significant threat to public health, welfare, or the environment. 40 CFR 300.425(e) authorizes deletion of facilities, or portions of facilities, from the NPL provided that facility meets certain criteria. Deletion from the NPL does not necessarily preclude further remedial action. If a significant release occurs at a facility deleted from the NPL, that facility is restored to the NPL without application of the Hazard Ranking System. Non-federal facilities deleted from the NPL are eligible for Fund-financed remedial actions should future conditions warrant such action. While federal facilities are not eligible for Fund-financed remedial action, all federal facilities, whether listed on the NPL or not, have a continuing statutory duty to conduct further remediation, if required, even after the federal property is transferred to non-federal owners. Where a release attributable to federal facility's historical activities is discovered after a property transfer, CERCLA section 120(h)(3)(A)(i) requires the federal entity to conduct further remediation if needed for protection of human health and the environment.

An environmental assessment was conducted at the facility on the parcels proposed for transfer. All media were sampled. Results of this sampling were compiled in Remedial Investigations reports which were used to conduct a Risk Assessments. Feasibility Studies were generated which evaluated potential remedies required to address the contamination. The remedies were summarized in a public notice soliciting comments on the remedies. All public comments received during the public comment period were considered by the Navy and EPA before a final remedy was selected. Several parcels did not require a remedial action to be protective of human health and the environment.

The parcels proposed for deletion are described in more detail later in this document. EPA proposes deleting these parcels from the NPL because no further CERCLA response is appropriate. The remaining portions of property comprising the Cecil Field Naval Air Station Superfund Site will remain on the NPL. This notice will be published in the **Federal Register** to solicit public comment on the proposed partial deletion. The public comment period is thirty (30) days beginning on the date of publication.

Section II of this action explains the criteria for the partial deletion of sites from the NPL. Section III discusses the

procedures that EPA is using for this action. Section IV discusses the history of the Cecil Field Naval Air Station Site and explains how the portions of the Site proposed for deletion meet deletion criteria. Section V states EPA's action to delete the portions of the site from the NPL unless dissenting comments are received during the comment period.

##### **II. NPL Deletion Criteria**

Section 300.425(e) of the NCP provides that sites may be deleted from, or recategorized on, the NPL where no further response is appropriate. In making a determination to delete a release from the NPL, EPA shall consider, in consultation with the state, whether any of the following criteria have been met:

(i) Responsible parties or other persons have implemented all appropriate response actions required; or

(ii) All appropriate Fund-financed response under CERCLA has been implemented, and no further response action by responsible parties is appropriate; or

(iii) The Remedial Investigation has shown that the release poses no significant threat to public health or the environment and, therefore, taking of remedial measures is not appropriate.

As explained below, portions of the Site meet the NCP's deletion criteria listed above. Therefore, a partial deletion is being proposed.

##### **III. Deletion Procedures**

The following procedures were used for the intended partial deletion of portions from the Site:

(1) All appropriate responses under CERCLA have been implemented and no further action by EPA is appropriate for the identified areas; (2) The State of Florida concurred with the proposed deletion decision via letter dated July 3, 2002; (3) Simultaneous with this notice, a similar notice of Intent for Partial Deletion was published in a major local newspaper with general circulation in and around the Site and distributed to appropriate federal, state, and local officials and other interested parties announcing a thirty (30) day comment period starting on the date of publication in the **Federal Register** and a major local newspaper; and (4) All relevant documents have been made available for public review in the local Site information repositories.

The public is asked to comment on the proposed partial deletion within thirty (30) days of the date of this document. EPA will evaluate all comments received during this period before issuing a final decision. If