



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Norfolk District

Media Advisory

Contact: Gerald Rogers
Phone: (757) 201-7606

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 10, 2005
#05-05

Project Update: Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot

Suffolk, VA – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps) continues ordnance and environmental investigations at the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot (FNOD) site in Suffolk, VA under the Formerly Used Defense Site Program.

Munitions Response Efforts

To date, the Corps has completed munitions response efforts at over 64 of the 78 acres that require clearance at FNOD. The Corps will spend \$1.3 million on munitions investigations at the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot this year. There will be two teams of ordnance specialists working concurrently. These teams will focus on the Main Burning Ground, the Horseshoe Pond, and the Nansemond River Beachfront. The Corps expects to complete all munitions clearance efforts at FNOD in two to three years.

The Corps has focused its munitions response efforts so far this year in the Main Burning Ground located on GE property. The Corps will continue munitions investigations at the Horseshoe Pond in May and at the Nansemond River beachfront in June.

Corps Steps Up Environmental Investigations at FNOD

Now that the Corps has completed the vast majority of the munitions response efforts required at FNOD, the focus is now shifting more heavily on environmental studies at the site. The Corps has budgeted nearly \$3 million for environmental investigations across the site this year. Five of the six National Priority List (NPL) source areas identified by EPA are currently in the Remedial Investigation stage. These sites include the TNT area, the James River Beachfront, the Horseshoe Pond, Main Burning

Ground area/Steamout pond, and the Track K/Former Tire Pile area. During the remedial investigation phase, the Corps evaluates the nature and extent of environmental hazards at the site and conducts a more in depth analysis of the risk posed to human health and the ecosystem.

The Corps is also initiating or continuing site investigations and sampling efforts at a number of “Areas of Concern,” which are sites at the former depot that need to be screened based on historical records and aerial photography review. They include the Nearshore area, the Nansemond River Beachfront, Tracks G, H & I, and the Marine Corps Power Generation Station. In addition, the Corps is proceeding with a Remedial Investigation at the TCC Lake, and an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis at the Pesticide Drum area. Two public meetings are scheduled this year to discuss future actions at the Pesticide Drum area (June 2) and the Track K/Former Tile Pile area (August 4). Both sites are located on TCC property.

Next Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting

The status of the Corps’ site activities will be discussed at the next Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting for the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot (FNOD) project on Wednesday, March 16 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Bon Secours Health Center at Harbour View, located at 5818 Harbour View Boulevard in Suffolk, in the second floor conference room. RAB meetings are open to the public. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend. Meeting Topics will include:

- DoD’s Proposed Changes to the RAB Rule
- Sites/Issues that Concern the RAB
- 2005 Project Priorities
- Landowner updates
- Army Corps Update

Background on the Restoration Advisory Board

The Restoration Advisory Board was established in 1997. It is a communications forum that enables the public to provide input on cleanup efforts to the Corps and the environmental regulators. It is comprised of a diverse group of stakeholders including community members, local business representatives, local and state officials, a TCC representative and environmental staff from the Corps, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and the EPA. For more information please check out the project website at <http://www.nao.usace.army.mil/Projects/Nansemond/welcome.html> or contact Adriane James, FUDs Program Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at (757) 201-7701.

###