



Air Force Base

Danny Yandell
Restoration Program Manager
CES/CEAN
251 4th Street, Building 100
Laughlin AFB, TX 78843

For More Information

To learn more about the Environmental Restoration Program at Laughlin AFB, contact:
Public Affairs
561 Liberty Dr., Ste. 3
Laughlin AFB, TX 78843
Phone: 830-298-5980

If you would like to read past reports on the technical aspects of the ERP at Laughlin AFB, please visit the Information Repository at:
251 4th Street, Building 100
Laughlin AFB, TX 78843

**Please Add Me to the Laughlin AFB
Environmental Restoration Program Mailing List**

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**Laughlin Air Force Base
Danny Yandell
Restoration Program Manager
CES/CEAN
251 4th Street, Building 100
Laughlin AFB, TX 78843**

Or, send an e-mail with your request to:

Danny.Yandell@Laughlin.af.mil

ERP Update

The Environmental Restoration Program

L aughlin Air Force Base (AFB) is committed to not only being a responsible steward of the environment but also to conducting the base's military mission in a manner that safeguards human health and the environment. A key component of this commitment is the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP). Currently 16 of the 20 sites have been determined to require no further action with concurrence by TCEQ. Investigations and cleanup actions are taking place at the remaining four ERP sites plus three munitions response sites and five compliance sites. Details on the active sites are presented below.

Fire Training Area (Site FT005)

The ERP (formally known as the Installation Restoration Program [IRP]), is a Department of Defense (DoD) program that addresses past disposal sites on military installations in the United States. The federal laws that form the basis of the ERP are taken from the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976, as well as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986. The Air Force is the lead agency for environmental restoration activities at Laughlin AFB. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is the state agency providing regulatory oversight of the ERP program at Laughlin AFB. FT005 is located in the east-central portion of Laughlin AFB, and was historically used for fire training exercises. The site encompasses 7.4 acres and includes pits, above-ground storage tanks, oil/water separators, and supply lines. Site chemicals of concern (COCs) requiring a response are primarily the result of flammable material applied for burning during fire training exercises. With concurrence by TCEQ, the implemented final remedy for the site consists of a Plume Management Zone (PMZ) to prevent potential exposure of on-base workers to groundwater contamination. The remedy includes the use of Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA) to verify that COC concentrations in the groundwater are reducing over time and not migrating off-base. The projected site closure for FT005 is in 2020, with the goal of having no land use restrictions.

Environmental Cleanup at Laughlin AFB

Laughlin AFB currently trains pilots for the United States Air Force (USAF) and allied countries. The current mission and other historically conducted base activities have resulted in 20 sites requiring some sort of response under Laughlin's ERP. Contamination in groundwater and soil from these sites is contained within the base boundary and is mainly petroleum related (i.e., related to airplane and automobile fuels).

Fuels Receiving and Storage Area (Site SS014)

Site SS014 is associated with an active jet fuel storage and dispensing facility located on Laughlin AFB. Historical releases of jet fuel from above-ground storage tanks (AST) and associated piping systems have resulted in minor impacts to soil and

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The ERP at Laughlin AFB

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shallow groundwater from fuel-related contaminants, arsenic, fluoride and nitrate. Groundwater sampling data collected to date has demonstrated that MNA combined with a PMZ is an effective remedy for control and cleanup of the COCs at this site. In addition to MNA, the active recovery of jet fuel at the groundwater surface will be conducted. Preparation of a Response Action Plan (RAP) to define final remedies to be implemented at the site and to be submitted for TCEQ concurrence will be conducted under a pending

project. The projected site closure for SS014 is in 2016, with the goal of having no land use restrictions.

Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) Building and Area (Site SS016)

Site SS016 is located in an undeveloped area of Laughlin AFB between the flight line and the eastern property boundary of the base. Groundwater samples collected from the site contain concentrations of chlorinated solvent-related contaminants, specifically, low levels of trichloroethylene (TCE). The exact source of the chlorinated solvent impact has not been

positively identified; however, based on the relatively low concentrations of the contaminant in groundwater, it is unlikely that any potentially remaining TCE in the soil is a contributing source to groundwater. A RAP establishing MNA combined with a PMZ to prevent exposure of on-base workers was conditionally approved by TCEQ pending approval of a groundwater compliance plan included with the Laughlin AFB Hazardous Waste Permit renewal application. The projected site closure for SS016 is in 2041, with the goal of having no land use restrictions.

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Community Involvement

The Community Relations Plan

Laughlin AFB welcomes and encourages community participation throughout the ERP process. To ensure that the needs of the community are recognized and addressed, Laughlin AFB maintains a Community Relations Plan (CRP). The CRP for Laughlin AFB is currently being revised and is designed to foster open communication between the Air Force and the community. When the revision is complete, it will be filed in the Laughlin AFB Administrative Record and a notice will be published in the Del Rio News—Herald indicating the document is available for review by the general public.

Administrative Record

Laughlin AFB maintains an Administrative Record, a legal record of significant correspondence, and reports regarding environmental restoration activities. The Administrative Record is maintained by the 47th Civil Engineering Squadron/Environmental Flight (CES/CEAN), and publicly available copies of administrative record documents are located at Building 100 on Laughlin AFB. The public may review these documents upon request by contacting Mr. Joel Langton, Public Affairs.

Information Repository

The Information Repository contains some of the same documents found in the Administrative Record.

However, the Information Repository is not a legal record. It is intended only to provide the public with an additional source of information about environmental activities at the Base.

The Laughlin AFB Information Repository is maintained in the ERP library in Building 100 at Laughlin AFB:

251 4th Street, Building 100
Laughlin AFB, TX 78843



Status of ERP sites at Laughlin AFB, Texas

Site ID	Facility Name	Material Spilled/Disposed	Dates of Operation	Status
FT005	Fire Training Area	Fuel-related products, arsenic, benzene, nitrate, TPH	1974 – mid 1990s	MNA; Projected site closure date 2020
SS014	Fuels Receiving and Storage Area	Fuel-related products	1953 – 2009	MNA; Projected site closure date 2016
SS016	MARS Building and Area	TCE	N/A	Groundwater monitoring; Projected site closure date 2041
ST003	Former Defueling Pit	PCBs, fuel-related products, metals, and VOCs	1947-1988	Projected Site closure date 2041

Notes:
 -MARS – Military Auxiliary Radio System
 -MNA – Monitored Natural Attenuation
 -N/A- the date of operation of SS016 is not available. TCE contamination at SS016 is not associated with operations of MARS - building area.
 -PCBs – polychlorinated biphenyls
 -TCE – trichloroethylene
 -TPH – total petroleum hydrocarbon
 -VOC – volatile organic compound
 In addition to the four ERP sites, there are currently three Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) sites and five Compliance site in remediation.

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Former Defueling Pit (Site ST003)

Site ST003, the former location of an underground storage tank (UST), is approximately 0.5 acres of land located in the central portion of Laughlin AFB. The UST, which was used to store miscellaneous waste oil, transformer oils, solvents, and JP-4 jet fuel, was installed in the late 1940s and was removed from service in 1988. The volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and metals detected in the soil and groundwater at ST003 are not believed to have resulted from releases of contaminants from the former UST location and do not present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. A Draft Final Affected Property Assessment Report

(APAR) recommending no further action for soil and groundwater, and closure of the site under assumptions of commercial/industrial land use was transmitted to TCEQ. The projected site closure for ST003 is in 2041, with the goal of having no land use restrictions.

Upcoming Events



**Community Interviews
November 2011**

Contact Mr. Danny Yandell at
 Danny.Yandell@laughlin.af.mil
 830-298-5094