

**DRAFT REVISED
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)**

**Accelerated Neutralization of Chemical
Agent And Off-Site Shipment Of Liquid
Process Effluents At The Newport
Chemical Agent Disposal Facility**

Background

The Project Manager for Alternative Technologies and Approaches (PMATA), under the direction of the Program Manager for the Elimination of Chemical Weapons (PMECW), is responsible for destruction of the chemical agent stockpile at the Newport Chemical Depot (NECD), Newport, Indiana.

Consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), PMECW previously conducted an environmental impact analysis that documented and explained PMECW's decision to construct and operate a facility at NECD to pilot test a neutralization disposal technology for VX agent currently stored at the site in ton containers (*Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Pilot Testing of Neutralization/Supercritical Water Oxidation of VX Agent At NECD, December 1998*). After receiving the necessary permits from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), PMECW began construction of the NECDF.

In light of the national emergency declared by President Bush following the terrorist attacks on 11 September 2001 (Proclamation 7463 14 September 2001), the Army determined that the stockpile of VX at NECD should be destroyed expeditiously and in a manner that does not pose a threat to public health and the environment. Consistent with NEPA, an EA was prepared (*Accelerated Neutralization of Chemical Agent and Off-Site Shipment of Liquid Process Effluents at the NECDF, July 2002*) and a FONSI was published on October 28, 2002.

Description of Action

The proposed action is to destroy the entire NECD stockpile of chemical agent by an accelerated neutralization process and to dispose of the hydrolysate at DuPont Chambers Works in Deepwater, New Jersey, an off-site, commercial Treatment, Storage, or Disposal Facility (TSDF) that is permitted to receive the liquid effluent for disposal.

. Pursuant to Title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 651.5(g), the Army has reviewed the 2002 EA for completeness. At the time of the EA a TSDf had not been identified. Since Dupont has been identified as a potential -- TSDf additional information is being provided. In accordance with Title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 651.24, an additional analysis has been done to consider DuPont Chambers Works in Deepwater, New Jersey, for possible treatment and disposal of this waste, and two routes from Newport, Indiana. The analysis also includes a determination of whether DuPont has the necessary permits for receipt, treatment, and disposal of the liquid effluent. That analysis fully supports the findings of this Draft Revised FONSI.

Anticipated Environmental Effects

There is not expected to be a significant adverse impact on the environment.

Facts and Conclusions Leading to a Revised FONSI

Evaluation of transportation routes show that there is not expected to be an increased risk to the public or environment from transporting the hydrolysate from Newport, Indiana to Deepwater, New Jersey, and DuPont has the necessary permits to transport and dispose of the liquid effluent.

Administration of Environmental Documentation

This Finding of No Significant Impact and notification of the availability of the supporting documents will be published in news media. Following the public notification, a 30-day comment period will be available to the public, government agencies, or other organizations having an interest in the proposed action. Comments received will be reviewed during preparation of the Revised FONSI.

Comments may be sent to **Susan Gilman; Newport Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office; P.O. Box 279; Newport, IN 47966-0517; (765) 492-4445; or toll free (866) 300-9034; Fax: (765) 492-4475.**