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4. FINDINGS FOR ADJACENT PROPERTIES

This section discusses the land use of properties adjacent to the former missile sites, and describes any contaminated sites found in the review of federal and state databases.

4.1. LAND USES

The former missile sites of the 446 MS are surrounded by agricultural areas used for production of various crops. Specific land uses are discussed in the site-specific EBSs.

Farming operations use chemical pesticides to increase yields. It is possible that pesticides may not be totally degraded and traces of some pesticides could be accumulating in the soil. A North Dakota State University (NDSU) survey of pesticide usage on agricultural land in the State found a total of 20.7 million acres treated with herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides in 1996 (NDSU, 1999). No specific information was provided on herbicide use in the deployment area, and no information on concentration levels of pesticides in farm land soil in North Dakota was available (see Section 3.7 of this EBS). There are no Federal or North Dakota regulatory limits on pesticide residues in soil.

Generally, pesticides degrade over time, and recently-used types of pesticides degrade more rapidly than chemicals used in the past. Pesticide fate modeling was performed as part of the MM III Dismantlement EIS. Based on the modeling results and on past experience, no significant concentrations of pesticides are expected on LF and MAF sites currently owned by the Air Force. Data on pesticide use by adjacent landowners were insufficient to draw conclusions on residual pesticide concentrations in the vicinity of the HICS.

4.2. SURVEYED PROPERTIES

Federal and state databases were investigated with due diligence based on the minimum search distances recommended by the ASTM guidelines for conducting Phase I site assessments (ASTM, 2000a, 2000b). Search distances are defined by ASTM Standards (NRC, 2005; NDDH, 2002, 2003; USEPA, 2005a, 2005b, 2005c, 2005d). The databases and their search distances are listed below, and the databases and findings are described in the following subsections. The contents of these databases change constantly; the findings are correct as of the dates given in Section 9, References.

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|--|---------------|
| • USEPA National Priorities List (NPL) | 1.0 mile |
| • Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System | 0.5 mile |
| • Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System (RCRIS) | 0.5 mile |
| • Federal Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) | 0.5 mile |
| • Federal Treatment, Storage, or Disposal (TSD) Facilities | 0.5 mile |
| • Federal Emergency Response Notification System (ERNS) | Property only |
| • State Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) | 0.5 mile |
| • State CERCLA | 0.5 mile |

4.2.1. National Priorities List

The NPL, compiled by USEPA pursuant to CERCLA (42 U.S.C. Sec. 9605(a)(8)(B)), identifies properties with the highest priority for cleanup pursuant to USEPA's Hazard Ranking system. USEPA's database of NPL sites was searched on September 19, 2005, and North Dakota has no current sites listed on the NPL. The listing shows two sites deleted in the mid-1990s, but neither was within the MM III deployment area.

Findings: North Dakota has no current or proposed NPL sites (USEPA, 2005a).

4.2.2. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System

In 1986, as part of SARA, Congress created the CERCLIS database to maintain all the related information. This system tracks information of all Superfund sites—both the most hazardous (the NPL) and those where cleanup is easier or less urgent. The CERCLIS list contains the names of all sites that the USEPA is currently investigating, or has investigated in the past, for a release of potential hazardous substances and possible inclusion on the NPL. Being included in CERCLIS does not mean that the site has been marked for cleanup by the Superfund program, nor does it mean that a hazardous substance has in fact been released there. Being in the CERCLIS means that USEPA needs to examine the situation and determine if there is cause for a Superfund cleanup or for further investigation. Sites of potential concern are those within a radius of a half-mile of the LFs or MAFs because of their potential to have a detrimental effect on the groundwater underneath the sites.

Findings: There are no hazardous waste sites within a half-mile of any of the LFs or MAFs (USEPA, 2005a).

4.2.3. Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System

The RCRIS list contains hazardous waste data in support of the *Resource Conservation and Recovery Act* (RCRA), which requires that those who generate, transport, treat, store, and dispose of hazardous waste provide information concerning their activities to state environmental agencies. These agencies then provide the information to regional and national USEPA offices. A query of the database was conducted for counties in the 446 MS deployment area to determine RCRIS listings.

Findings: None of the MAFs or LFs in the 446 MS are listed as RCRIS sites, and there are no RCRIS sites within a half-mile of any of the LFs or MAFs (USEPA, 2005b).

4.2.4. Toxic Release Inventory

The TRI, established under the *Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act* of 1986 (EPCRA) and expanded by the *Pollution Prevention Act* of 1990, contains information on toxic chemical releases and other waste management activities reported annually by certain covered industry groups as well as federal facilities.

Findings: There are no TRI sites within a half-mile of any LF or MAF (USEPA, 2005d).

4.2.5. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Treatment, Storage, or Disposal Facilities

RCRA TSD facilities are those facilities on which treatment, storage, and/or disposal of hazardous wastes take place, as defined and regulated by RCRA. USEPA, in cooperation with the States, keeps a listing of TSD facilities. Both the TRI database and The National Biennial RCRA Hazardous Waste Report were searched for TSD facilities.

Findings: There are seven TSD facilities in North Dakota, but none within the prescribed half-mile radius of an LF or MAF (USEPA, 2005c).

4.2.6. Emergency Response Notification System

The National Response Center maintains the ERNS and is the sole federal point of contact for reporting all oil, chemical, radiological, biological, and etiological discharges into the environment anywhere in the United States and its territories. The NRC database was searched to identify any spills associated with Air Force properties.

Findings: No spills were identified as occurring at any of the LFs or MAFs (NRC, 2005).

4.2.7. Leaking Underground Storage Tanks

Under Subtitle I of RCRA, Congress directed the USEPA to establish regulatory programs to prevent, detect, and clean up releases from USTs containing petroleum or hazardous substances. The State of North Dakota is approved to administer and enforce a UST program in lieu of the federal program under Subtitle I of the RCRA of 1976 as amended, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 6991, *et seq.* Leaking USTs can threaten groundwater quality. The NDDH Division of Waste Management provided a listing of LUST sites within the 446 MS counties.

Findings: A leaking tank was identified at MAF A-0 and the site was remediated. Information is included in the MAF's site-specific EBS.

4.2.8. Comprehensive Environmental Restoration, Compensation, and Liability Act Sites in North Dakota

The NDDH Hazardous Waste Program maintains a database of CERCLA sites by county. This database contains the same information as USEPA's database, but in a different format (see Section 4.2.2) (Herda, 2001).

Findings: No CERCLA sites are found within a half-mile radius of an LF or MAF (USEPA, 2005a).

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