





September 16, 2009

Mr. Brian Jordan U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District 4101 Jefferson Plaza NE Albuquerque, NM 87109-3435

Re: Ready for Reuse Determination - Former Atlas Missile Silo Site 4, Roswell, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Jordan:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6, in concurrence with the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), has determined that the Former Atlas Missile Silo Site 4 surface property is Ready for Reuse. A Ready for Reuse Determination is an acknowledgment that environmental conditions on the property are protective for its current and anticipated future use.

The Former Atlas Missile Silo Site 4 is located approximately 20 miles east of Roswell, New Mexico on U.S. Highway 380. Of the approximately 250 acres acquired by the Department of Defense (DOD) for development of Silo Site 4, the actual missile facility occupied 12.5 acres including a road easement and evaporation ponds. The DOD acquired the property in 1960 and construction of the missile launching facility was completed in December 1961. In May 1964 the DOD announced that the Atlas "F" missile program was to be phased out and in June 1965 Silo Site 4 was declared excess to the General Service Administration (GSA). In June 1967 the GSA conveyed the 12.5 acres to W.L. Pennington and Cliff C. Henderson. The current owners of the site property are George E. Baker and Frances L. Baker.

A Preliminary Assessment (PA) and Site Inspection (SI) were conducted, under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program, by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to determine whether an immediate or potential threat to human health and the environment exists at the site as a result of DOD activities and whether further action is warranted. In November 2005, the USACE completed an SI of Silo Site 4. The soil assessment component of the SI at Silo Site 4 examined the potential release of hazardous constituents from two (2) potential source areas, the former underground storage tank (UST) area and the sump outfall area. The septic leachfield area at Silo Site 4 was not sampled because the septic system had been backflushed and is currently operational. During the SI, iron detected in a subsurface soil sample in the UST area at a concentration exceeding evaluation criteria was determined to be naturally occurring and not indicative of contamination. A polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB), Aroclor-1260, and a semivolatile organic compound (SVOC), benzo(a)pyrene, were detected in soil samples in the sump outfall area at concentrations exceeding evaluation criteria. The USACE undertook voluntary removal actions and PCB and SVOC impacted soil was excavated, transported, and disposed of at a licensed disposal facility. Before filling the excavation with clean soil, five (5) confirmation soil samples were collected to verify removal of PCB and SVOC impacted soil. In February 2006, the USACE completed an SI Report Addendum. The results of the confirmation soil sampling indicated that PCB and SVOC concentrations were either not detected above laboratory reporting limits or detected below the evaluation criteria. Groundwater was not encountered during the drilling of a deep borehole to 250 feet below ground surface. Therefore, groundwater samples were not collected at Silo Site 4. Environmental conditions of the property are summarized in Enclosure 1 to this letter.

The Ready for Reuse Determination is based on a review of all relevant corrective action documents (collectively, the "Documentation") for Former Atlas Missile Silo Site 4 (the "Property"), which are listed in Enclosure 2. NMED concurred with a Finding of No Defense Action Indicated in September 2007. With this Ready for Reuse Determination, the EPA deems that the USACE has successfully completed its investigation and that environmental conditions at the Property are protective of human health and the environment based on its current use and anticipated future use. The Documentation demonstrates that, although releases of chemical constituents have occurred as a result of DOD activities on the Property, corrective action was completed and residual concentrations do not require further removal or remedial action to protect human health or the environment, based on the evaluation criteria of the most conservative of either NMED Soil Screening Levels or the EPA Region 6 Human Health Medium-Specific Screening Levels for residential exposure.

Copies of the documents listed in Enclosure 2 may be obtained from either NMED, Hazardous Waste Bureau, 2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303, USACE, Albuquerque District, 4101 Jefferson Plaza, NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109, or Region 6 EPA, 6PD-F, 1445 Ross Ave Ste 1200, Dallas, Texas 75202.

If conditions at the Property change, including environmental conditions, land use, and site receptors, it will be necessary to revisit this determination of suitability for reuse to ensure its continuing protectiveness. The undersigned expressly reserve all rights and authorities to require future action by owners, operators, or USACE if new or additional information comes to light that materially impacts this Ready for Reuse Determination, whether such information is known as of this date, or is discovered in the future.

Congratulations on this most noteworthy accomplishment!

Sincerely,

TROY C. HILL, P.E. RCRA Associate Director Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division US EPA, Region 6

Cabinet Secretary

New Mexico Environment

Department

RON CURRY

M. COLLOTON, LTC, EN

US Army Corps of Engineers

Albuquerque District

**Enclosures:** 

1) Current Environmental Conditions Table

2) Relevant Documents List

## Enclosure 1

	Clean-up Institutional Control(s) Standard (Type/Purpose/Location)		23,000 mg/kg <sup>b</sup> None	220 µg/kg <sup>b</sup> None	N/A None		Groundwater was not encountered during the drilling of a deep borehole to 250 below ground surface; therefore, groundwater samples were not collected
4 Table	Clean-up Status Clea		Determined 23,000 naturally occurring	Not detected 220 p	Currently in Noperation		urface; therefore, groundwa
Former Atlas F Missile Silo No. 4 urrent Environmental Conditions Table		Soil	26,900 mg/kg na	Not detected (<9.27 µg/kg)	ollected	Groundwater	e to 250 below ground s
Former Atla Current Environ	Residual Contaminants of Concern (CoCs) <sup>a</sup>		Iron	PCB Aroclor-1260	No samples collected	Ġ.	rilling of a deep borehole
	Remedial Action Taken		None	Excavation and Disposal	Backflushed by property owner		encountered during the d
	Site Name/Site Number		Former Underground Storage Tank Area	Sump Outfall Area (Postremediation)	Septic Leachfield Area		Groundwater was not

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Information based on Site Investigation (SI) Report and SI Report Addendum prepared by Shaw Environmental in 2005 and 2006 <sup>b</sup> EPA Region 6 Human Health Medium-Specific Screening Levels for residential exposure

## **Enclosure 2**

## Relevant Documents List Former Atlas "F" Missile Silo No. 4 Formerly Used Defense Site Property No.: K06NM0482

HydroGeologic, Inc. (HGL), 2008, Final Preliminary Assessment Report, Former Walker Air Force Base, Atlas "F" Missile Silo 4, Chaves County, New Mexico, Property No. K06NM0482, prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District.

New Mexico Environment Department and US Army Corps of Engineers, Finding of No Defense Action Indicated, September 2007.

Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw), 2005, Site Inspection Report, Former Atlas Missile Silo Site 4, Roswell, New Mexico, FUDS Project ID No. K06NM0482, Final Report, Revision 0, prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District.

Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw), 2006, Site Inspection Report Addendum, Former Atlas Missile Silo, Site 4 Sump Outfall, Roswell, New Mexico, FUDS Project ID No. K06NM0482, Draft Final, Revision C, prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District.