



## **2015 Rocky Mountain Arsenal Five-Year Review**

### ***Fact Sheet***

#### **What Is a Five-Year Review (FYR)?**

Conducted collaboratively with federal, state and local regulatory agencies, Five-Year Reviews (FYRs) involve a comprehensive assessment of the performance of an environmental cleanup program and its ongoing protectiveness of human health and the environment. During the review, a multiagency team evaluates if environmental standards that affect the site have changed in the past five years, whether the cleanup continues to be protective of public health and the environment, and whether the remedy can be expected to remain protective. The most recent FYR, which covers the period from 2011 to 2015, is the fourth to be completed for the Rocky Mountain Arsenal (RMA).

#### **Why Is a FYR Conducted?**

Five-Year Reviews are conducted in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), which is more commonly known as Superfund. Under the Superfund law, FYRs are to be completed at sites where contaminated waste remains (landfills, disposal basins, water treatment plants, etc.). The

environmental cleanup at the RMA included placing waste into on-site consolidation areas and two hazardous waste landfills. The RMA also has groundwater treatment facilities. For that reason, FYRs will continue at the site for the foreseeable future.

#### **Who Conducts the FYR?**

Representatives from the U.S. Army (lead agency), Shell Oil Co., U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and Tri-County Health Department work together throughout the FYR process to complete the FYR. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service also provides input on the FYR.

#### **What Are the Main Questions the Review Answers?**

A multiagency team conducts a comprehensive review designed to answer the following questions:

- Is the remedy functioning as intended and as outlined in the 1995 Off-Post and 1996 On-Post Records of Decision (RODs)? (The two RODs provide the overall framework

and rationale for the environmental cleanup program.)

- Are the assumptions used at the time of the RODs still valid?
- Has any other information come to light that could call into question the protectiveness of the cleanup program?

### **What Are the Components of a FYR?**

There are six components to the FYR process:

1. Community involvement and notification
2. Document review
3. Data review and analysis
4. Site inspection
5. Interviews
6. Assessing the protectiveness of the cleanup program and identifying any changes that need to be made

### **What Is the Public Involvement Process?**

As part of the process, the review team interviews community members before the FYR begins. The goal is to solicit input from a diverse array of citizens representing the needs and perspectives of the surrounding communities.

During the interviews, community members were asked to respond to the following questions:

- What do you know about the RMA?
- Are you aware of the cleanup at RMA?
- Were you living in the area during the cleanup?
- Do you have any personal concerns about the cleanup?

- Are you aware of any community concerns about the cleanup?
- How do you think the overall remedy is functioning?
- Do you have any additional comments, questions or suggestions regarding the cleanup?
- Do you have any other information that could call into question the protectiveness of the cleanup program?
- How would you like to receive information about the RMA?

### **How Does the Team Formulate Its Conclusions?**

The conclusions for the FYR include:

- Identification of issues and public concerns
- Recommendations and follow-up actions
- A determination of whether the remedy is, or is expected to be, protective of public health and the environment.

These conclusions are reached through a technical assessment of the information collected during the document review, data collection, interviews, site inspection and other activities.

### **How Can I Find a Copy of the Draft 2015 Five-Year Review Report?**

Now that the review has been conducted, a draft final report has been issued for a 45-day public comment period. The report is available on the RMA's website at [www.rma.army.mil](http://www.rma.army.mil) (click on the Five-Year Review link on the home page). If you prefer to review a hard copy of the

report, you may do so at one of the following locations:

- *Joint Administrative Records and Document Facility:* Rocky Mountain Arsenal, 6550 Gateway Road, Building 129, Commerce City, CO 80022. (Please call 303.289.0300 to schedule an appointment.)
- *Anythink Commerce City Library:* 7185 Monaco St., Commerce City, CO 80022
- *Denver Public Library, Montbello Branch:* 12955 Albrook Dr, Denver, CO 80239

### **How Can I Submit a Comment?**

The Army welcomes comments from the community. All comments received by Aug. 24 will be reviewed and considered in the final report as part of the site's administrative record. (Comments are welcome after that date as well, but they will not be included in the final report.)

Please direct your comments to: Patty Lee, Rocky Mountain Arsenal, 6550 Gateway Road, Building 129, Commerce City, CO 80222. You may also submit your comments by email to [Patty.L.lee6.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Patty.L.lee6.civ@mail.mil) or by calling 303.289.0300.

### **Who Approves the Final FYR Report?**

The FYR process concludes with the preparation and delivery of a final Five-Year Review report to the EPA. The EPA will then either concur with the protectiveness determination provided in the report or offer independent findings.

### **Whom Do I Call If I Have Questions?**

- Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Patty Lee, 303.289.0300
- Environmental Protection Agency Community Involvement Coordinator, Jasmin Guerra, 303.312.6508