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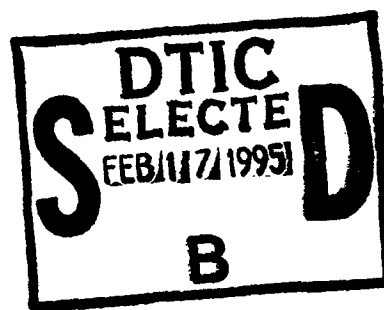
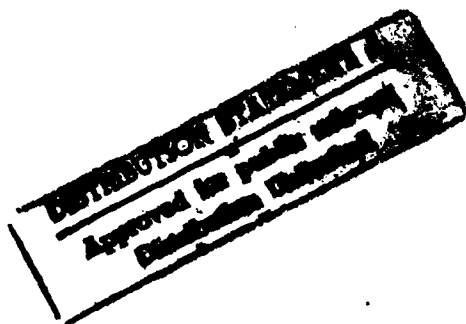


**United States Air Force  
611 Civil Engineer  
Squadron**

**Elmendorf AFB, Alaska**

**Final**

**Community Relations Plan:  
Galena Airport and Campion  
Air Force Station, Alaska**



**November 1994**

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# REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

*Form Approved*  
OMB No. 0704-0188

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503.

1. <b>AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave blank)</b>	2. <b>REPORT DATE</b> 11 November 1994	3. <b>REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED</b> Final Community Relations Plan, November 1994	
4. <b>TITLE AND SUBTITLE</b>  Final Community Relations Plan: Galena Airport and Campion AFS, Alaska		5. <b>FUNDING NUMBERS</b>  C-F33615-90-D-4013-0007	
6. <b>AUTHOR(S)</b>  Radian Corporation		8. <b>PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER</b>  93-269-107-12-01	
7. <b>PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)</b>  Radian Corporation P.O. Box 201068 8501 N. Mopac Blvd. Austin, Texas 78759			
9. <b>SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)</b>  AFCEE/ESR 8001 Inner Circle, Ste. 2 Brooks AFB, Texas 78235-5328		10. <b>SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY REPORT NUMBER</b>	
11. <b>SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES</b>			
12a. <b>DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT</b>  Approved for Public Release Distribution is Unlimited		12b. <b>DISTRIBUTION CODE</b>	
13. <b>ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)</b>  The U.S. Air Force has been designated as the lead government agency in cleanup efforts at Galena Airport and Campion Air Force Station, Alaska. This community relations plan (CRP) is consistent with federal guidance for community relations efforts and satisfies the policies established for Superfund remedial activities by the EPA, under direction of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986.  The objectives of the CRP are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Assess community concerns regarding planned and ongoing studies, and determine how and when the public would like to be involved in the decision-making process.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Establish procedures for accurate and timely release of information to potentially affected and interested citizen groups, elected officials, public interest groups, agency officials, and the media.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Establish methods to facilitate communication between the Air Force and the community at large.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Articulate and clarify key issues for the public.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Be responsive to the needs and concerns of public interest groups, agency officials, and the media.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Receive and understand all the information that the various interest groups have to communicate.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Search for a consensus of the decisions that are being developed throughout the process.</li> </ul>			
14. <b>SUBJECT TERMS</b> Final Community Relations Plan: Galena Airport and Campion AFS, Alaska		15. <b>NUMBER OF PAGES</b>	
17. <b>SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT</b> Unclassified		16. <b>PRICE CODE</b>	
		20. <b>LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT</b> UL	
18. <b>SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE</b> Unclassified		19. <b>SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT</b> Unclassified	

<b>Accession For</b>	
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This report has been prepared for the U.S. Air Force for the purpose of aiding in the implementation of a final remedial action plan under the U.S. Air Force Installation Restoration Program (IRP). As the report relates to actual or possible releases of potentially hazardous substances, its release prior to an Air Force final decision on remedial action may be in the public's interest. The limited objectives of this report and the ongoing nature of the IRP, along with evolving knowledge of site conditions and chemical effects on the environment and health, must be considered when evaluating this report since subsequent facts may become known that may make this report premature or inaccurate.

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## **Table of Contents**

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	The CERCLA Remedial Process	1
1.2	State Environmental Restoration Source	2
1.3	The CRP Objectives	3
1.4	Technical Assistance Grants	3
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Site Background</b>	<b>7</b>
2.1	Site Location and Description	7
2.2	Site History	7
2.3	Summary of Environmental Investigations	9
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Community Relations Background</b>	<b>17</b>
3.1	Community Profile	17
3.2	Impact on Community	19
3.3	Community Involvement Profile	19
3.4	Key Community Concerns and Issues	19
3.5	Key Findings	26
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Objectives of the Community Relations Program</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Techniques to Accomplish Community Relations</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Restoration Advisory Board</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Glossary</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>8.0</b>	<b>References</b>	<b>37</b>
	<b>Appendix A—Community Interview Questionnaire/What Is CERCLA?</b>	<b>A-1</b>
	<b>Appendix B—Media List</b>	<b>B-1</b>
	<b>Appendix C—Site Mailing List</b>	<b>C-1</b>
	<b>Appendix D—Documents in the Administrative Record and the Information Repository</b>	<b>D-1</b>

## **List of Tables**

<b>2-1</b>	<b>Status of Investigated Sites at Galena Airport</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>2-2</b>	<b>Status of Investigated Sites at Campion AFS</b>	<b>14</b>

## **List of Figures**

<b>2-1</b>	<b>Galena Airport and Campion AFS Property Boundaries</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>2-2</b>	<b>Location of RI/FS Sites at Galena Airport</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>2-3</b>	<b>Location of RI/FS Sites at Campion AFS</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>3-1</b>	<b>Methods for receiving community information</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>3-2</b>	<b>Effectiveness ratings of current community involvement activities</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>3-3</b>	<b>Preferred means of participation in community relations activities</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>3-4</b>	<b>Preferred methods for receiving information about cleanup activities</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>3-5</b>	<b>Number of meals eaten annually consisting of fish caught locally</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>3-6</b>	<b>Number of meals eaten annually consisting of game hunted locally</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>3-7</b>	<b>Number of meals eaten annually consisting of food grown in a home garden</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>3-8</b>	<b>Number of meals eaten annually consisting of plants gathered from the wild</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>3-9</b>	<b>Number of people reporting their understanding of the CERCLA and CRP efforts</b>	<b>26</b>

## **1.0 Introduction**

**T**HE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) DEVELOPED THE SUPERFUND Community Relations Program to ensure public involvement in all environmental response (cleanup) actions. The U.S. Air Force has been designated as the lead government agency in cleanup efforts at Galena Airport and Campion Air Force Station (AFS), Alaska. As the lead agency, the Air Force must ensure public involvement in all site-related decisions at Galena.

This community relations plan (CRP) is consistent with federal guidance for community relations efforts and satisfies the policies established for Superfund remedial activities by the EPA, under direction of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986.

### **1.1 The CERCLA Remedial Process**

The Air Force is performing investigations in accordance with CERCLA. In addition, these investigations are being conducted as part of the Installation Restoration Program (IRP). The IRP was developed by the Department of Defense (DOD) in 1980 to investigate past hazardous material sites on their facilities.

CERCLA laws and regulations provide a special procedural framework for developing, implementing, and monitoring response actions. Galena Airport may be placed on EPA's National

Priorities List (NPL). Placement of a site on the NPL signifies that EPA considers the potential threat to human health and the environment from a contaminated site to be great enough to warrant accelerated remedial action.

The NPL is used by EPA to prioritize those sites that require action under CERCLA. The EPA ranks sites using a ranking system to evaluate the actual or potential release of hazardous substances from a site through air, surface water, groundwater, and direct contact (i.e., soils) pathways that may be a risk to public health and/or the environment. Once a site is listed on the NPL, it becomes eligible for investigation and cleanup as part of the Superfund program. However, DOD does not use Superfund money. The Defense Environmental Restoration Account (DERA) is the fund DOD uses to comply with the investigation and cleanup requirements of the Superfund program.

After a site is listed on the NPL, the major steps of the CERCLA process are:

- Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS)**—The purpose of the remedial investigation is to collect data necessary to adequately characterize the site for the purpose of developing and evaluating effective remedial action alternatives and to assess the risks to human health and the environment. If a situation is identified at any time during the process that poses an immediate danger to human health or the environment, a removal action will be conducted.

**The FS is conducted concurrently with the RI to the extent possible.** The purpose of the FS is to develop and analyze various remedial action alternatives and to recommend appropriate actions. On completion of the FS, a preferred alternative will be identified and presented to the public in a proposed plan. The proposed plan will contain a discussion of the preferred alternative and other alternatives that were considered. A public comment period and an opportunity for a public meeting will be provided for the public to review and comment on the proposed plan.

**Treatability Investigations**—If existing information is insufficient to evaluate alternatives adequately, tests may be necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of a particular remedial technology for treating specific wastes found at the facility. In some situations, a study may be necessary to develop a more accurate cost estimate for particular treatment technologies.

**Record of Decision (ROD)**—A responsiveness summary will be prepared summarizing significant comments and new relevant information submitted during the public comment period, along with the lead agency response to each issue, which is part of the ROD. A ROD is then prepared using information received during the public comment period and the RI/FS to select a remedial action alternative. The ROD will include all facts, analyses of facts, comparison of alternatives, and site-specific policy determinations considered during the selection process.

**Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA)**—The RD/RA includes development of the actual design of the selected remedial action and implementation of it through construction. After completion of the final engineering design, a fact sheet will be prepared and made available to the public before the start of the remedial action.

The time needed to complete each of the steps is different for each facility. For example, an RI/FS may take two years for completion; design of a long-term cleanup solution may require 12 to 18 months; implementation of the final long-term cleanup may require several years; and treatment of contaminated groundwater may take decades. However, if a site poses an immediate threat to public health or the environment at any time during the remedial process, the Air Force or EPA can intervene with an emergency response action.

## **1.2 State Environmental Restoration Source**

In addition to the sources being addressed under the CERCLA process at Galena Airport and Campion AFS, there may be other sources to be addressed by various state programs. State programs include the following:

- Solid waste program, which involves the remediation of old landfills containing construction debris and/or nonhazardous wastes or materials;
- Petroleum, oil, and lubricants (POL) program, which involves the clean up of various petroleum product spills and leaks; and



- ❑ Underground storage tank (UST) program, which involves clean up of spills and leaks from USTs.

The process used to address potential contamination at each source will vary, depending on the state program.

### **1.3 The CRP Objectives**

The objectives of the CRP are to:

- ❑ Assess existing community concerns regarding planned and ongoing studies at Galena Airport, including all phases of cleanup activities, and determine how and when the public would like to be involved in the decision-making process.
- ❑ Establish procedures for accurate and timely release of information to potentially affected and interested citizen groups, elected officials, public interest groups, agency officials, and the media.
- ❑ Establish methods to facilitate communication between the Air Force and the community at large.
- ❑ Articulate and clarify key issues for the public regarding contamination at Galena Airport and Campion AFS.
- ❑ Be responsive to the needs and concerns of public interest groups, agency officials, and the media.
- ❑ Receive and understand all the information that the various interest groups have to communicate.
- ❑ Search for a consensus of the decisions that are being developed throughout the process.

The CRP will respond to current community concerns. This is a dynamic process, since community concerns are expected to change over time. As the cleanup process progresses through its various stages, the CRP will evolve to meet the public's changing information needs.

### **1.4 Technical Assistance Grants**

Recognizing the importance of community involvement and the need for citizens living near sites on the NPL to be well informed, Congress included provisions in SARA to establish a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) program. The TAG program is intended to foster informed public involvement in decisions related to site-specific cleanup strategies under CERCLA.

If Galena Airport is added to the NPL, the TAG program will make funds available to qualified citizen groups to hire independent technical advisors to help them understand and comment on technical factors in cleanup decisions that affect them. In addition to regulatory and legal requirements, decisions concerning cleanup initiatives at NPL sites must take into account a range of technical considerations.

#### **Basic Provisions of Technical Assistance Grants**

The basic provisions of the TAG program as set forth in section 117(e) of CERCLA are given below. The provisions are also an interim final rule in 53 Federal Register (FR) 9736:

- ❑ Grants of up to \$50,000 are available to community groups for hiring technical advisors to help

citizens understand and interpret site-related technical information;

- The group must cover 20% of the total cost of the project to be supported by TAG funding;
- The group must budget the expenditure of grant funds to cover the entire cleanup period (which averages six years);
- If the group is not incorporated and it is awarded a TAG, it must then become incorporated; and
- There may be only one TAG award per NPL site, but the grant may be renewed.

#### Who May Apply?

As stated in SARA, groups eligible to receive grants under the TAG program are those whose members may be affected by a release or threatened release of toxic wastes at any facility listed or proposed for listing on the NPL and where site work has begun. In general, eligible groups are groups of individuals who live near the site and whose health, economical well-being, or enjoyment of the environment are directly threatened. Any group applying for a TAG must be nonprofit and incorporated or working toward incorporation under state laws.

Applications are encouraged from:

- Groups that have a genuine interest in learning more about the technical aspects of a nearby hazardous waste site; and
- Groups that have or intend to establish an organization to manage a grant efficiently and effectively.

Such groups include existing citizens' associations, environmental or health

advocacy groups, or coalitions of such groups formed to deal with community concerns about the hazardous waste site and its impact on the surrounding area.

Groups that are not eligible for grant funds are:

- Potentially responsible parties—individuals or companies (such as facility owners, operators, transporters, or generators of hazardous waste) responsible for or contributing to the contamination problems at the site;
- Academic institutions;
- Political subdivisions;
- Groups established and/or sustained by governmental entities (including emergency planning committees and some citizen advisory groups); and
- Corporations that are not incorporated for the specific purpose of representing the affected individuals at the site.

#### How to Apply

The process of applying for TAG funds is outlined below. The requirements, notification procedures, evaluation criteria for awarding a TAG, and how to obtain additional information are described. The information for this description is taken from *The Superfund Technical Assistance Grant Handbook*.

#### Requirements

When applying for a TAG, a group must provide information to EPA to determine if the group meets specific administrative and management requirements. The application also must include a description of the group's

history, goals, and plans for using the technical funds. Factors that are particularly important in this evaluation process include:

- ❑ The group's ability to manage the grant in compliance with the EPA grant and procurement regulations;
- ❑ The degree to which the group members' health, economic well-being, and enjoyment of the environment are adversely affected by a hazardous waste site;
- ❑ The group's commitment and ability to share the information provided by the technical advisor with others in the community;
- ❑ Broad representation of affected groups and individuals in the community; and
- ❑ Whether the applicant group is nonprofit and incorporated. (Only incorporated groups may receive grants. Groups must either be incorporated specifically to address site-related problems or incorporated for broader purposes if the group has a substantial history of involvement at the site.)

In general, a group must demonstrate that it is aware of the time commitment, resources, and dedication needed to successfully manage a TAG. Applicant groups should consult *The Superfund Technical Assistance Grant Handbook* for detailed instructions about how to present such information.

#### **Notification Procedures and Evaluation Criteria**

To provide eligible groups with equal access to technical assistance and with

equal opportunity to compete for a single available grant, EPA has established a formal notification process. The process involves the following four steps:

1. Groups that want to apply for a TAG must first submit a short letter to EPA stating the group's desire to apply and naming the site or sites involved;
2. Other potential applicants then have 30 days to contact the original applicant to form a coalition;
3. If potential applicants are unable to form a coalition, they will notify EPA within 30 days; EPA will accept separate applications from all interested groups for an additional 30 days; and
4. EPA will then award a grant to the applicant who best meets TAG funding requirements.

The maximum grant that can be awarded to any group is \$50,000. The actual amount depends on what the group intends to accomplish. A group's minimum contribution of 20% of the total cost of the technical assistance project can be covered with cash and/or in-kind contributions, such as office supplies or services provided by the group. These services might include, for example, publishing a newsletter or donating an accountant's time to manage the group's finances. The value of donated professional services is determined on the basis of rates charged for similar work in the area.

In special cases, where an applicant group intends to apply for a single grant covering multiple sites near each other, EPA can allow a waiver of the \$50,000

grant limit. In such cases, however, the recipient cannot receive more than \$80,000 for each site to which it intends to apply funds.

**Additional Information**

A free TAG application package is available that includes all the necessary application and certification forms, as well as a copy of *The Superfund Technical Assistance Grant Handbook*. Sample forms with detailed instructions to help prepare a TAG application are included in the manual.

For further information about the application process or any aspect of the TAG program, contact:

Region 10 TAG Coordinator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
(206) 553-0603

## **2.0 Site Background**

### **2.1 Site Location and Description**

Galena Airport was once an active Air Force facility located on the floodplain north of the Yukon River in western interior Alaska. The base was located about 350 miles west of Fairbanks and isolated from major urban areas. Other communities closest to the base included Ruby (50 miles to the east) and Koyukuk (30 miles to the west). Adjacent to the base on its northern perimeter was a small housing community, consisting primarily of state and federal agency employees.

#### **Galena Airport**

Galena Airport occupied 166 acres north of and adjacent to the City of Galena (see Figure 2-1). The land surrounding Galena Airport is a lake-dotted lowland that is alternately forested, unvegetated, and marshy. Marshlands are present in the poorly drained lowlands, and forests are developed on better drained soils in higher elevations. Galena Airport and Campion AFS locations were situated between the Northern Unit of the Innoko National Wildlife Refuge and the Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge.

Ground elevation at Galena Airport is between 100 and 150 ft above mean sea level. The topography is low and flat near the banks and along the flood plain of the Yukon River. The maximum relief in the Galena Airport area is approximately 40 feet.

#### **Campion AFS**

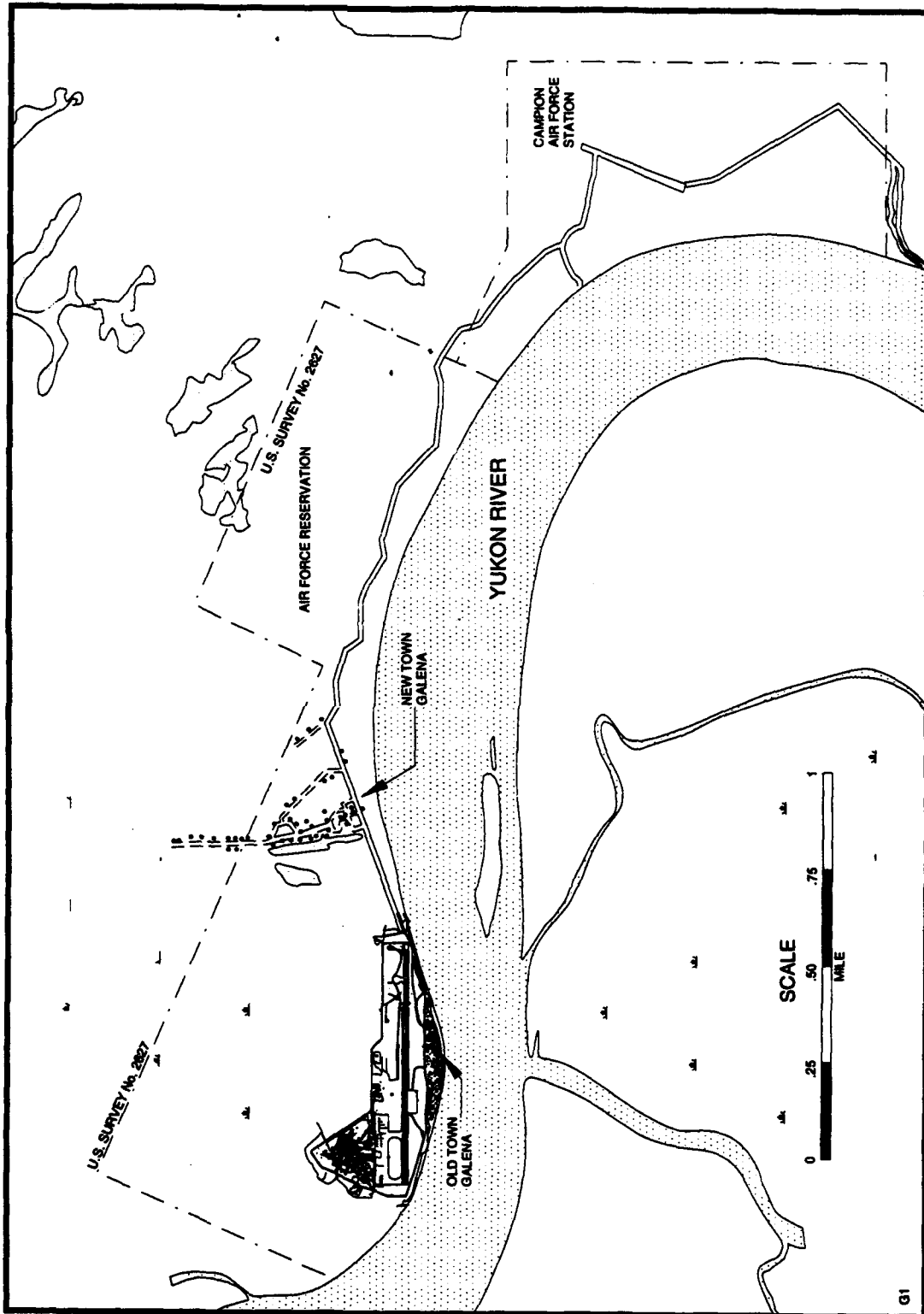
Included in the RI/FS for Galena Airport is Campion AFS, a deactivated radar station. Campion AFS is on a broad bluff of the Yukon, upstream from Galena

Airport. Campion AFS was 1 of 10 original aircraft control and warning sites, and became operational as a ground-controlled intercept site in 1952. However, after a minimally attended radar was installed at Galena Airport in 1984, Campion AFS was deactivated. Structures at the site were dismantled from 1985 to 1990, and fuel tanks were given to the City of Galena.

### **2.2 Site History**

Since 1951, Galena Airport was the northernmost of the forward-operating bases run by the 11 Air Control Wing (currently known as the 611 Air Support Group [ASG]). F-15 fighter aircraft were stationed at Galena Airport on a rotational basis from Elmendorf AFB to conduct the North American Aerospace Defense Command's alert mission. The aircraft were supported by equipment and personnel stationed at Galena Airport. The 611 ASG had operational control of the Galena Airport. Weapons-loading crews and aircraft maintenance crews supported the aircraft deployed to Galena Airport, and kept the equipment operationally ready and armed for emergencies.

The major industrial activities associated with the Galena Airport mission have been performed to maintain and support resident operations. Industrial wastes, including contaminated fuel, waste oil, and spent solvents, were generated at the base during such activities as fuel systems operations and maintenance, civil engineering operations, and aircraft maintenance.



**Figure 2-1. Galena Airport and Campion AFS Property Boundaries**

**Site Background**

### **Past Waste Disposal Practices**

In the past, some of the combustible wastes were burned as part of fire training exercises. Small quantities of other wastes were disposed of in the town dump. Both the fire training exercises and off-base disposal of wastes have been discontinued. Another past disposal practice was the application of accumulated liquid wastes to the local roads for dust control. Since 1984, liquid wastes were stored at the base before being shipped off base for disposal.

These routine practices, as well as similar waste management practices at the base, have caused groundwater and soil contamination at several sites; the potential for surface water contamination also exists, especially during the spring flood season.

### **2.3 Summary of Environmental Investigations**

As stated in Section 1.0, DOD developed the IRP to investigate contaminated sites on their facilities. The IRP mirrors the CERCLA process and must be consistent with its guidelines. The four primary components of an IRP are 1) records search, 2) remedial investigation (RI), 3) technology development (feasibility study, or FS), and 4) remedial action. Taken together, components 2 and 3 are referred to as the RI/FS.

To make the IRP at Galena Airport and Campion AFS more manageable, the Air Force has divided the base into individual areas, or sites. The sites have been grouped and given an identification number on the basis of the types of contaminants and their sources shared by a particular site. For Galena Airport, the

following 13 sites have been identified as IRP sites and are illustrated in Figure 2-2.

- 1) Fire Protection Training Area (FT001);
- 2) Control Tower Drum Storage Area (SS002);
- 3) POL Fuel Line Leak (ST003);
- 4) JP-4 Fuel Truck Leak (SS004);
- 5) POL Tank Farm (ST005);
- 6) Waste Accumulation Area (SS006)<sup>1</sup>;
- 7) Drums Perimeter Dike (SS007);
- 8) Main Landfill (LF008)<sup>2</sup>;
- 9) West Unit (ST009) which comprise of Million Gallon Hill, POL Tanks, Powerplant UST #49, JP-4 Fuel Stands, Building 1850 Fuel Spill, Building 1700 Fuel Spill, and Building 1845 Vehicle Maintenance Facility;
- 10) Southeast Runway Fuel Spill (ST010);
- 11) Alternate Landfill (LF011);
- 12) Southwest Dump (LF012); and
- 13) Control Tower Drum Storage Area South (SS013).

The following 8 sites were previously investigated at Campion AFS (shown in Figure 2-3).

- 1) LRR Station (OT001)<sup>3</sup>;
- 2) Waste Accumulation Area No. 1 (SS002);

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<sup>1</sup>The site is not identified on Figure 2-2 but is located within the West Unit site. See blow-up of West Unit in the upper right hand corner. Drums behind the building is the Waste Accumulation Area.

<sup>2</sup>The site is not included on Figure 2-2.

<sup>3</sup>The site is not located on Figure 2-3.

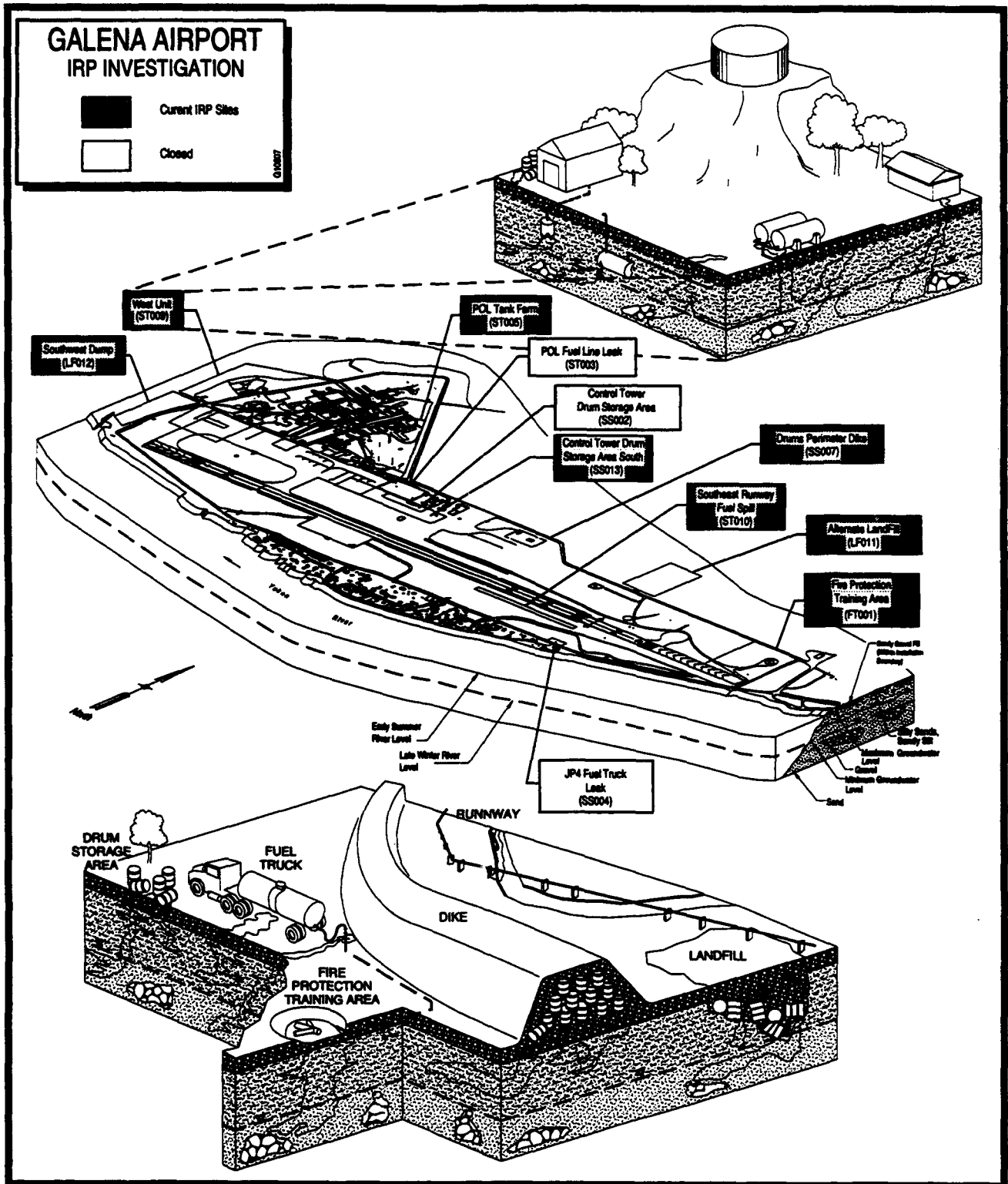


Figure 2-2. Location of RI/FS Sites At Galena Airport

Site Background



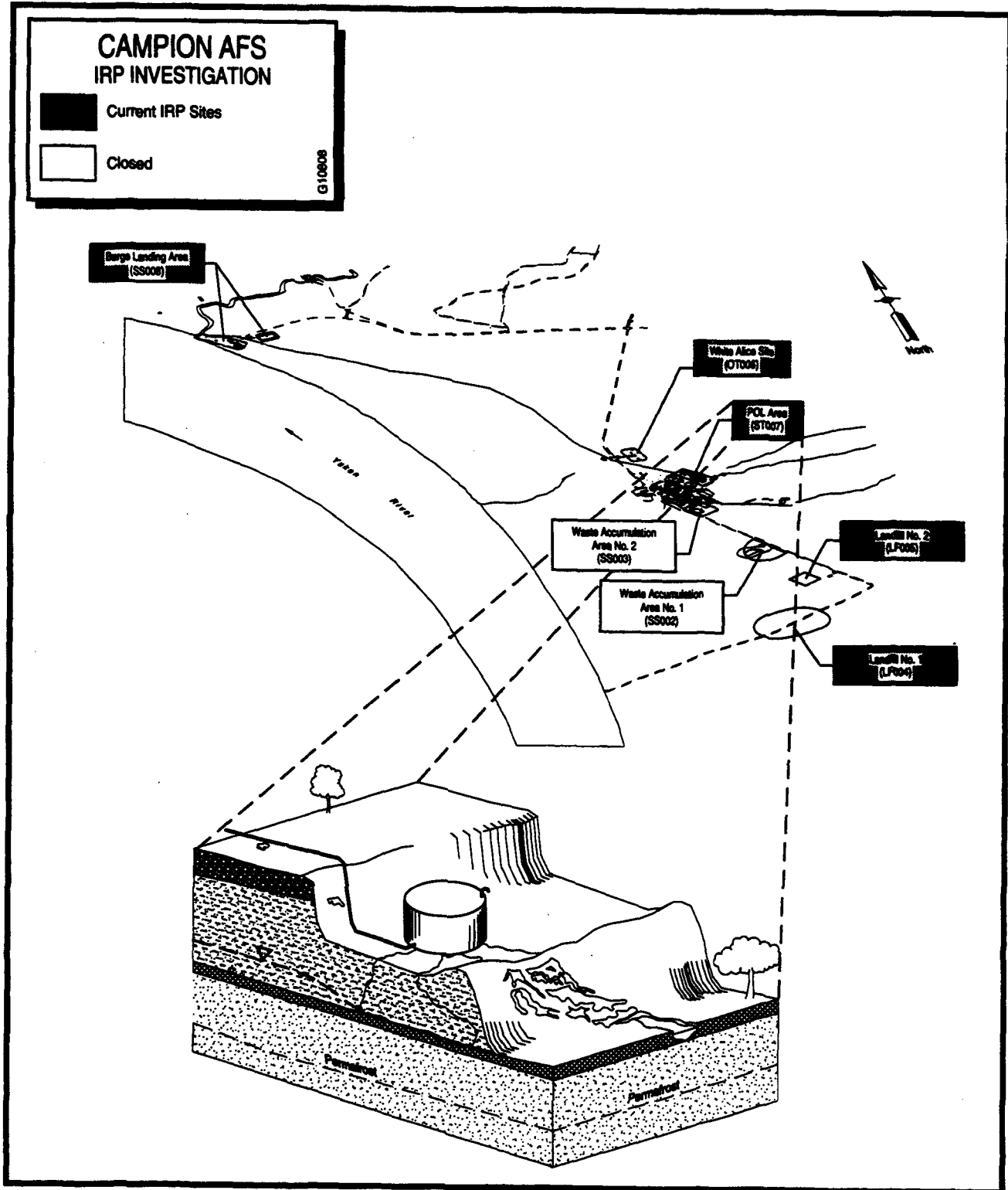


Figure 2-3. Location of RI/FS Sites at Campion AFS

- 3) Waste Accumulation Area No. 2 (SS003);
- 4) Landfill No. 1 (LF004);
- 5) Landfill No. 2 (LF005);
- 6) White Alice Site (OT006);
- 7) POL Area (ST007); and
- 8) Barge Landing Area (SS008).

Details on all of the sites mentioned above are discussed in-depth in the *Remedial Investigation Technical Memorandum*. This document is available in the information repositories and administrative record files.(AR). Both the information repositories and the AR are further discussed in Section 4.0.

#### **Past Investigations**

Since the mid-1980s, the Air Force has hired several contractors with environmental expertise to aid in the discovery and investigation of hazardous waste sites. A records search was conducted in 1985 to help Air Force officials decide whether further investigation would be necessary and to determine if immediate remediation action was warranted. As a result of the records search, the Air Force decided to investigate several Galena Airport and Campion AFS sites further.

From 1989 to 1990, work was performed to confirm and delineate site contamination through sampling, and to test the effectiveness of promising remedial measures. Soil and groundwater sampling events also were conducted during this time.

#### **Current Investigations**

In 1992, the Air Force developed the work plan and Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for the Galena Airport and Campion AFS IRP to identify the tasks and methodologies for the RI/FS activities. The work plan incorporates background information from literature searches, interviews, and previous investigations to describe in detail how the specific RI/FS activities are to be accomplished. The work plan also explains project objectives and presents the rationale for conducting specific project activities.

The QAPP, which is one part of a larger sampling and analysis plan, describes the quality assurance objectives for the various sampling activities that will be performed during the RI/FS. Adherence to the QAPP helps ensure the accuracy and integrity of the environmental samples collected throughout the RI/FS activities.

The objectives at this stage of the RI/FS are to characterize the sites for a baseline risk assessment and to define and evaluate alternative remedial actions so that a recommended action may be selected. Tables 2-1 and 2-2 illustrate the media investigated at each site and their source of contamination. These are discussed in-depth in the *Remedial Investigation Technical Memorandum*.

The project involves field sampling, testing, and laboratory analysis of the samples for potential contaminants and the evaluation of validated analytical results and field measurements. RI/FS field activities began in June 1992 and are scheduled for completion by October 1995.

**Table 2-1  
Status of Investigated Sites at Galena Airport**

Site Name (ID Number)	Media Investigated				Source of Contamination <sup>4</sup>
	Groundwater	Soil	Sediment	Air	
<b>Galena Airport, AK</b>					
Fire Protection Training Area (FT001)	✓	✓			JP-4, diesel fuel, and waste oil
Control Tower Drum Storage Area (SS002) <b>CLOSED</b>	✓	✓			JP-4 and diesel fuel
POL Fuel Line Leak (ST003) <b>CLOSED</b>	✓	✓			JP-4 and diesel fuel
JP-4 Fuel Truck Leak (SS004) <b>CLOSED</b>		✓			JP-4
POL Tank Farm (ST005)	✓	✓			Jet fuel, MOGAS, diesel and other fuels
Waste Accumulation Area (SS006)	✓	✓			Waste oils, antifreeze, solvent, oily rags, and other miscellaneous wastes
Drums Perimeter Dike (SS007)		✓			Petroleum hydrocarbons
Main Landfill (LF008)	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	Municipal refuse and construction debris
West Unit (ST009)	✓	✓	✓		JP-4; diesel and other fuels, solvents, and pesticides
Southeast Runway Fuel Spill (ST010)		✓	✓		Petroleum hydrocarbons
Alternate Landfill (LF011)		✓			Metallic waste, petroleum sludge wastes
Southwest Dump (LF012)		✓			Metallic objects (solid waste)
Control Tower Drum Storage Area South (SS013)		✓			AVGAS, JP-4, JP-1, diesel fuel, solvents, thinners, cooking fuel, and possibly some waste products

<sup>4</sup>Detailed information are provided in the *Remedial Investigation Technical Memorandum*.

**Table 2-2**  
**Status of Investigated Sites at Campion AFS**

Site Name (ID Number)	Investigated Media				Source of Contamination <sup>5</sup>
	Groundwater	Soil	Sediment	Air	
Campion AFS AFS Sites					
LRR Station (OT001)	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	Unknown
Waste Accumulation Area No. 1 (SS002) <b>CLOSED</b>	✓	✓			Waste oils, antifreeze, solvent, and other miscellaneous wastes
Waste Accumulation Area No. 2 (SS003) <b>CLOSED</b>	✓	✓			Waste oils, antifreeze, solvent, and other miscellaneous wastes
Landfill No. 1 (LF004)	✓	✓			Refuse and construction debris
Landfill No. 2 (LF005)	✓				Refuse and construction debris
White Alice Site (OT006)		✓			Transformer Oils
POL Area (ST007)	✓	✓	✓		Fuel oils, JP-4, and diesel fuel
Barge Landing Area (SS008)	✓	✓	✓		Diesel and fuel oils

<sup>5</sup>Detailed information are provided in the *Remedial Investigation Technical Memorandum*.

Data from these sampling and analysis tasks will form the basis for a detailed risk assessment to characterize the potential risk of site contamination to human health and the environment. Interpretation of all results to date will be published in the *Remedial Investigation Technical Memorandum*.

The primary long-term goals of the program are the protection of human health and the environment and the remediation of all affected media, including adverse impacts on groundwater, soil, surface water, sediment, and air. By achieving these goals, potential threats to human health will likely be reduced rather than completely removed. A federal facilities agreement (FFA) may be drafted by the Air Force, U.S. EPA, and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) if Galena Airport or Campion AFS are placed on the NPL.

The FFA is a legal document between regulatory agencies (U.S. EPA and ADEC) and the Air Force. It is designed to:

- Ensure that the environmental impacts associated with past and present activities at the Galena Airport and Campion AFS sites are investigated thoroughly and appropriate remedial action is taken to protect the public health and welfare and the environment;

- Establish a procedural framework and schedule for developing, implementing, and monitoring appropriate response actions;
- Facilitate cooperation, exchange of information, and participation of EPA, ADEC, and the Air Force in such actions;
- Establish requirements for the performance of the remedial investigation to determine the full nature and extent of the threat to the public health or welfare or environment from the release of hazardous contaminants at the sites;
- Implement the selected remedial action in accordance with CERCLA and state law; and
- Ensure compliance with the appropriate federal and state hazardous waste laws and regulations that apply to the specific contaminants identified at the sites.

Numerous investigations and subsequent RODs are scheduled for Galena Airport and Campion AFS through the mid- to late-1990s. The FFA will likely specify the number of RODs and site source areas (or operable units) to be remediated.

## **3.0 Community Relations Background**

### **Community Profile**

#### **History**

Galena is located in traditional Koyukon Athabaskan Indian territory. The Athabaskan name for Galena is "Notaalee Dinh," which means "place where the current goes around in a semicircle." Galena is in the band territory referred to as "Nowitna-Koyukuk" in historic records. The Koyukon frequently occupied large semi-permanent villages during the summers, most commonly located near the primary fishing grounds, and dispersed from these into the tributary drainage for hunting and trapping in the fall and winter. There were 12 settlements located on the Yukon River between the Koyukuk River and the Nowitna River. These settlements were primarily summer fish camps.

Galena, located near an old fish camp site called Henry's Point, was established in 1918 as a supply and transshipment point for the Galena area lead ore mines. Beginning in 1920, Koyukon Athabaskans who had traditionally lived at Loudon, 14 miles upriver, began moving to Galena. At the new site, natives had the opportunity to sell cord wood to steamboats and could work hauling freight for the mines. A school was established at Galena in the mid-1920s; a post office opened in 1932.

Galena remained small until World War II, when construction began on what is now Galena Airport. The Galena field became operational in 1942. In 1945, the community suffered a major flood—a seasonal problem that continues to this

day. Rapid community growth did not begin until the establishment of military facilities at Galena Airport and Campion AFS in the 1950s. Airport and road developments were completed in 1950, and a health clinic has operated since 1965.

### **Population Growth and Economy**

Military construction and expansion in Galena in the 1940s and 1950s spurred population growth in Galena. By 1960, military personnel accounted for 359 of Galena's 620 residents, or nearly 60% of the population. As of 1990, the town's population had risen to about 900, not including the 300 military personnel assigned to the base.

Galena is the largest community in western interior Alaska and serves as the transportation, government, and commercial center for this region. The local economy depends greatly on government spending, but there is also a significant private sector economy. For example, in the winter of 1986-87, there were 185 full-time jobs in Galena, 50% of which were with the local, state, or federal government. The major government employers are the City of Galena, Galena City School District, State of Alaska, and the United States Government.

### **Subsistence Lifestyle**

Although a lower percentage of Galena households rely on subsistence when compared with the region's small villages, subsistence foods are still a major portion of the diet, even for Galena residents who have full-time employment.

Many residents prefer traditional foods to store-bought products. In addition, they have strong cultural, historic, and family ties to subsistence activities. Subsistence is even more important for residents without full-time employment. However, seasonal employment such as fire fighting and construction work may conflict with the opportunity to participate in subsistence activities. Moose meat and fish are the most important subsistence foods harvested by Galena residents. (This fact is supported by responses to the CRP questionnaire).

After spring break up, many families prepare for a fast-paced salmon harvest for food as well as income for commercial fishing households. Much of the subsistence fishing in the region takes place at remote fish camps, which are often located on private lands (Native allotments). Fish are usually harvested with nets or fishwheels and dried on racks for later use. Chum salmon is the most important subsistence species harvested. Whitefish and sheatfish may arrive as early as May, but many families defer their harvests of these species until after the king salmon and summer chum salmon runs of June and July. Fall runs of chum salmon normally begin in August and may be available until freeze up. Pike, trout, and grayling are also harvested in late summer and early fall.

Berries are also important summer resources. A variety of berries are harvested, including high- and low-bush cranberries, blueberries, raspberries, cloudberries, and rosehips. Berries are eaten fresh or frozen for later use.

In the fall, families begin hunting the large game to supply themselves with meat for the winter. Moose, which are the most

commonly hunted large mammal, are actively hunted during September's 20-day open season. Black bears are taken when they are available throughout summer and fall. Waterfowl are also hunted near their staging areas prior to southerly migrations. Firewood and vegetable materials needed for crafts or tools are often collected in large quantities in the fall.

Winter is devoted to trapping, sporadic small-game hunting, and ice fishing during early winter months before the river ice becomes too thick. Trapping provides a source of cash, as well as pelts for clothing and other uses.

Since Galena is not connected to other Alaska communities by road, air transportation is the only year-round mode available. During the summer months Galena is served by Yutana Barge Lines. The Yukon and area rivers provide access to nearby communities and other areas during the summer months. During the winter, the frozen rivers are used for snow machine transportation.

#### **Galena—Old Town and New Town**

The City of Galena comprises the original site ("Old Town") and "New Town." The distinction is based on location with respect to the Yukon River and does not affect the administration of municipal services. Old Town's proximity to the river has made it vulnerable to annual spring floods, when the snow melts and the frozen Yukon River begins to break up and rise out of its banks. The floodwaters, along with large slabs of river ice, have caused significant structural and property damage in Old Town, as well as accelerating the erosion of the shoreline.

After the severe flooding of 1971, New Town was established about two miles farther north (inland) of the river. New Town contains most of the city's municipal offices, the school, health clinic, and various residential and commercial properties.

The CRP proposed for Galena Airport and Campion AFS is intended for the community at large; therefore, both Old Town and New Town are referred to as the City of Galena.

### **3.2 Impact on Community**

Prior to the drawdown of Galena Airport, the Air Force commanded a significant economic and physical position in the Galena Corporate Boundary because of the strategic importance of its mission, its joint responsibilities with the State of Alaska to maintain the town's airport, and the impact the base had on the local community. The base provided a significant annual economic contribution to the City of Galena, and employed over 25 Galena residents in addition to the 300 military personnel assigned to the base. Galena Airport also contributed to the town's economy by purchasing electricity from the Galena Electrical Co-op.

### **3.3 Community Involvement Profile**

The Air Force was involved with the community in a variety of ways. The base participated actively in local events and sports activities, conducted open house tours, helped maintain roads and the town dump, and, during the summer of 1992, extended the use of its baseball facilities to the town while the town's own baseball area was underwater.

The base commanding officer and executive officer also attended meetings of the city council and chamber of commerce. Although the Air Force has withdrawn all military personnel from Galena Airport and is currently on caretaker status, the Air Force will continue to make personal contact with the community members of Galena throughout the RI/FS process.

### **3.4 Key Community Concerns and Issues**

Key community concerns, issues, and attitudes have been gauged through public interviews. Main concerns included groundwater, drinking water, and soil contamination; health risks; effects on wildlife; discarded fuel drums; and economic impacts of the cleanup phase of the RI/FS.

The Air Force interviewed 15<sup>1</sup> people chosen from the surrounding community and 15 on-base personnel (5 military, 10 civilian employees) from August 17 to August 21, 1992. The people interviewed represented a broad spectrum, including city officials; Native corporation officials; several people in the business community; military, federal, and state employees; health and education professionals; and key members of both the Native and non-Native population.

A summary of the questions asked and the responses obtained from the community interviews are shown on pages 20-26. A copy of the questionnaire and a description of the CERCLA process that was used to explain the RI/FS activities are included as Appendix A.

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<sup>1</sup>One of the questionnaires was received in the mail.



## Questionnaire

1. *When and how did you first become aware of the soil and groundwater contamination cleanup efforts at Galena AFS?*

Saw drilling crew in town (early summer 1992)—13

Community relations interviews—6  
1991—4

1987—2

1990—1

1989—1

Early 1972—1

In a meeting with Air Force, ADEC, and town council—1

No answer or not applicable (N/A)—1

2. *What is your understanding of the history of these activities and their effects on the community?*

Long overdue (reported knowing some history of the problem)—7

N/A—6

Did not know there was a problem—4

Sees it as a positive effort—4<sup>2</sup>

Air Force stored fuel in drums at the air field and in the area—3

Air Force reportedly lost 1 million gallons of fuel—2

Knows it affects the groundwater—2

Knows that PCBs were once poured on the roads to keep down the dust—1

Galena AFS water is undrinkable—1

This type of cleanup going on nationwide and statewide—1

Heard about it by word of mouth—1

3. *Have you had any problems on your property that you think might be related to the contamination at the Air Force station?*

No—24

Yes. A very strong, gaseous odor at Larry's Air Service after the spring thaw and runoff; lasts for two weeks. People in the office and hangar area complain of headaches. Reports that seven years ago, a well was drilled and water was found to be contaminated—2

Yes. Found a half-full barrel of DDT with a USAF label in front yard brush—1

Yes. In spring, a strong fuel odor—1

Yes. Domestic water is discolored and tastes and smells bad—1

Yes. Groundwater contamination in all areas surrounding the base—1

4. *Do you have any concerns such as health or economic effects about how the contamination at the station may affect you or the town?*

Yes—23

No—5

N/A—2

Note—General concern, in descending order of frequency, centered on drinking water and groundwater; effects on wildlife and fish; soil used in gardens; long-term health hazards (one reported an increase in stomach cancer but doubts a connection between it and the contamination, concern for workers and passengers at Larry's Flying Service, contamination of road dust, increase in number of respiratory problems); land values; cleanup costs; and identity of specific contaminants.

<sup>2</sup>Interpreted the question to mean the RI/FS process—not the problem—on the community.

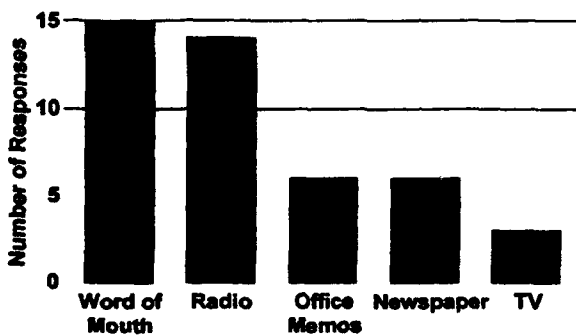
5. *Has anything been done for you to address your concerns? If so, what has been done to date?*

- No—16
- N/A—7
- Yes. The community relations interview is the first step—4
- Yes. The Air Force participates in the Galena city council meetings—1
- Yes. Local residents state that discarded barrels pose no problems; no assurance on Campion—1
- Yes. Installation of the monitoring wells—1

6. *Are you aware of activities now going on to correct problems at the station? If so, what are these activities?*

- Yes. Testing and drilling—16
- No—9
- N/A—3
- Yes. Community relations interviews—1
- Yes. Testing and possible inclusion on NPL—1

7. *How do you currently receive most of your information?*



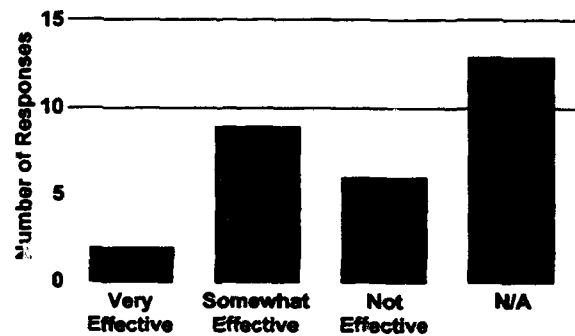
**Figure 3-1.**

**Methods for receiving community information.**

8. *Have you participated in community involvement activities concerning the site? If so, what did you do?*

- No—21
- Yes—Attended city council/chamber of commerce meetings—6
- Yes. Attended Air Force meetings—1
- Yes. Wrote to state and U.S. legislators (past concerns, not just the current RI/FS sites)—1
- N/A—1

9. *How effective do you think these activities have been?*



**Figure 3-2.**

**Effectiveness ratings of current community involvement activities.**

10. *Would you like to participate in future activities? If so, how would you like to participate (attend community relations task force meetings, attend town meetings and workshops, review data, other)?*

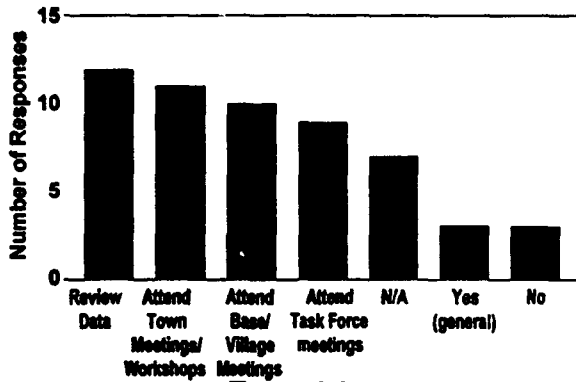


Figure 3-3.  
Preferred means of participation in community relations activities.

11. Have you ever had to contact the local, state, or federal agencies or your elected representatives who are working on the Galena AFS site cleanup? If no (A), do you think you have enough information about who they are and how to contact them? If yes (B), which ones?  
C. Were you satisfied with the help or information you were given?  
D. How responsive were these people to your concerns?  
E. How could they be more responsive in the future?

**Responses:**

- A. No—24; N/A—3
- B. EPA—1; Air Force contractor—1; ADEC—1
- C. No (EPA)—1; Yes (Air Force contractor)—1; Yes (ADEC)—1
- D. Not responsive (EPA)—1; Very responsive (Air Force contractor and ADEC)—2
- E. Community relations plan an excellent start—1; N/A—1; Not sure—1

12. Would you like to be kept informed about the cleanup work taking place at the station?

- A. No, please remove my name from the mailing list.
- B. Yes, please add me to/keep me on the mailing list.
- C. How would you like to receive information?
- D. How often would you like to receive information about site activities?
- E. Where is the most convenient place for you to see public notices about future cleanup activities of upcoming public meetings?
- F. Where is the most convenient place for you to go to find out more information about the site's problems and current and planned activities?

- Responses:** A. No—7  
B. Yes—23

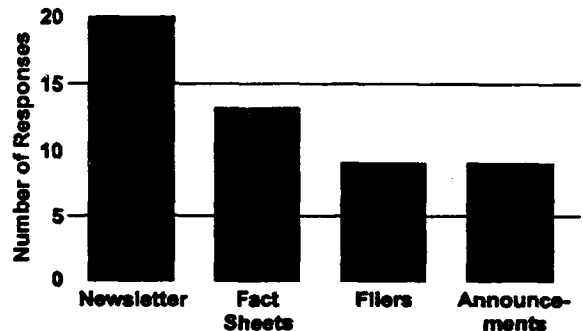


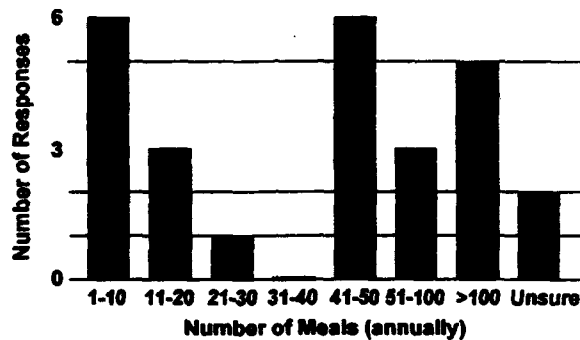
Figure 3-4.  
Preferred methods for receiving information about cleanup activities.

- D—Quarterly (6); Semiannually (5); Monthly (5); At milestones (4); Bimonthly (3); N/A (2)
- E—Post office (18); Radio (7); City office (5); Local newspaper (4); Town store bulletin boards (3); School (1); TV (1); Base (1)

F—Post office (7); City office (6);  
Base (5); Community hall (5); Air taxi  
companies (2); Radio (2); School (2);  
By mail (1); N/A (1)

**13a. Do you: Eat fish caught locally?  
Yes/No. Where does your fish come  
from? About how many meals a year  
include fish that was caught locally?**

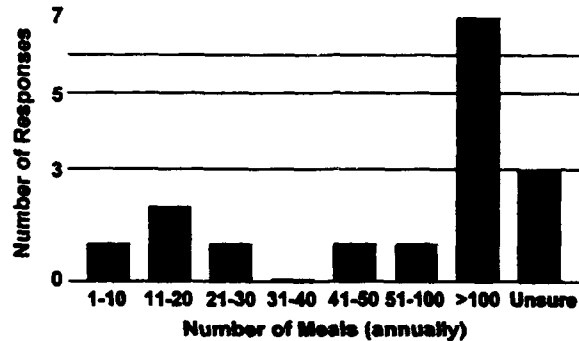
**Responses:** Yes—26 No—4  
**Source:** Yukon River—26  
Tributaries—4  
Area lakes—1  
Nulato River—1



**Figure 3-5.**  
Number of meals eaten  
annually consisting of fish caught locally.

**13b. Do you: Hunt for food? Yes/No.  
If you hunt near Galena or  
Campion sites, what kind of  
animals do you hunt? About how  
many meals a year include game  
that you hunted in these areas?**

**Responses:** Yes—16 No—14  
**Game eaten:** Moose—19  
Fowl—12  
Rabbit—5  
Bear—3  
Beaver—1  
Lynx—1  
Caribou—1



**Figure 3-6.**  
Number of meals eaten  
annually consisting of game  
hunted locally.

**13c. Do you: Grow your own food?  
Yes/No. What kind of fruits or  
vegetables do you grow? If you  
irrigate your crops, where does this  
water come from? B. About how  
much water do you use to irrigate  
your crops? About how many  
meals a year include food from  
your garden?**

**Responses:** No—21 Yes—9  
**Fruits & vegetables grown:**  
Potatoes (6); Carrots (5); Cabbage  
(3); Lettuce (4); Broccoli (2);  
Spinach, tomatoes, beets, squash,  
zucchini, green beans (all 1);  
unspecified (5)  
**Water source:** Yukon River (4);  
City water (3); Rain (3); Ponds &  
lakes (3); Base water (2)

**Quantity of water used:** 3-5  
gal/day (1); 50 gal/week (1); 100 gal  
(1); 200 gal (1); 500 gal (1); 1000  
gal (1); "Unsure" (1); Unspecified  
(3)

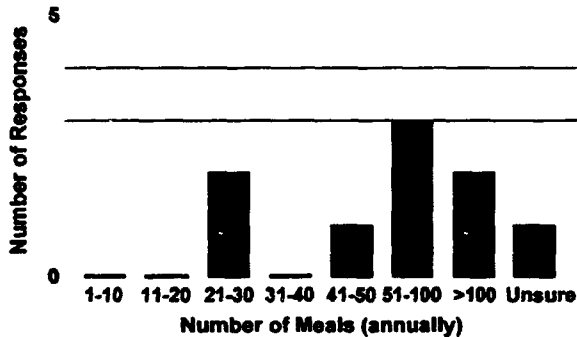


Figure 3-7.  
Number of meals eaten annually  
consisting of food grown in a  
home garden.

- 13d. *Do you: Eat plants gathered from the wild? Yes/No. What kind of plants? Where do you gather them? About how many meals a year include plants gathered from the wild?*

**Responses:** No—16 Yes—14

**Plants gathered:** Everyone reported berries of some kind (blueberries, cranberries, unspecified); also rhubarb, wild onions, spearmint, mushrooms, roots.

**Where gathered:** Unspecified (5); Around town/roadside (4); Campion AFS area (4); River banks (1); North of town (1); Between the airport and new town (1).

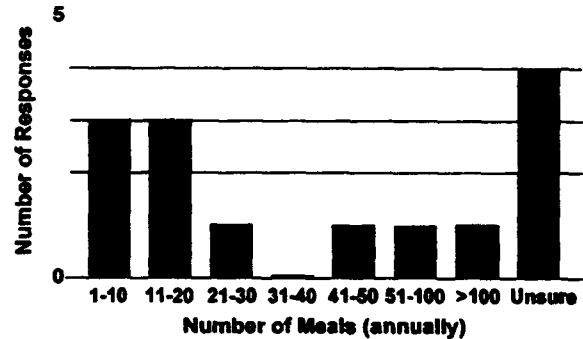


Figure 3-8.  
Number of meals eaten annually  
consisting of plants gathered  
from the wild.

14. *Does your drinking water come from city water or local well water? Do you know of anyone who has local water well?*

City water—17

N/A—5

Base water—4

Bottled water—1

Local well water—3

Five persons were identified as having local water wells in the Old Townsite.

- 15a. *Do you: Swim? If yes, where and, on average, how often and for how long?*

A. No—22

Yes—8

**Swimming sites:** Elmer's Lake (3); Yukon (2); Lakes away from town (2); Galena swimming pool (1).

**Swimming times:** Ranged from 2 1/2 hours/summer to 4 hours/week.

**15b.** *Do you: Take part in other water-contact activities? If yes, what are they, where, and, on average, how often and for how long?*

**B.** No—25  
Yes—4

**Water-contact activities:** Boating, canoeing, fishing.

**Sites:** Yukon; Beaver Creek; area lakes; back sloughs.

Only specified time reported was two times/week from May to September.

**16.** *How much time would you guess you've spent near the Galena AFS waste sites?*

Minimum specified time reported was 1 hour; maximum was 35 years.

Other (specified) times, from least amount of time to most, are 2 hours, 1 hour/month, 6 hours/week, 2 days/week (two responses), 4 days/week, 5 days/week (two responses), 3 months, 50 hours/year, 1 year, 970 days, less than 10 years, 11 years, 15 years, 20 years, and every 2 weeks since 1971. Unspecified times ranged from rarely (three responses), everyday (two responses), thousands of hours, and N/A (five responses).

**17.** *What would you like to see in a community relations program?*

More meetings and community involvement—9

More information and education about cleanup efforts and entire

N/A—8

RI/FS process—6

Increase awareness of hazardous practices—3

Health-related issues, level of risk, self-help guidelines to minimize effects—3

Employment opportunities for the town during the cleanup process—3

Radio spots and newsletter—3

Access to data—2

More literature for the public—1

Assurance of the feasibility of cleanup actually occurring and its importance—1

Air Force staff member as a point of contact—1

Establishment of a community review panel to study cleanup plan before it is finalized—1

School presentations and information exchange with science teachers—1

Discussion of joint responsibility for cost sharing for cleanup ("since all have contributed")—1

**18.** *Can you suggest other persons or groups that we should contact for additional comments for our community relations program?*

N/A—17

12 residents (identified by name)

City council—4

Gana-a'-yoo, Ltd. and Doyon Ltd. (Native Corporations)—3

Louden Village Council Chief—2

School—2

Tanana chiefs—1

Church groups—1

City manager—1

Health clinic—1

All Natives—1

19. *Were you satisfied with the information you were given about CERCLA and why this community relations program is being carried out?*

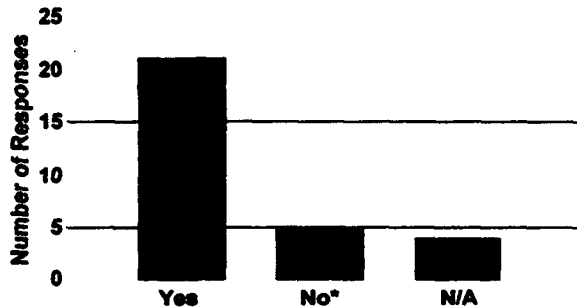


Figure 3-9.

Number of people reporting their understanding of the CERCLA and CRP efforts.

\*Two responses were from military personnel (one of whom questioned why Air Force personnel should be included in the questionnaire); one from a civilian worker; and two from skeptical town residents.

### 3.5 Key Findings

On the basis of the survey results, the following conclusions may be drawn:

- Except for long-time residents of the town, many members of the community remain uninformed about the IRP activities at Galena Airport.
- Almost everyone expressed concern about health effects and the effects on their drinking water, soil, and local wildlife. There was repeated interest in employment possibilities whenever appropriate.
- A significant number of Galena residents rely on local fish and game, as well as some garden and

wild plants. Therefore, possible effects of contaminants on the local fish, wildlife, and vegetation need to be specifically addressed.

- Many people reported "word of mouth" as their main source of local information. This fact highlights the need for accurate information about the cleanup activities in order to minimize the spread of unsubstantiated "rumors." The emphasis for distributing public information should be on radio announcements and the posting of material around town, primarily at the post office.
- There is a perception that the base and town have little to do with each other. This feeling was evident from both the questionnaire answers and from conversations with residents and military personnel. The CRP, once implemented, should help keep the community abreast of Air Force activities.

The public will have the opportunity to submit comments on site-related documents to the regulatory agencies during public comment periods. During these comment periods, the public is encouraged to submit written comments to the EPA, ADEC, or the Air Force for each cleanup activity in question. That agency will respond to the comments within 30 days. The draft documents, public comments, agency responses, and final decision documents will be available for review in the information repository (see Appendix D for the repository location).

## **4.0 Objectives of the Community Relations Program**

**T**HE CRP FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP PROCESS AT GALENA AIRPORT AND CAMPION AFS HAS FOUR OBJECTIVES.

The objectives were developed on the basis of both EPA guidance and consideration of the information presented in Section 3.0 of this document. These objectives will guide the community relations activities throughout the cleanup process.

### **1. Provide the Community with Information—Articulate and Clarify Key Issues**

The Air Force will provide accurate information to citizens about cleanup activities and respond promptly to any inquiries from community members. Information will be made available to concerned citizens, public interest groups, elected officials, the media, and agency officials through the development of fact sheets, information releases, and newsletters. In addition, the Air Force will initiate community meetings and will establish an information repository and an AR.

An AR is a detailed file containing all information used by the Air Force, EPA, and ADEC to make decisions on the selection of a response action under CERCLA. This file, which is maintained by the Air Force, contains volumes of comprehensive technical data and other information. A copy of all files in the AR will be kept at the 611 CES library at Elmendorf AFB and The Charles Evans Community Library in Galena for public viewing. Appendix D lists the library hours and location.

An information repository is the place where all information on response actions are available to the public. Although an AR contains only documents that form the basis for selecting a response action, the information repository will contain a copy of the AR, which is available to the public.

The information repository will be made for each remedial site and will include copies of documents that are also part of the AR. Documents will be made available to the public and are relevant to the public's understanding of the cleanup activities on the sites. One information repository is recommended for public review.

The public will receive information about Galena Airport and Campion AFS activities from a variety of publications, which may include newsletters and fact sheets. The Air Force will prepare publications on a regular basis. The purpose of the newsletter, which should be published quarterly, is to present a variety of informative articles about different aspects of the cleanup activities.

Fact sheets are designed to inform the public of the progress of the RI/FS and closure activities at Galena Airport and Campion AFS. They will address ongoing issues, upcoming public meetings, other community relations activities, as well as provide the names of persons whom the public may contact to obtain additional information. The fact sheets, which often discuss a particular topic in greater detail than is possible in the newsletter, will be



sent to the media and to individuals on the mailing list. Both the fact sheets and each issue of the newsletter will be placed in the information repository.

## **2. Establish Communication Between the Air Force and the Community at Large**

Communication with the community during the RI/FS process will allow the Air Force to understand the community's perspective on issues related to the site and to become more aware of the community's information needs. It is important that the 611 CES Environmental Restoration Community Relations Coordinator maintain a high profile in the Galena community. Active involvement will help ensure that the Air Force remains aware of the community's need for consistency and accessibility throughout the RI/FS process.

The Air Force will respond to community concerns and issues with representatives able to field questions and comments on a variety of technical issues and environmental concerns. These Air Force representatives will be the Galena Community Relations Coordinator and the Technical Project Manager for the 611 CES Environmental Restoration. Both representatives may be contacted at (907) 552-4532.

The U.S. EPA and ADEC representatives are also available concerning any environmental issues (see Appendix C for a listing of the availability and persons to contact). An element of the community relations program at Galena Airport will be the formation of a restoration advisory board (RAB), whose function is to serve as an advisory body for the base. The purpose of the RAB will

be to provide review on the results of field investigations and proposed remedial actions.

## **3. Respond to Community Concerns and Needs that Arise During Cleanup Activities**

A major objective of the CRP is to identify concerns as they develop and to address these concerns quickly and appropriately. Community meetings, the media, and correspondence will be used to achieve this objective. In addition, the Air Force will establish a contact person and a telephone line to monitor community concerns, as noted in Objective 2.

## **4. Provide for Citizen Input and Involvement During the RA Process**

It may be necessary to reissue the proposed plan for additional public comment if new information becomes available that significantly changes the basic features of the RA remedy. If it is determined that the change could have been anticipated by the public or it is a logical outcome, the change may be documented in the "Explanation of Significant Difference" section of the ROD.

Public comments, which do not significantly change the basic features of the removal, will be addressed in the responsiveness summary section of the ROD. The responsiveness summary is a written summary of significant comments, criticisms, and new information submitted during the public comment period and the Air Force's response to each comment.

The responsiveness summary serves two functions:

- Provides the decision makers with information about the views of the community and potentially responsible parties regarding the proposed remedial action and any alternatives; and
- Documents how public comments have been considered during the decision-making process and provides answers to major comments raised.

The responsiveness summary will be divided into four sections:

**A. Overview**

This will describe the selected remedy and any changes in the proposed plan, feasibility study, and any new alternatives suggested by the public that the Air Force has not previously considered.

**B. Background on Community Involvement**

This section will provide a brief history of community interests in Galena and will identify key public issues. Public comments and concerns on modifications in the investigation or removal actions will be noted. A list of community relations activities conducted to date will be included as an attachment to the responsiveness summary.

**C. Summary of Comments Received and Agency Responses**

This section will include comments received from all interested parties in the community, the community's technical advisors, U.S. EPA, ADEC, and local officials. Included within each category of comments will be the Air Force's response. Possible categories might include technical comments, concerns regarding alternative remedies, and public participation. Significant community concerns that cannot be addressed by the Air Force because of lack of jurisdiction will be noted, with an explanation of why no agency action will occur.

**D. Provide for Effective Management of the CRP**

The CRP will be implemented during the RI/FS and will continue throughout the entire remediation program. The Air Force will coordinate and implement all community relations activities. Each activity will be carefully monitored and evaluated by the Air Force, U.S. EPA, and ADEC to determine its effectiveness in meeting the CRP objectives. Where necessary, the Air Force will modify or revise the CRP to ensure that the community's needs are met. These revisions will be documented as addenda to the CRP.

## **5.0 Techniques to Accomplish Community Relations**

### **1. Develop a Site Mailing List**

- Respond to community concerns.
- Mail information fact sheets and newsletters to those on the list.

### **2. Prepare Information Fact Sheets and Newsletters**

- Provide the community with detailed information about site activities; announce community meetings and information on environmental issues; and provide information on detailed documents available at information repositories and in ARs.
- Include the name, address, and telephone number of an Air Force representative responsible for inquiries about Galena Airport and Campion AFS.
- Publish the newsletter quarterly.
- Publish 15 to 18 fact sheets throughout the RI/FS at Galena Airport and Campion AFS.

### **3. Establish an Information Repository**

- Inform the public of the Air Force's activities at Galena Airport and Campion AFS.
- Include additional information on site activities not specifically used for a response action (i.e., fact sheets, newspaper articles, and newsletters).
- Handle on a case-by-case basis individual requests for copies of additional documents.

### **4. Establish Administrative Record**

- Contain detailed documents that are used specifically for a response action.
- Inform the public of detailed reports of the Air Force's activities at Galena Airport and Campion AFS.

### **5. Hold Regularly Scheduled Public Meetings**

- Establish a RAB. The RAB is discussed in Section 6.0.
- Provide an opportunity for community-wide comments on site activities and to propose alternative cleanup methods.
- Inform the community of the progress of all IRP activities.

### **6. Involve Community to Support Selection of a Remedy**

- Help the Air Force support selection of a remedy during the cleanup process, the proposed plan, RI/FS, and supporting analysis. This information is included in the AR and the information repository, and is available for public comment.
- Provide at least a 30-day comment period on the proposed cleanup actions.
- Announce comment period two weeks in advance in the newspapers, on the radio, and on bulletin boards in area stores and the post office.

**7. Prepare ROD and Responsiveness Summary**

- Describe the community's comments and the Air Force's responses during the 30-day comment period and the community meetings.
- Place the complete ROD in the information repository and the AR file, with a notice of availability published in the paper.

**8. Conduct Site Tours/Technology Demonstrations**

- Familiarize community with different aspects of the cleanup process by conducting on-base tours.
- Promote understanding of the different technologies used during significant stages of cleanup.
- Conduct (when possible) technology transfer programs with the local high school as part of its science curricula.

## **6.0 Restoration Advisory Board**

**T**HE AIR FORCE WILL ESTABLISH THE RAB TO REVIEW AND COMMENT ON ACTIONS AND PROPOSED ACTIONS FOR REMOVAL of hazardous substances at Galena Airport and Campion AFS. The RAB can include representatives from the Air Force, EPA, ADEC, and the community.

The RAB will meet regularly to discuss both the results of field investigations and proposals for interim and final cleanup activities. These discussions are held before any public

meetings with the community as a review process only. The Air Force has initiated this process and recognized a high level of community interest. For more information on the RAB, please contact the Community Relations Coordinator, Mr. Bob Elyard at the following address and phone number:

611 CES  
21885 2nd Street  
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506-4420  
(907) 552-4532

## **7.0 Glossary**

**ADEC**—Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation  
**AFS**—Air Force Station  
**AR**—Administrative Record  
**ASG**—Air Support Group  
**CERCLA**—Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act  
**CES**—Civil Engineer Squadron  
**CRP**—Community Relations Plan  
**DERA**—Defense Environmental Restoration Account  
**DOD**—Department of Defense  
**EPA**—Environmental Protection Agency  
**FFA**—Federal Facilities Agreement  
**FS**—Feasibility Study  
**IRP**—Installation Restoration Program  
**NPL**—National Priorities List  
**POL**—Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricant  
**QAPP**—Quality Assurance Project Plan  
**RA**—Remedial Action  
**RAB**—Restoration Advisory Board  
**RD**—Remedial Design  
**RI**—Remedial Investigation  
**ROD**—Record of Decision  
**SARA**—Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act  
**TAG**—Technical Assistance Grant  
**UST**—Underground Storage Tank

## **8.0 References**

*Community Relations in Superfund: A Handbook.* EPA/540/G-88/002, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC, 1992.

Jackson, Mark. *Community Environmental Health Profile and Priority Projection for Galena, Alaska.* Indian Health Service, Alaska Area Native Health Service, Anchorage, Alaska, 1991.

U.S. Air Force. *Installation Restoration Program (IRP) Stage 3 Work Plan for Galena and Campion Air Force Stations, Alaska.* No. 92-269-107-03-02. Anchorage, Alaska, 1992.

## **Appendix A Community Interview Questionnaire/What is CERCLA?**

<b>GALENA AFS COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN</b>	
<b>Community Interview Questionnaire</b>	
Person(s) Interviewed: _____	
Address: _____	
Phone Number: _____	Interview Date: _____
<b>1.</b>	<b>When and how did you first become aware of the soil and groundwater contamination cleanup efforts at Galena AFS?</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>What is your understanding of the history of these activities and their effects on the community?</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Have you had any problems on your property that you think might be related to the contamination at the Air Force station?   <input type="checkbox"/> No   <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   If so, what are they?</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Do you have any concerns such as health or economic effects about how the contamination at the station may affect you or the town? <input type="checkbox"/> No   <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   If so, what are they?</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Has anything been done for you to address your concerns? If so, what has been done to date?</b>



**Community Interview Questionnaire**

**6. Are you aware of activities now going on to correct problems at the station?  
If so, what are these activities?**

**7. How do you currently receive most of your information:  
Radio  Newspaper  Television  Other**

**8. Have you participated in community involvement activities concerning the site?  
If so, what did you do?**

**9. How effective do you think these activities have been?  
 Very effective  Somewhat effective  Not effective**

**10. Would you like to participate in future activities?  Yes  No  
If so, how would you like to participate (attend community relations task force  
meetings, attend town meetings and workshops, review data, others)?**

**Community Interview Questionnaire**

**11. Have you ever had to contact the local, state, or federal agencies or your elected representatives who are working on the Galena AFS site cleanup?**

- A. No  Do you think you have enough information about who they are and how to contact them?
- B. Yes  Which ones?
- C. Were you satisfied with the help or information you were given?
- D. How responsive were these people to your concerns?
- E. How could they be more responsive in the future?

**12. Would you like to be kept informed about the cleanup work taking place at the station?**

- A. No, please remove my name from the mailing list.
- B. Yes, please add me to/keep me on the mailing list.
- C. How would you like to receive information?  
Newsletter  Announcements  Fliers  Fact Sheets
- D. How often would you like to receive information about site activities?
- E. Where is the most convenient place for you to see public notices about future cleanup activities and announcements of upcoming public meetings?
- F. Where is the most convenient place for you to go to find out more information about the site's problems and current and planned activities?

Community Interview Questionnaire

- 13.** Do you: a. Eat fish caught locally?  Yes  No  
 b. Hunt for food?  Yes  No  
 c. Grow your own food?  Yes  No  
 d. Eat plants gathered from the wild?  Yes  No

If you answered yes to any of the questions above, please give more information for:

- a. Where does your fish come from? \_\_\_\_\_  
 About how many meals a year include fish that was caught locally? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. If you hunt near Galena or Campion sites, what kind of animals do you hunt?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 About how many meals a year include game that you hunted in these areas? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. What kind of fruits or vegetables do you grow? \_\_\_\_\_  
 If you irrigate your crops, where does this water come from? \_\_\_\_\_  
 About how much water do you use to irrigate your crops? \_\_\_\_\_  
 About how many meals a year include food from your garden? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. What kind of plants? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Where do you gather them? \_\_\_\_\_  
 About how many meals a year include plants gathered from the wild? \_\_\_\_\_

- 14.** Does your drinking water come from:  City water  Local well water  
 Do you know of anyone who has local water wells? \_\_\_\_\_

- 15.** Do you: a. Swim?  
 b. Take part in any other water-contact activities?

- a.  No  Yes Where? \_\_\_\_\_  
 On average, how often and for how long? \_\_\_\_\_
- b.  No  Yes What are they? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Where? \_\_\_\_\_  
 On average, how often and for how long? \_\_\_\_\_

- 16.** How much time would you guess you've spent near the Galena AFS waste sites?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Community Interview Questionnaire**

**17. What would you like to see in a community relations program?**

**18. Can you suggest other persons or groups that we should contact for additional comments for our community relations program?**

**19. Were you satisfied with the information you were given about CERCLA and why this community relations program is being carried out?     Yes     No**

### What is the CERCLA Process?

As part of the Installation Restoration Program (IRP), the Air Force conducts its environmental cleanup using both state and federal programs. A key cleanup process used by the IRP is covered by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, or CERCLA which was enacted by Congress in 1980. It has been amended and reauthorized by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act in 1986.

Although CERCLA deals with those locations or sites listed on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Priority List, the Department of Defense (DOD) policy is to use the CERCLA process at all of its installations.

The major steps in the CERCLA and DOD IRP processes, and the approximate time to complete each step, are shown below:

- Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection (PA/SI)**—The PA is the first stage of a site assessment, and is designed to distinguish between sites that pose little or no threat to human health and the environment and sites that require further investigation (1 month).

The SI is the second stage of a site assessment, and is conducted on the sites that require further action recommendation after the PA. The SI builds on PA information and typically includes sampling to identify the presence of hazardous substances, releases, and contaminated targets as well as those sites that pose the greatest threats to human health and the environment (2-4 months).

- Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS)**—The RI is a comprehensive survey of the site that defines the contamination problem through environmental sampling and analysis. Once the RI is completed, the FS evaluates various remedial action possibilities and provides data necessary to plan cleanup efforts. (18 months).
- Treatability Investigations**—These are bench- or pilot-scale studies of the efficiency of a treatment technology or a particular contaminant and contaminated media. Treatability investigations are usually conducted for unproven technologies or for contaminants that have not been previously tested by a specific technology (2-4 months).
- Record of Decision (ROD)**—The ROD documents the selection of a cost-effective IRP cleanup remedy. The ROD is prepared once the RI/FS is completed and before the remedial design/remedial action (4 months).
- Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA)**—The final step in the CERCLA and IRP process, RD is the design of the selected site cleanup system; RA is the construction of the system (RD=12 months; RA=18 months).

## **Appendix B Media List**

### **Newspapers:**

*Anchorage Daily News*  
1001 Northway Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99508

*Tundra Times*  
P.O. Box 104480  
Anchorage, AK 99510-4480

*Alaska Journal of Commerce*  
3710 Woodland Drive, Suite 2100  
Anchorage, AK 99517

*Fairbanks News Miner*  
200 Cushman Street  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

### **Radio:**

KTYU-AM  
P.O. Box 165  
Galena, AK 99741

### **Television (via cable):**

KATN  
516 2nd Avenue  
P.O. Box 74730  
Fairbanks, AK 99707

KUAC  
University of Alaska, Fairbanks  
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7491

Alaska Public Television Inc.  
2700 East Tudor Road  
Anchorage, AK 99507

KTVF  
3530 International Street  
Fairbanks, AK 99707

## **Appendix C Site Mailing List**

### **Military Officials:**

HQ PACAF/CEVR  
U.S. Air Force  
25 E Street, Suite D-306  
Hickam AFB, HI 96853-5412

Office of Environmental Management  
645th ABW  
Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433-5000

3 CS/SCL  
6900 9th Street, Suite 4  
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506

3 CS/SCLPK  
6900 9th Street, Suite 4  
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506

Community Relations Coordinator  
3 WG/PA  
6920 12th Street  
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506-2530

343RD WG/CE  
Eielson AFB, AK 99702

ALCOM/J4  
5800 G Street  
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506-2130

### **Federal Environmental Officials:**

Mark Ader/Ed Jones  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101

Diane Jackson  
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease  
Registry (ATSDR)  
Mail Stop E-56  
1600 Clifton Road  
Atlanta, GA 30333

Marcia Combes  
Federal Facilities  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
222 West 7th Avenue, #19 (Room 537)  
Anchorage, AK 99513-7588

Alvin Ewing  
Assistant Regional Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
222 West 7th Avenue, #19  
Anchorage, AK 99513-7588

Grechen Schmidt  
Superfund Community Relations  
Coordinator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Sixth Avenue, HW-117  
Seattle, WA 98101

Tom Eley  
Refuge Manager  
Koyukuk/Nowitna Wildlife Refuge  
Box 287  
Galena, AK 99741

### **State Environmental Officials:**

Laura Noland  
ADEC-NRO  
610 University Avenue  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Mary P. Siroky  
Department of Environmental  
Conservation  
Division of Spill Prevention and Response  
410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 105  
Juneau, AK 99801-1795

**Federal Elected Officials:**

Honorable Ted Stevens  
Senator  
U.S. Congress  
222 West 7th Avenue, #2  
Anchorage, AK 99513

Honorable Frank Murkowski  
Senator  
U.S. Congress  
222 West 7th Avenue, #1  
Anchorage, AK 99513

Honorable Donald E. Young  
Representative  
U.S. Congress  
222 West 7th Avenue, #3  
Anchorage, AK 99513

**State Elected Officials:**

Governor's Office  
State of Alaska  
3601 C Street  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Lieutenant Governor  
State of Alaska  
P.O. Box AA  
Juneau, AK 99811

**Community Governments:**

Galena City Hall  
Box 149  
Galena, AK 99741

**Native Corporations/Groups**

Alaska Federation of Natives  
1577 C Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Alaska Native Foundation  
1689 C Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Alaska Native Health Board  
1345 Rudakof Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99508

Bruce Kling  
Gana A Yoo Ltd.  
Box 38  
Galena, AK 99741

Loudon Village Council  
Box 244  
Galena, AK 99741

Jules Wright  
Tanana Chiefs  
122 1st Avenue  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

**Environmental Special Interest Groups:**

Alaska Center for the Environment  
519 West 8th Avenue, Suite 201  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Alaska Environmental Assembly  
430 West 7th Avenue, Suite 215  
Anchorage, AK 99501



Alaska Environmental Lobby  
P.O. Box 22151  
Juneau, AK 99802

Alaska Environmental Political Action  
Committee  
P.O. Box 101177  
Anchorage, AK 99510-1177

Kris Benson  
Alaska Health Projects  
1818 West Northern Lights Boulevard,  
No. 103  
Anchorage, AK 99517

Alaska Natural Heritage Program  
707 A Street, Suite 208  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Alaska Natural Resources & Outdoor  
Education Association  
P.O. Box 110536  
Anchorage, AK 99511-0536

Alaska Pacific University Environmental  
Club  
4101 University Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99508

Alaska Wildlife Alliance  
P.O. Box 202022  
Anchorage, AK 99520

Anchorage Audubon  
P.O. Box 101161  
Anchorage, AK 99510

Arctic Environmental Information and  
Data Center  
Environment and Natural Resources  
Institute  
707 A Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies  
P.O. Box 2225  
Homer, AK 99603

Sally Dodd Butters  
Cook Inlet Vigil  
P.O. Box 1223  
Homer, AK 99603

Greenpeace U.S.A.  
P.O. Box 104432  
Anchorage, AK 99510

Nature Conservancy of Alaska  
601 West 5th Avenue, Suite 550  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Northern Alaska Environmental Center  
218 Driveway  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Elizabeth Hatton, M.D.  
Physicians for Social Responsibility  
4001 Date Street, Suite 213  
Anchorage, AK 99508

Public Awareness Committee for the  
Environment  
P.O. Box 916  
Homer, AK 99603-0916

Alaska Field Office  
Sierra Club  
241 East 5th Avenue, #205  
Anchorage, AK 99501

**Other Interested Organizations:**

Alaska Health Sciences Library  
3211 Providence Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99508

Alaska Lands Act Coordinating Committee  
P.O. Box 202045  
Anchorage, AK 99520

Alaska State Chamber of Commerce  
415 E Street, Suite 300  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Robert S. Juettner  
Aleutians East Borough  
1500 A Street, #103  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Copper River Country Journal/Linda Weed  
Box 336  
Glennallen, AK 99588

**Galena Citizens:**

Theresa Clark  
Box 92  
Galena, AK 99741

Max Huhndorf  
Huhndorf's General Store  
Box 329  
Galena, AK 99741

## **Appendix D Documents in the Administrative Record and the Information Repository**

### **Documents that will be maintained in the AR:**

- Preliminary assessment reports
- Site investigation reports
- Quality assurance/Quality control data summary
- Data summary sheets (usually part of the feasibility study)
- QAPP
- Initial work plan and any amendments
- CRP
- Fact sheets and newsletters
- RI reports
- Other data relating to reasons for selecting the remedial action at the site
- Information from telephone logs relied on in selecting response
- Guidance documents and technical sources
- RI/FS reports
- Proposed ROD and brief analysis of ROD
- Notices of availability of information
- Endangerment assessment or other public health assessment
- Agency for toxic substances and disease registry health assessment (draft versions not included)
- Public comments (including a late comments section)
- Documentation of meetings during which the public presents information on which the agency bases its decision on selection of a remedial action (may be after-the-fact restatement of issues raised)
- Documents relating to the consultation with the U.S. EPA Region 10
- Responses to substantive comments
- Transcript of required public meetings on the proposed ROD
- ROD, including statement of basis and purpose of selected action; summary of alternatives considered; an explanation of why the agency chose the preferred

alternative; explanation of significant differences between the proposed plan and the ROD

- Amendments to the ROD, information that caused the agency to change its decision, comments, and responses to those comments
- Administrative orders
- Index to documents in record

Access to the AR can be gained from:

611 CES  
21885 2nd St.  
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506-4420  
(907) 552-4532  
**Hours:**  
Mon-Fri—9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

\*The Galena Airport and Campion AFS Community Relations Coordinator is the primary contact for access to the AR.

The Charles Evans Community Library  
Antoski St. (inside Galena High School)  
Galena, AK 99741  
(907) 656-1205

**Hours:**  
Mon-Fri—8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Documents that will be maintained in the information repository:

- Site investigation reports
- Chain-of-custody forms
- RI reports
- Guidance documents
- RI/FS reports
- CRP
- Fact sheets and newsletters
- Public comments repositories (including a late comments section)
- Index to documents in record

Location of the information repository:

The Charles Evans Community Library  
Antoski St. (inside Galena High School)  
Galena, AK 99741  
(907) 656-1205

**Hours:**  
Mon-Fri—8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The information repository will contain a set of documents identical to the set kept in the AR, with the exception that the U.S. EPA general guidance documents and voluminous materials (i.e., raw data) will be kept at Elmendorf AFB for public review.