



Current Owner 4835 Glenbrook Road, N.W. Washington, DC 20016

Re: Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site

Removal and Remedial Actions – 4835 Glenbrook Road, N.W.

## Dear Current Owner:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you an update on the status of the investigation and cleanup of hazardous substances, buried ordnance, and related debris in the Spring Valley neighborhood, as it relates to your property. For the reasons described below, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), in consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the District of Columbia Department of Energy & the Environment (DOEE), has determined that No Further Action is required on your property.

The Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) consists of approximately 661 acres in the northwest section of Washington, D.C. During the World War I-era (1917 – 1919), the site was known as the American University Experiment Station (AUES) and was used by the U.S. government for research and testing of chemical agents, equipment, and munitions. Since the early 1990s, the USACE has been investigating the extent to which hazardous substances and ordnance may have been left behind in the Spring Valley neighborhood as part of the operation of AUES. The USACE has been performing this work on behalf of the Department of Defense (DOD), whose Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) requires it to carry out environmental investigations and cleanups at sites that were owned by the United States military at the time of the actions that created the contamination (10 U.S.C. Section 2701(c)). Investigations and cleanups at Spring Valley are conducted in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. Section 9601 et seq., and the National Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 C.F.R. Part 300. The EPA and the DOEE have been working in conjunction with the USACE on the Spring Valley cleanup.

Arsenic and a chemical agent called Mustard agent and its associated breakdown products in soil were the primary contaminants of concern on your property. The USACE also investigated your property, via test pitting, for munitions and debris burial pits and none were found. The sampling results for your property are presented in the

following documents, which can be found at the Spring Valley FUDS Information Repository located at the Tenley-Friendship Branch Library, 4450 Wisconsin Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C.:

September 11, 2009
-
July 29, 2011
July 18, 2013
* *************************************
August 26, 2016
V1 11 2 11 2 11 2 11 2 11 2 11 2 11 2 1
1, 19 71 3 7 1 (851)
December 12, 2019
October 2021

The sampling described in these documents identified several areas on your property with either arsenic levels above 20 parts per million (ppm) or areas containing detectable levels of Mustard agent and its associated breakdown products. The residential surface soil cleanup level for Spring Valley is 20 ppm, meaning that USACE is required to clean up any areas where arsenic is found above that level. An arsenic level of 20 ppm in soil is just above background levels found in and around the Spring Valley neighborhood (which ranges between approximately 3.3 and 18 ppm) and is well within the background range for the country as a whole.

In response to the presence of arsenic above 20 ppm, the USACE conducted a removal action on your property which is described in the 2009 Final Human Health Risk Assessment. Soil was removed and post-excavation samples show that all soil remaining outside the foundation of the house is below the 20 ppm cleanup goal. There is arsenic under the house and rear patio attached to the house at a level greater than the 20 ppm cleanup goal, but as the house and the connected supporting foundational wall for the patio act as a barrier to this soil, there is no accessible risk present to a resident of the house. If in the future, the property owner intends to undertake activities that expose the soil under the house or rear patio, please consult Section 8 of the 2021 Site-Specific Final Report for Remedial Action at 4825 Glenbrook Road (USACE).

In response to the presence of Mustard agent and its associated breakdown products on the neighboring property, 4825 Glenbrook Road, the USACE conducted a remedial action. This work continued onto your property and is described in the 2021 Site-Specific Final Report for Remedial Action at 4825 Glenbrook Road. Soil was removed and post-excavation samples show that all soil remaining has non-detectable levels of these compounds.

Based upon these results, the USACE, in consultation with the EPA and the DOEE, has determined that the non-detectable levels of Mustard agent and its breakdown products, and any remaining arsenic in the soil at your property do not pose a human health hazard to those living or working at your property. Therefore, No Further Action is needed on your property.

Additional information concerning cleanup and investigations at the Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site can be found on the USACE's website at: <a href="https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/Home/Spring-Valley/">https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/Home/Spring-Valley/</a>.

If you have any questions or wish to further discuss the EPA's involvement in connection with the former American University Experiment Station site and surrounding areas, please do not hesitate to contact Joe Vitello, EPA Remedial Project Manager, at (215) 814-3354. Questions related to DOEE involvement at the site may be directed to Brian Barone, DOEE, at (202) 741-5092.

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PAUL LEONARD Date: 2021.12.13 13:21:33-05'00'  Paul Leonard Director Superfund and Emergency Management Division U.S. EPA Region III	Brian Barone Chief, Land Remediation and Development Branch Toxic Substances Division Department of Energy and Environment Government of the District of Columbia
Dated:12/13/2021	Dated: 12/15/21