



# Camp Minden Site Removal Action

**Camp Minden - Explo Systems, Inc. Removal Action  
Webster Parish, Louisiana February - March 2016**

## This Fact Sheet will tell you about:

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The safety of the public is our most important consideration. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) strongly believes that public engagement makes for better informed decisions—both for the EPA and for the community. The EPA remains committed to finding ways to increase the involvement of local officials and the community in the remedy as we move forward in addressing the cleanup actions at Camp Minden.

### Current Actions

The chamber has arrived at Camp Minden. All the equipment for the contained burn system and the state-of-the-art pollution abatement system is in place. The engineers are systemizing all the units together and ensuring they all work together as designed. Interlocks are being programmed into the control computers. Examples of the interlocks include: the afterburner must be at operating temperature before a batch of M6 can be ignited; the pressure in the chamber must be stabilized (indicating the burn for that batch is complete) before the valve to the pollution abatement is opened; and other such conditions that are required to make the unit run as designed. The systemization is expected to take approximately 50 days, barring weather delays. Completion of the systemization will allow for the initial burn of M6 and the Comprehensive Performance Test (CPT).

The EPA continues to attend the monthly Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) meetings to ensure concerns from the community are addressed and to provide both technical information and coordination of general information on the path going forward.

Through a Technical Assistance Services to Communities (TASC) contract, the EPA has assigned a TASC contractor who is providing independent technical expertise to the CAG.

### Future Actions

The EPA, in cooperation with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) and Louisiana Military Department (LMD) will be holding an environmental workshop, on March 31, 2016, at the Camp Minden Military Base.

In this workshop, LMD contractors will outline the format for presenting data interpretation to the public.

Once the system is fully complete, the first fire will be conducted tentatively in early to mid-April.

### Past Actions

On February 25, 2016, the EPA, LDEQ, and LMD held an Environmental Workshop to update the community on site activities and to present the CPT. The CPT will ensure that the Contained Burn System (CBS) is functioning as designed and performing to the current regulations and strict emission standards. The CPT plan is in the process of being finalized and will be available for the public.

As indicated at the workshop, after the installation and systemization have been completed, the first test fire will be conducted with a very small amount of M6, and then gradually ramped up to prepare the CBS for the CPT.

This is because the CPT must be conducted under normal operating conditions, which would be consistent throughout the operation rather than under initial installation conditions with new equipment. The CPT will establish the operating parameters that the system must meet throughout the duration of the removal.

As indicated at the workshop, air sampling and monitoring will be conducted at designated locations in the community. This is in addition to the Continuous Emission Monitoring that will take place right at the stack of the CBS. Citizens can view the daily status at <http://geauxguard.la.gov>.

### Site Timeline

- October 2012 – A bunker explodes at the Explo site at Camp Minden
- May 2013 – Explo secures all explosives under Louisiana State Police order
- August 2013 – Explo abandons materials at Camp Minden
- October 2013 – To protect the community, the EPA begins negotiations with the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)
- April 2014 – Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) is signed with the commercial PRPs
- October 2014 – AOC signed to address M6 and CBI
- December 2014 – Camp Minden Website goes live
- December 2014 – Community Meeting
- January 2015 – Minden Dialogue Committee formed
- February 2015 – 1<sup>st</sup> Alternative Remedy Meeting for Minden Dialogue Committee
- March 2015 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternative Remedy Meeting for Minden Dialogue Committee
- March 2015 – Minden Dialogue Process Facilitators' Report released
- April 2015 – Environmental Workshop #1, Air Monitoring
- April 2015 – Environmental Workshop #2, Response Preparedness

- May 2015 – Began collection of background environmental data
- May 2015 – Public Announcement of alternative remedy and contractor
- May 2015 – Citizens Advisory Group Meeting
- May 2015 – LMD began the best and final negotiations with the contractor
- May 2015 – Public Meeting: Contained Burn System
- June 2015 – Contract Award
- June 2015 – Public Meeting
- July 2015 – Work Plan submitted to the EPA
- August 2015 – Environmental Workshop #3, Work Plan and Sampling Plan
- September 2015 – Environmental Workshop #4, LAAP Groundwater Discussion
- October 2015 – Carl Edlund met with the Citizens Advisory Group
- November 2015 – Established TASC contract for the Citizens Advisory Group
- November 2015 – Environmental Workshop #5, Data Results
- February 2016 – Environmental Workshop #6 CPT Discussion and Site Update

### For More Information...

If you would like more information about Camp Minden, visit our website at <http://www2.epa.gov/la/camp-minden>.

You can also review copies of information at:

#### **Webster Parish Library**

521 East and West Street  
Minden, LA 71055  
318.371.3080

#### **Doyline Branch Library**

333 Main Street  
P.O. Box 8  
Doyline, LA 71023  
318.745.3800

**Contacts**

Citizens can call 800.887.6063 during normal business hours (9 a.m. – 4 p.m. weekdays) or send an e-mail to our dedicated mailbox [r6\\_camp\\_minden@epa.gov](mailto:r6_camp_minden@epa.gov).

All inquiries from the news media should be directed to the EPA Region 6 Press Office at 214.665.2200 or by email to [R6press@epa.gov](mailto:R6press@epa.gov).



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