



## Region 7

Iowa  
Kansas  
Missouri  
Nebraska

## Fact Sheet

September 2003

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### **Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis Available Tri-County Public Airport Site, Herington, Kansas**

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 has completed the development of an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) to address contaminated soils in the vicinity of the north hangar (hangar 1) at the Herington Regional Airport (Tri-County Public Airport Site). This area is believed to be a source of ground water contamination at the Herington Regional Airport. The EPA prepared the EE/CA at the request of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) in anticipation of a response action to address contaminated soils in the north hangar area.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Herington Army Air Field (HAAF) was utilized by the Department of Defense between 1942 and 1947. In 1948, the federal government transferred the property to the city of Herington. Since 1948, the city of Herington or an agency of the City has owned the Herington Regional Airport property. In addition to the use of the site by the Department of Defense and the City, the property has been leased to numerous other entities who have used it for industrial purposes.

Starting in 1995, investigations of the former HAAF and the surrounding area have been conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, KDHE, EPA, and Raytheon Aircraft Company. Several volatile organic compounds (VOCs),

including trichloroethylene (TCE), and vinyl chloride were detected in ground water as were fuel-related chemicals such as: benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, and xylene. Samples taken from residential wells located north and northwest of the site indicated VOC-contamination above the EPA health based levels for safe drinking water (maximum contaminant levels). TCE is commonly used as an industrial solvent.

#### **EE/CA PROCESS**

The EE/CA process for the Herington Regional Airport north hangar area involved reviewing available site investigations, collecting samples, and conducting a pilot study. After completion of the sampling and pilot study activities, an EE/CA report was prepared. The EE/CA report provides background information on the site, identifies the removal action objectives, reviews potential cleanup alternatives, and recommends a final response action alternative. EPA's proposed removal alternative is excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil within an engineered disposal cell.

The EE/CA and supporting documents are available for public viewing at the Herington Public Library, 102 South Broadway, Herington, Kansas, (758) 258-2011.

## **PUBLIC AVAILABILITY SESSION**

EPA invites you to an informal meeting:

Tuesday, September 16, 2003  
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Herington Community Building  
810 South Broadway  
Herington, Kansas

Representatives involved at the site will be available to answer your questions on the EE/CA or other site issues one-on-one. You can attend the meeting at your convenience at any time between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

The EPA is accepting written comments on the EE/CA report for a period of 30 days starting on September 4, 2003. The EPA will then respond to comments from the public and select the final response action for cleanup of soils in the north hangar area of the Herington Regional Airport.

Comments may be made at the Availability Session or sent in writing to:

Debbie Kring  
Community Involvement Coordinator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of External Programs  
901 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, Kansas 66101  
[kring.debbie@epa.gov](mailto:kring.debbie@epa.gov)  
Toll-free @ 1-800-223-0425