

13 March 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Exclusion Zone Requirements and Requirements for the Location of Personnel Decontamination Stations at Recovered Chemical Warfare Materiel (RCWM) Projects, OE-MCX Interim Guidance Document Number 02-02

1.0 PURPOSE. This interim guidance provides exclusion zone requirements and requirements applicable to the location of personnel decontamination stations that are used by the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville (USAESCH), when it is executing RCWM Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analyses and Removal Actions.

2.0 APPLICABILITY. This guidance is applicable to USAESCH, which is the only U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) command authorized to execute RCWM projects and to USACE commands responsible for management of RCWM projects.

3.0 REFERENCES.

a. Army Regulation 385-61, Army Toxic Chemical Agent Safety Program.

b. Department of the Army Pamphlet 385-61, Army Toxic Chemical Agent Safety Standards.

c. Engineer Regulation 1110-1-8153, Ordnance and Explosives Response.

d. Engineer Pamphlet 385-1-95a, Basic Safety Concepts and Considerations for Ordnance and Explosives Operations.

e. Engineer Pamphlet 75-1-3, Recovered Chemical Warfare Materiel (RCWM) Response.

f. Engineer Manual 1110-1-4009, Ordnance and Explosives (OE) Response.

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4.0 RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. The Ordnance and Explosives (OE) Safety Specialist is responsible for ensuring safety and for reviewing changes or adjustments to any of the exclusion zones established for a site. The OE Safety Specialist may adjust operational procedures that do not constitute a change to the Safety Submission. Under emergency conditions, the OE Safety Specialist may invoke changes to ensure increased worker safety and public protection. The OE Safety Specialist will document and notify the Project Manager, the Design Center Point of Contact, and the CWM team members of changes or adjustments as soon as possible.

b. All other roles and responsibilities are outlined in ER 1110-1-8153 and EP 75-1-3.

5.0 PROCEDURES.

5.1 LOCATION OF THE PERSONNEL DECONTAMINATION STATION (PDS).

a. The PDS will be located outside the no significant effects (NOSE) distance. Exceptions to this rule might be required and should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

b. An Emergency PDS will be established as close to the work site as possible so that any gross contamination can be removed.

c. The location of the PDS will be based on the more restrictive of:

(1) The Maximum Credible Event (MCE) of the site based on the worst possible weather conditions, or

(2) Actual meteorological conditions.

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d. If actual meteorological conditions are used, they must be monitored hourly, and the D2PC (Downwind Hazard Prediction Model) must be calculated hourly. If actual conditions cause the PDS to be within the NOSE, work must stop until the conditions improve or the PDS must be moved outside the NOSE.

e. The PDS will never be established within the fragmentation zone as described in AR 385-64, unless approved engineering controls are used.

5.2 PERSONNEL WITHIN THE 1% LETHALITY ZONE.

a. Only personnel who are essential to accomplish the work are allowed to work inside the 1% lethality zone.

b. Only UXO qualified personnel will be used to perform OE procedures that include, but are not limited to, gaining access to (manual excavation) and identifying subsurface anomalies, assessing surface OE, and recovering OE. UXO qualified technicians will make final disposition of all OE items in accordance with applicable guidance.

5.3 PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) WITHIN THE 1% LETHALITY ZONE.

a. All personnel working within the 1% Lethality Zone must wear the same level of PPE. Personnel outside of the 1% Lethality Zone, but within the NOSE, may be in Level D with slung masks. All personnel working in the 1% Lethality Zone must also be protected from fragmentation, if at all possible.

b. Support personnel, such as the cascade operator, may be in collective protection (such as a tent). PPE and collective protection will be furnished by the supporting organization; i.e., Technical Escort Unit or Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center.

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5.4 EXCLUSION ZONE ON RCWM PROJECTS.

The Exclusion Zone on RCWM project sites is the area within the boundaries of the NOSE and/or the fragmentation distances for the Most Probable Munition, whichever is greater.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF ORDNANCE
AND EXPLOSIVES DIRECTORATE:

////////signed////////
CAROL A. YOUKEY, P.E.
Chief, Center of Expertise
for Ordnance and Explosives
Directorate