

**DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM  
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES**

**INVENTORY PROJECT REPORT  
(revised)**

**AIR FORCE PLANT NO. 81  
SALT LAKE COUNTY, UTAH**

**SITE NO. J08UT075000**

Prepared for:

**SACRAMENTO DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Prepared by:

**THE EARTH TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION**  
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Long Beach, CA 90802-4443

**July 1991  
(revised June, 1995)**

**SITE SURVEY SUMMARY SHEET  
FOR  
DERP-FUDS SITE NO. J08UT075000  
AIR FORCE PLANT NO. 81**

**SITE NAME:** Air Force Plant No. 81. It was also known Air Force Plant No. 81, Bacchus; Minuteman Third Stage Engine Production Facility; Minuteman Production Program; Air Force Third Stage Minuteman Production Plant; Minuteman Project, Magna; Hercules, Inc., Magna, Salt Lake City County, Utah.

**LOCATION:** The site is located in northern Utah, Salt Lake City County, approximately 15 miles west of Salt Lake City, Utah (Figures 1 and 2).

**SITE HISTORY:** In 1961, the United States Air Force acquired 505.50 fee acres and 4.08 easement acres from Hercules Powder Company (HPC), and 0.08 leased acres from the Salt Lake County Conservancy District. The total acreage acquired was 509.66. The site was used by the Air Force as a production plant (industrial installation) of solid propellants and loading of third stage minuteman missiles. Improvements to the site included bunkers, warehouses, rocket assembly areas, a guard post, boiler house, gas mains, sanitary sewer, sewer treatment facility, and administrative buildings. On 19 April 1965, 1.73 fee acres, located on the west side of the site (see Segment 1), were conveyed to the State of Utah by quitclaim deed. Available records do not indicate any improvements on this parcel of property.

The remainder of the site was reported excess on 19 May 1971. On 12 August 1974, 507.93 acres were transferred to the Department of the Navy by letter of transfer with no conditions, restrictions, or reservations.

**SITE VISIT:** The site was examined on 3 June 1991 by Mr. Roger Norris and Mr. Jenn-Yih Peng of The Earth Technology Corporation, escorted by Mr. E. Richard Anderson, Manager of Environmental Planning and Operations, Hercules Aerospace Company, Magna, Utah.

Hercules, Inc. (currently Hercules Aerospace Company) has continuously operated the Air Force Plant No. 81 facility since 1961. Hercules Aerospace Company currently operates the facility as a Naval Industrial Reserve Ordnance Plant (NIROP) under the Naval Strategic System Program (SSP). The primary function of the facility is the production of solid propellants for missiles in military operations and the space program. There are TCE, TCA, and DCE groundwater plumes present due primarily to the solvent used in the NIROP. The TCE (40-50ppb) and TCA (30-70 ppb) plumes are above the Maximum Concentration Level (MCL). Hercules has so far spent 3 million dollars to clean up the contamination. The current Naval ownership of the 507.93 acres results in its ineligibility for the FUDS program.

In a phone conversation with Mr. Richard Anderson of Hercules in June, 1995, he stated that the 507.93 acres is now jointly occupied by Hercules and Alliant Tech Systems based in

Minneapolis, MN. Alliant Tech Systems runs the aerospace portion and Hercules runs graphite fiber operations. The 1.73 acres is being used as a truck turnout where trucks go to get their brakes checked.

**CATEGORY OF HAZARD:** NOFA.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** None identified.

**AVAILABLE STUDIES AND REPORTS:**

Site Visit Report performed by The Earth Technology Corporation, June, 1991.

**PA POC:** Mr. William Mullery, CESP-K-ED-EB, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, (916) 557-6944.

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FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES**

**FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY**

**AIR FORCE PLANT NO. 81  
SALT LAKE CITY COUNTY, UTAH  
SITE NO. J08UT075000**

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. In 1961, the United States Air Force acquired 505.50 fee acres and 4.08 easement acres from Hercules Powder Company (HPC), and 0.08 lease acre from the Salt Lake County Conservancy District. Total acreage acquired was 509.66.
2. The site was used by the Air Force as a production plant (industrial installation) of solid propellants and loading of third stage minuteman missiles. Improvements to the site included bunkers, warehouses, a guard post, and administrative buildings.
3. On 19 April 1965, 1.73 fee acres were conveyed to the State of Utah by quitclaim deed. On 12 August 1974, the remaining 507.93 acres were transferred to the Department of the Navy with no conditions, restrictions, or reservations. The 507.93 acre site is currently owned by the Department of the Navy as Naval Industrial Reserve Ordnance Plant (NIROP) under the Naval Strategic System Program (SSP).

**DETERMINATION**

Based on the foregoing findings of fact, the 1.73 acre site has been determined to be formerly used by the DoD. Therefore, it is eligible for funding under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites, established under 10 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.

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Date

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**Bruce K. Scott**  
Brigadier General, U.S. Army  
Commanding

## SITE VISIT REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Defense Environmental Restoration Program - Formerly Used Defense Sites  
Site Visit to Air Force Plant #81, Utah.

**SITE NO.:** J08UT075000

**DELIVERY ORDER NO.:** 3

**DATE:** 10 June 1991

1. **PURPOSE OF THE SITE VISIT**

The purpose of the visit was to assess the property for possible environmental impacts that may have resulted from its use as a military installation. The assessment was based on a visual inspection of the site, interviews with the current land owners or occupants, and where possible interviews with other individuals that may have information regarding the site. Photographs were also taken to document the current condition of the site. This assessment was performed to assist the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) in identifying land formerly owned or used for Department of Defense (DOD) purposes that may be eligible for restoration projects under DERP and those where no project is warranted.

2. **DATE AND TIME OF THE SITE VISIT**

03 June 1991. From 0900 to 1300 hours.

3. **PERSONS PRESENT/INTERVIEWED DURING SITE VISIT**

A. Persons interviewed:

Mr. Dennis Downs, Director, Division of Environmental Health, Bureau of Solid & Hazardous Waste, Utah State Dept. of Health, (801) 538-6170.

Mr. Kent Miner, Director, Water Quality & Hazardous Toxic Waste, Salt Lake City County, Utah, (801) 534-4547.

B. Persons present:

1. Mr. E. Richard Anderson, Manager, Environmental Planning and Operations, Hercules Aerospace Company, Missiles, Ordnance & Space Group, Bacchus Works, Magna, UT., (801) 251-3574.

2. Mr. Shannon J. Storrud, Supervisor, Environmental Engineering Hercules Aerospace Company, Missiles, Ordnance & Space Group. Bacchus Works, Magna, UT., (802) 251-5006.
3. Mr. Roger Norris, Project Geophysicist, The Earth Technology Corporation, Long Beach, CA., (213) 495-4449.
4. Mr. Jenn-Yih Peng, Staff Geologist, The Earth Technology Corporation, Long Beach, CA., (213) 495-4449.

4. SITE LOCATION

Air Force Plant No. 81 (currently owned by the Department of Navy Strategic Systems Programs (SSP) Detachment, and Operated by the Hercules Aerospace Company) is located in Salt Lake County, Northern Utah, approximately 15 miles west of Salt Lake City, Utah.

5. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

The site is currently managed and owned by the Department of Navy under the Strategic Systems Programs (SSP) and operated by the Hercules Aerospace Company to exclusively produce solid propellants to load onto missiles and supply military usage and space programs. Since the installation of Air Force Plant No. 81, the Military always owns it (the Air Force firstly owned it and turned it over to the Navy in 1974) and the Hercules Incorporated Company continuously operates it. Based on our field observation, the former location of Air Force Plant No. 81 is currently occupied by the Naval Industrial Reserve Ordnance Plant (NIROP). Thus the current naval ownership of this property results in its ineligibility for the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP), and the site is classified as NOFA site. However, as discussed with both Richard Anderson & Shannon Storrud, they showed us the presence of TCE, TCA and DCE groundwater plumes. Among them, TCE (40-50 ppb) and TCA (30-70 ppb) plumes are above the Maximum Concentration Level (MCL). The primary contamination source is solvent used in NIROP. Hercules had spent 3 million dollars to clean it up, but they are willing to get some financial aid from DOD.



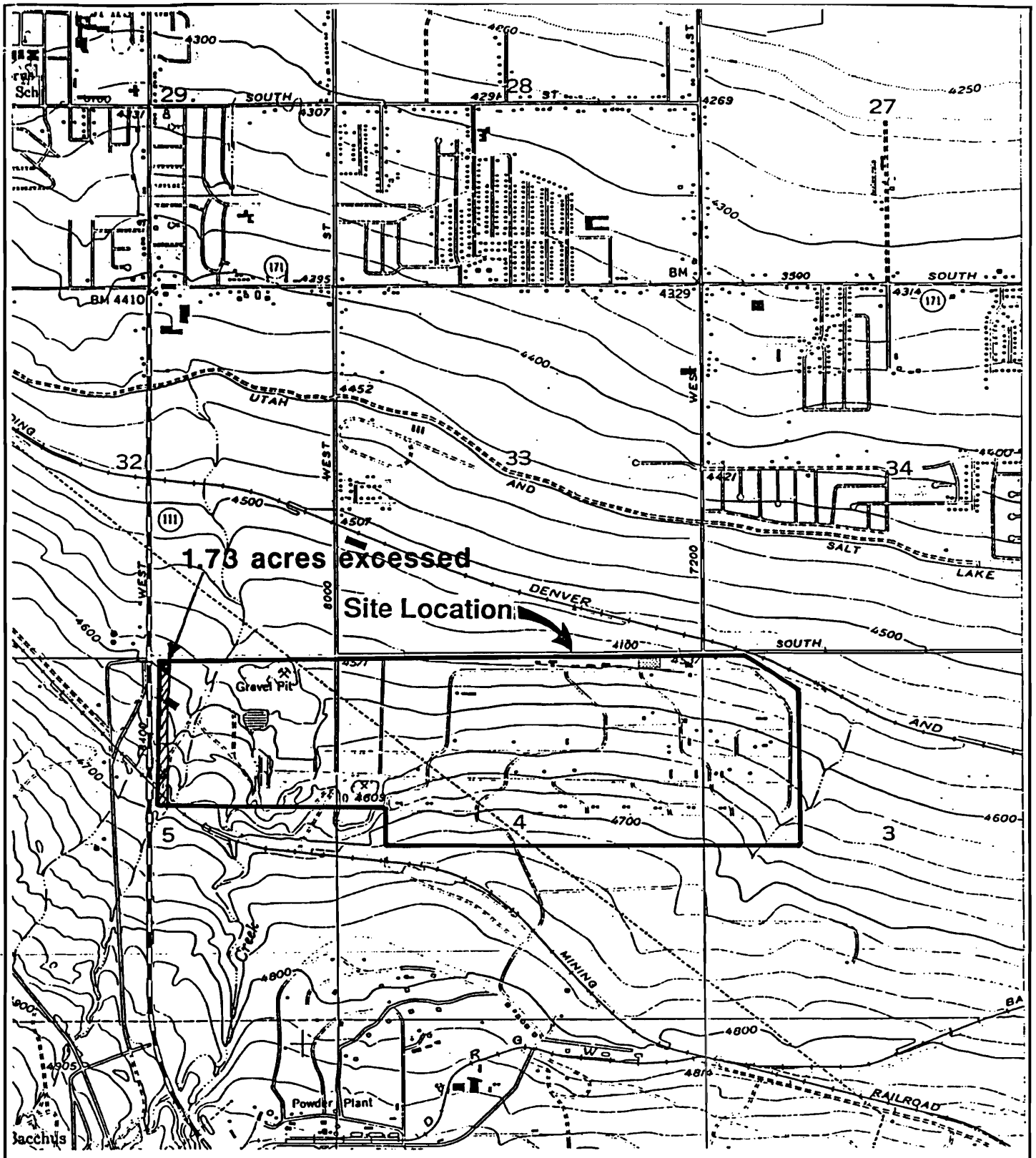
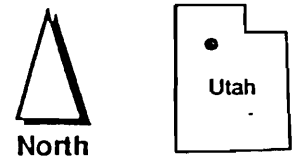
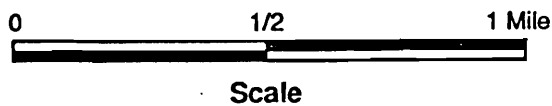


Figure 2  
 Site Map  
 Air Force Plant No. 81



Source: Base map from U.S.G.S., 1:24,000  
 Magna Quadrangle

Site No. J08UT075000