

Disassembly, Decontamination, & Demolition of Buildings and Installed Equipment Containing Explosives Residues at CHAAP, Load Line 4

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- *Conduct Disassembly/Inspection, Decontamination and Demolition of all Buildings (except Boiler Houses) and Concrete Floors at Load Line 4*
- *Dispose of Project-Generated Waste/Debris from Load Line 4*
- *Remediate Any Explosive Soil Found Under the Floors*
- *Certify Load Line 4 and Surrounding Property to a 5X Designation*
- *Zero OSHA Violations and Zero Lost Work Days*

CORNHUSKER ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT (CHAAP)

Production at CHAAP began with pouring of the first 1,000-pound bomb at Load Line (LL) 3 on November 11, 1942. Loading operations ceased August 14, 1945. During the period of Sept 1945 to Feb 1950, the plant was first declared surplus, then placed in standby status under control of the Ordnance Corps, U.S. Army. Utilization of buildings was primarily for grain storage, except for the Nitrate Area, which was used to manufacture fertilizer until Apr 1948. In Apr 1950, CHAAP again became an active installation for rehabilitation of LL1 and applicable operations for the production of 3.5" high explosives (HE) rockets. In December 1950, LLs 2, 3, 4, the Fuze Line, storage and dock facilities, the administration area, and all appurtenant utilities were rehabilitated. LL1 began production in Jan 1951 when the first HE rocket warheads were poured at the plant. These warheads were then combined with pre-assembled, pre-loaded rocket motors that were delivered to the plant as motor units. In Jan 1966, production of bombs began and in 1967 the production of a new end product, the Micro-Gravel Mine XM45 was produced in LL5. The plant was laid away in 1974 and was maintained in a high state of readiness until Jan 1989 when the plant was declared in excess. All removal of production equipment was completed in Oct 1991. In general, the explosives manufacturing facilities at the CHAAP LLs were previously decontaminated to a "3X" level in order to place the facilities in a standby status. At the time they were decontaminated, process equipment, such as TNT melt/pour pots, that were previously used to load, assemble and pack ordnance items was removed. However, the process piping and ventilation ducts and other such items were left behind. As such, while potentially hazardous explosives residue still exists within the LL buildings, the volume of explosives that may be found in any one area has been significantly reduced by the previous 3X operations.

PIKA's objectives for this project were the disassembly/inspection, decontamination, demolition, 5X certification and disposal of project-generated waste/debris from Load Line 4 at CHAAP.

SERVICES PERFORMED:

- Prepared Work Plans, including Site Safety and Health Plan
- Performed Hazard Analysis of Load Line 4 Buildings
- Removed Hazardous Items of Environmental Concern
- Performed
 - Disassembly
 - Inspection
 - Explosives decontamination (using chemical, physical or thermal processes)
 - Walls and surface debris removal
 - Building floor drain removal
 - Concrete floor removal
 - Limited sub-slab soil sampling
 - Limited sub-slab remediation
 - Inspection for final acceptance
- Prepared Final Report

REGULATORY INTERFACE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- Project Executed in a Manner that Minimized Environmental Impact to Site
- Project Executed within the Relevant Requirements Presented in all Federal, State, and Local Safety and Environmental Regulations, including, but not limited to, OSHA and All Applicable Army Regulations.

