

# Removal of Explosively Contaminated Industrial and Sanitary Sewers, Cornhusker Army Ammunition Plant

## CORNHUSKER ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT (CHAAP)

CHAAP previously occupied approximately 12,000 acres and is located in south central Nebraska near the city of Grand Island in Hall County, Nebraska. CHAAP consists of five main components: five, major load, assemble and package production areas (LLs 1-5); a fertilizer manufacturer; two major explosive magazine storage areas; a sanitary landfill; and a burning ground where explosive contaminated materials were ignited. The plant was operated intermittently over a period of 30+ years from 1942 – 1974 and has remained inactive since 1974 to date. The facility maintenance contract that was in place to maintain facility readiness was terminated in 1990 following the facility's addition to the property excess list. Currently, activities at CHAAP are limited to the leasing of property for agriculture, leasing of buildings for storage and limited manufacturing, wildlife management, and minor maintenance of the grounds, roads and leased facilities. The area surrounding CHAAP is primarily rural and agricultural with the town of Grand Island (population approximately 44,000) located east of the plant.

### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- *Removed Approximately 25,000 LF of Clay and 18,000 LF of Asbestos Sewers*
- *UXO Technicians Provided Safety Oversight*
- *Project Information Stored on PIKA's Client Portal,*
- *PIKA Provided Onsite Quality Control Testing for All Field Activities, and Provided Knowledgeable QA/QC Throughout This Process.*

PIKA's objectives for this project included the removal, inspection, certification and disposal of approximately 43,000 LF of industrial and sanitary sewers from Load Lines 1, 2, 3 and 4 at Cornhusker Army Ammunition Plant. All Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) was removed and properly containerized and disposed of to an offsite facility IAW federal, state and local environmental guidelines. Due to the probability of MEC-related hazards associated with the Load Lines, UXO technicians provided safety oversight and accompanied the asbestos crew during all abatement operations.

### SERVICES PERFORMED

- Excavation of soil to uncover the sewer lines by trained equipment operators, as a non-asbestos project;
- Established an asbestos demarcation zone on both sides of the exposed sewer lines;
- Separated sewer lines into sections, no greater than ten feet in length;
- Strapped and lifted pipe sections from the trench and placed them in dumpster lined with poly;
- Capped sewers at the fenced boundary;
- After sewer removal, performed limited subsurface screening of soils to confirm explosives concentration;
- If explosives concentration greater than 10%, the soils were wetted and blended with clean soils;
- Once dumpsters were full, they were covered and transported to an EPA-approved landfill for disposal.



**ASBESTOS SEWER PIPES**



**CLAY SEWER PIPES**