



# ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet



## Euclid Road Groundwater Site, Deep Creek, Washington

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10

September 2006

### Site Sampling History to Date

A solvent called trichloroethylene — or TCE — was discovered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in late 2004 in a drinking water well along Euclid Road in the Deep Creek area, west of Spokane. The EPA well testing was part of an environmental assessment being conducted at the nearby former Fairchild Nike Missile Battery 87 property. The TCE level in the affected well exceeded the federal drinking water standard of 5 parts per billion (ppb). Levels of TCE above the drinking water standard can pose a human health risk. The property served by the well was vacant at the time.

EPA began testing other nearby wells in early 2005 to determine if they might contain TCE and found two additional wells with levels above the drinking water standard. EPA installed filters at the two homes served by those wells in 2005 and installed a filter at the first location in 2006. EPA is continuing to test the water at the three properties every three months to ensure that TCE levels remain below the drinking water standard. ( See map page 2.)

EPA has tested more than seventy wells in the Deep Creek area since the discovery of the TCE in the first well. The water from these wells has been tested for TCE and two other chemicals: N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) and perchlorate. Testing for NDMA and perchlorate was added because those chemicals, along with TCE, are often found associated with missiles or rockets at formerly used defense sites.

### What do we know so far?

TCE has been detected in some wells in a small area east of the intersection of Wood and Euclid roads. Monitoring wells installed by EPA in the shallowest groundwater suggests that TCE-contaminated groundwater is moving to the southeast. The extent of the contamination is not known. It is also unclear how long TCE will continue to be detected at the three drinking water wells or if it will rise above the drinking water

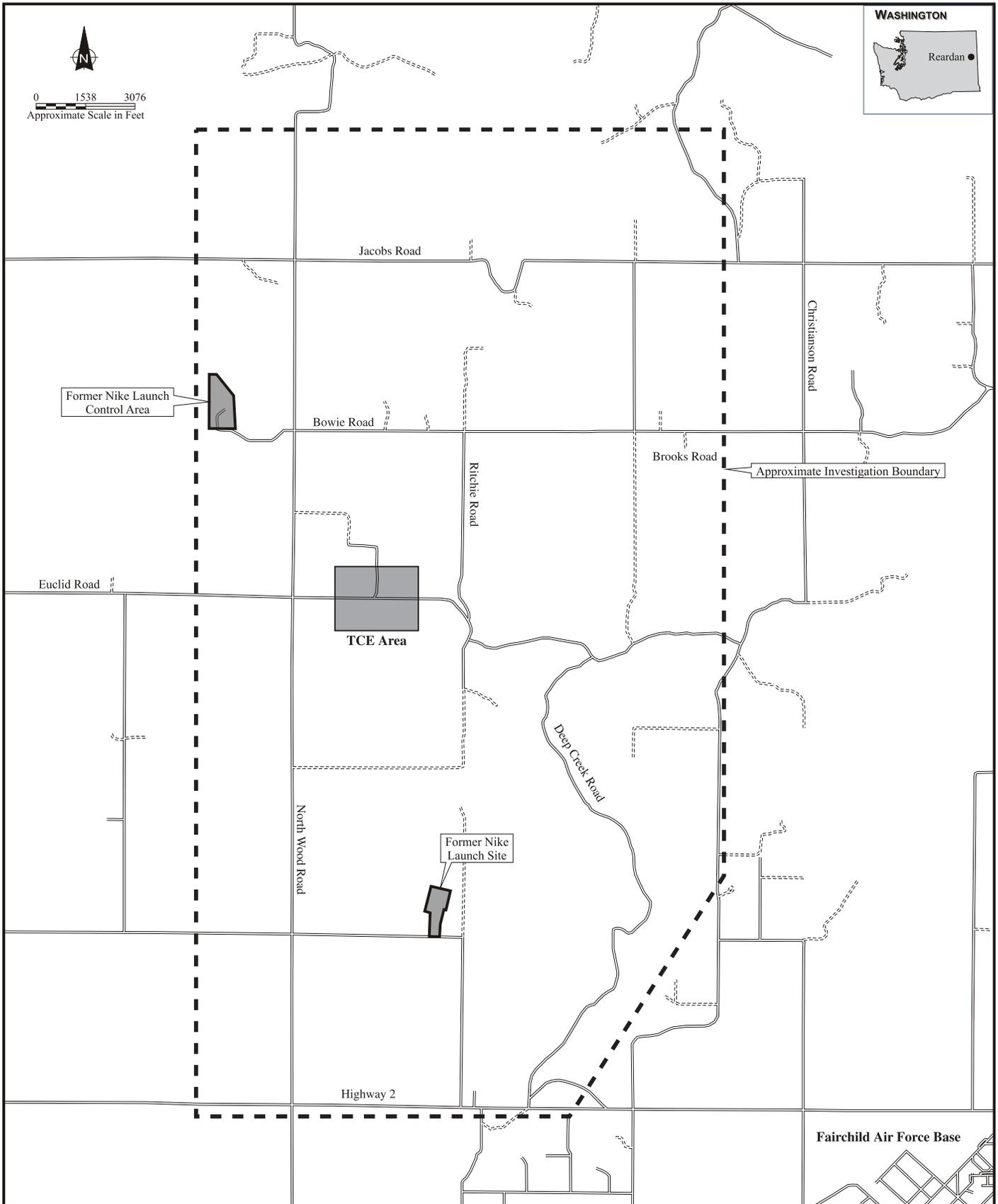
### What do we know so far? *continued*

standard at other nearby wells. If TCE levels at other wells rise above drinking water standard, EPA will also install filters at the affected homes. Well water testing will continue every three months for the foreseeable future for the homes with filters.

Traces of perchlorate were found by EPA in most tested wells and low levels of NDMA were found in about half the wells. Unlike TCE, perchlorate has been detected in widely scattered wells around the investigation area and NDMA is present in clusters of wells. However, there is no real pattern that identifies a source of these chemicals. Some samples were taken from wells outside the investigation area. None of those wells had TCE. Five had low levels of NDMA, however, and eight had low levels of perchlorate.

The levels of perchlorate and NDMA detected in drinking water wells in June 2006, the most recent sampling round, are low and like the March and April 2006 levels, do not pose an immediate health threat. However, the Spokane Regional Health District, the Washington State Department of Health, and EPA are concerned that these chemicals could pose a health threat if they increase and are consumed for a long time. The agencies agree

*(continued on page 3)*



**SITE LOCATION MAP**

*The dotted line surrounds the area where groundwater has been tested.*



**What do we know so far?** *continued*

that continued testing of the drinking water wells in the area is necessary to monitor for any changes in levels of NDMA and perchlorate. Continued TCE monitoring will also take place.

EPA and its contractors recently completed the Euclid Road Groundwater Site Hydrogeologic Evaluation. To review a copy, please visit EPA's website: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/cleanup.nsf/sites/euclid> or the Airway Heights Library (*see back page*), or call Renée Dagseth (*see below*).

**What is next?**

EPA and its contractors will be testing drinking water wells again in December 2006. This will include re-testing some wells and testing some additional wells that were not previously sampled. EPA will consult with the Washington State Department of Health and the Spokane Regional Health District about wells to be tested. Decisions about the December well testing and the test results will be shared with the community.

In May 2006, EPA requested that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers take over management of the site including maintenance of the TCE filters and

long-term monitoring of water. The Corps declined the request because they do not believe the Nike Battery 87 caused the contamination. EPA has been in discussion with the Corps and has requested that the Corps review its files for information on what chemicals were used, stored and disposed of by the Army when the missile site was in operation. To date, this file review has not happened. In the meantime, EPA will continue to look for other possible sources of TCE, perchlorate, and NDMA that might exist in the area. EPA will continue to work with other agencies to ensure that the affected community has safe drinking water while this work is going on.

EPA has asked the Washington State Department of Health to conduct a well survey to make sure that all wells in the area have been identified. The Department of Health will send out letters within the next few weeks asking property owners about their wells.

The Washington Department of Health is completing a health consultation, a published report that summarizes the level of health risk from these contaminants and addresses community health concerns. It will be available to the community, along with a fact sheet, in the next few months.

**For More Information — Contacts**

For general information or if you would like to be added to the mailing lists shared by EPA, WA Dept. of Health, and Spokane Reg. Health Dist.:

**Renée Dagseth**

U.S. EPA Community Involvement Coordinator  
800-424-4372 or 206-553-1889  
[dagseth.renee@epa.gov](mailto:dagseth.renee@epa.gov)

For questions about whether your well has been tested or needs to be:

**Calvin Terada**

U.S. EPA On Scene Coordinator  
206-553-4141  
[terada.calvin@epa.gov](mailto:terada.calvin@epa.gov)

For questions about TCE, perchlorate, NDMA and your health:

**Michael LaScuola**

Spokane Regional Health District  
509-324-1574  
[mlascuola@spokanecounty.org](mailto:mlascuola@spokanecounty.org)

To request a copy of the Washington State Department of Health's health consultation report:

**Barbara Trejo**

Washington Department of Health  
877-485-7316  
[barbara.trejo@doh.wa.gov](mailto:barbara.trejo@doh.wa.gov)

(See back page for where to review site documents.)



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Seattle, Washington 98101-1128

Pre-Sorted Standard  
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U.S. EPA  
Permit No. G-35  
Seattle, WA

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Deep Creek, Washington  
September 2006*

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**To review documents regarding Euclid Road groundwater:**

The Administrative Record (important documents about this site) can be reviewed at:

<b>Airway Heights Library</b>	and	<b>EPA Records Center, 7th Floor</b>
1213 S. Lundstrom St.		1200 6th Avenue
Airway Heights, WA 99001		Seattle, WA 98101
509-893-8250		800-424-4372

Please Contact the Library and Records Center for hours and appointments.



*Alternative formats are available. For reasonable accommodation, please call Renée Dagseth. TTY users, please call the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339.*

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