

WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE HOLDING PUBLIC MEETING ON ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP AT SPILL SITE 045 (SS045)

The United States Air Force (USAF) seeks input from the local community on the recommended environmental cleanup at SS045. The site is located near 5th Street and Vandenberg Avenue at the central part of Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri.

The USAF will hold a public meeting from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM on 9 July 2026, at the Trails Regional Library Knob Noster Branch – 202 N Adams Ave, Knob Noster MO 65336. In this meeting, the Air Force will make a brief presentation at 7:30 PM to explain the site history and proposed cleanup and will have copies of the “Proposed Plan” that summarizes this information. Air Force staff members will be available to answer questions and accept comments during the meeting.

The Proposed Plan for the spill site recommends adding rules (land use controls) about how the land can be used in the future to protect human health and monitoring the contaminated groundwater as it cleans itself naturally (a process known as natural attenuation) over time. The release of chlorinated solvents at SS045 likely occurred long ago when Whiteman AFB operated as a missile wing.

If the use of the land at SS045 changes from its current purpose, the USAF would implement various measures to protect future users from groundwater contamination. This includes maintaining the existing ban on using shallow on-site groundwater for drinking purposes until cleanup standards are met, restrictions on land use and construction-related water management, conducting annual inspections to confirm land use restrictions are being enforced, and performing a comprehensive review of the site every five years to ensure that the cleanup remedy continues to protect human health and the environment.

To verify the effectiveness of the recommended cleanup remedy noted in the Proposed Plan, the groundwater would be monitored at existing wells to track the contamination levels and confirm that the contaminants are breaking down naturally.

This recommended remedy is in response to on-site investigations performed in partnership with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MoDNR) between 2014 and 2020 to address environmental concerns. As lead agency, USAF has selected the proposed remedy for SS045 and the MoDNR, as support agency, concurs with the USAF’s proposed remedy selection.

The formal comment period starts on 19 June 2026 and ends on 21 July 2026. Oral and written comments will be accepted at the public meeting on **9 July 2026**. For further information, or to submit written comments at any time during the formal comment period, please contact:

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General information about the Whiteman AFB environmental cleanup program and the Proposed Plan can be viewed online at <http://afcec.publicadmin-record.us.af.mil/>, the Whiteman AFB Library or at the Trails Regional Library Knob Noster Branch. Specific supporting documents to the Proposed Plan including the final Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (FS) are available at <http://afcec.publicadmin-record.us.af.mil/>.