1. SITE NAME: Plattsburgh Atlas Missile Site S-7
   SITE NUMBER: C02NY021200
   LOCATION:
   City: Franklin
   County: Franklin County
   State: New York
   PROJECT NUMBER: C02NY021201
   CATEGORY: OE
   INPR RAC: 3
   ASR RAC: 2
   TAG RAC: 2 (OE Project Ineligible)

2. POC’S:
   GEOGRAPHIC DISTRICT: GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION:
   Name: Dave Brouwer Name: Celia Orgel
   Office: CENAN-PP-E Office: CENAD-PP-S
   Phone: 908-435-0079 Phone: 212-264-6484
   HEADQUARTERS: ASR/INPR TEAM LEADER:
   Name: J.R. Gibson Name: Richard L. Pike
   Office: CEMP-RF Office: CEHNC-OE-DC
   Phone: 202-761-4709 Phone: 256-895-1559
   ASR SUPPORT DISTRICT: ASR TECHNICAL REVIEWER:
   Name: Ronald Plante Name: Thomas M. Meekma
   Office: CEMVR-ED-DO Office: SIOAC-ESL
   Phone: 309-794-6006 Phone: 815-273-8739

3. SITE DESCRIPTION: According to the INPR, the former Plattsburgh Atlas Missile Site S-7 consisted of 20.56 acres and is located close to State Route 3 in a rural region about 30 miles southwest of the City of Plattsburgh, in the Town of Franklin, Franklin County, New York. More specifically, the site
is located in the southeastern corner of Franklin County in a region of upstate New York known as the North Country. Site S-7, like most of Franklin County, lies within the Adirondack Park, and development is controlled by the Adirondack Park Agency. The site is currently owned by Melinda Hadley.

The site acreage is divided into several separated tracts. Alder Brook Well, consisting of 3.5 acres of wetlands, is on the eastern side of State Route 3. West of State Route 3 is the helipad, consisting of .75 acres of grassland, and the missile site, consisting of 8.7 acres, most of which is forest land while the missile silo area is concrete and asphalt. The remaining 7.61 acres consisted of easements as mentioned in the INPR. The ASR includes this 7.61 acres as part of 279.75 leased acres that it states is not project qualified acreage which was used for easements, right of way, utility lines, and an outer security zone.

Site S-7 is on level terrain in a rural area of heavily wooded hills, lakes and streams, some farmland, and few residents. There are a few scattered residences near the site, mostly on the highway. The missile site and helipad are are 1,700 feet above sea level. The land slopes downward to the east towards route 3 and then towards Alder Brook, which is 1,340 feet above sea level. The surrounding Adirondack Mountains are well rounded and separated by numerous broad valleys. Whereas the mountains in Franklin County have elevations of 2,000 to 3,000 feet, mountains to the south are higher and more rugged with the highest point in the state being Mount Marcy at 5,344 and 40 miles away in Essex County.

The only surface water is Alder Brook to the east adjacent to the Alder Brook well site. Water flows either directly into this stream or it flows west into Brandy Brook which flows into Alder Brook. Alder Brook flows northward into the North Branch of the Saranac River, which flows northeast through Plattsburgh into Lake Champlain. Climate is cool, humid continental with cool, short summers and long, cold winters. Average seasonal snowfall is 85 inches. The average February temperature is 15° F and the average July temperature is 65° F. Records for temperature extremes were 96° F and minus 31° F. Extremely hot summer temperatures are rare but subzero winter temperatures are common.

4. SITE HISTORY: The Air Force obtained land for the former Plattsburgh Atlas Missile Site S-7 in 1960. Per Declaration of Taking dated 29 June 1960, the Government obtained 12.20 acres fee and 7.61 acres easements. As per deed dated 20 July 1964,
the Government obtained an additional 0.75 acre fee for a total of 12.95 acres fee and 7.61 acres easement.

Plattsburgh Air Force Base was the support base for an Atlas F squadron of 12 missiles of which this was one. The missiles were separated from the base and each other as a military precaution. The site was operational as an Intercontinental Ballistic Missile site from late 1962 until April of 1965, when all liquid fueled Atlas missiles were deactivated. Facilities at this installation included: Two (2) 20'x40'x100' corrugated steel "Quonset" huts, a 70' wide concrete missile silo 187' deep with 12' thick walls and pumphouses.

On 20 September 1965, the site was declared excess by the Department of the Air Force and the 12.95 acres fee and 7.61 acres easement were transferred to the General Services Administration (GSA). Per quitclaim deed dated 2 July 1968, Atlas Missile Site S-7 was conveyed to Yates County Industries, Incorporated. A clause states that all doors and entrances to the missile silo were closed and sealed by the Government. By deed dated 28 August 1968, Yates County Industries conveyed the site to LOUANN Incorporated. Per deed dated 7 August 1978, the site was sold by LOUANN Incorporated to Leigh and Marjorie Hadley. On 2 April 1982, Leigh and Marjorie conveyed title to Melinda Hadley who still is the owner of record.

From 1968 until 1978, a private ammunition disposal company burned .30 and .50 caliber small arms in a tank on the surface. This company also acquired 20mm rounds, which were dumped into the silo. In 1979, a salvage dealer was killed when his cutting torch caused a detonation of one of the 20mm rounds. The silo doors were closed soon after the accident and the site has been essentially abandoned since than. The entrance to the launch control center is sealed with dirt and the silo is filled with water.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

AREA A
Size, Acres: 3.5
Former Use: Alder Brook Well
Present Use: Wetlands
Probable End Use: Wetlands
Ordnance Presence: None

AREA B
Size, Acres: 0.75
Former Use: Helipad
Present Use: Grassland
Probable End Use: Grassland
Ordnance Presence: None

**AREA C**
Size, Acres: 8.70
Former Use: Missile Site (Surface)
Present Use: Storage and forest
Probable End Use: Storage and forest
Ordnance Presence: Confirmed .30 and .50 caliber
Potential 20MM

**AREA D**
Size, Acres: Not Applicable
Former Use: Launch Control Center & Tunnel
Present Use: Abandoned
Probable End Use: Abandoned
Ordnance Presence: Potential
Type: 20MM, .30 & .50 caliber

**AREA E**
Size, Acres: Not Applicable
Former Use: Missile Silo
Present Use: Abandoned
Probable End Use: Abandoned
Ordnance Presence: Confirmed
Type: 20MM HEI

**AREA F**
Size, Acres: 279.75
Former Use: All Other Land (right of way & security zone)
Present Use: Forest
Probable End Use: Forest
Ordnance Presence: None
Type: Not applicable

6. **CURRENT STATUS:** The draft Archives Search Report (ASR) for Plattsburgh Atlas Missile Site S-7 was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, in January 1998.

7. **STRATEGY:**

**AREA A:** RAC 5; Not eligible for OE EE/CA-No project
**AREA B:** RAC 5; Not eligible for OE EE/CA-No project
**AREA C:** RAC 2; Not eligible for OE EE/CA-No project
**AREA D:** RAC 3; Not eligible for OE EE/CA-No project
**AREA E:** RAC 3; Not eligible for OE EE/CA-No project
**AREA F:** RAC 5; Not eligible for OE EE/CA-No project

8. **ISSUES AND CONCERNS:** The Huntsville Center Technical Advisory Group (TAG) reviewed this ASR on 20 May 1998 and agreed
with USAESCH safety and the USAESCH Office of Counsel that an OE EE/CA is not applicable to this site since OE at the site is the responsibility of a company which left it there. Although this is a Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS), evidence indicates that all OE present at the site was left there by a company that owned the site since the time of military ownership. 20MM ammunition is strewn through the various levels of the silo which is now filled with over 2 million gallons of water. The ASR site inspection team only saw ruptured small arms cartridges cases and spent bullets on the surface in Area C; Mr. Hadley showed them a 20MM cartridge he had removed from the silo.

**HNC Safety Comments:** Does not concur with the recommendations of the ASR. He references and concurs with a USAESCH Office of Council statement that an OE EE/CA should not be performed on the site and that a debris project should most likely be performed. He also notes that the landowner would like the Corps of Engineers to close the silo and leave it alone. He states that the contractor who left the OE on site should be held liable for any OE removal action if one is to be performed and that the district be made aware that the landowners would like a construction project to seal the silo.

**District Response to HNC Safety Comments:** (1) He made the point that the ASR team could not positively identify any of the rounds and that some of the rounds may have been obtained from DOD installations, which may be a factor in the issue of liability. (2) CEMVR was aware of the TPS/PRP issue but the recommendation for EE/CA was based on two memorandums, copies of which are in the ASR, which authorized an EE/CA.

**Areas A, Alder Brook Well, (3.5 acres); B, Helipad, (0.75 acres); and F, All Other Land (right of way & security zone), (279.75 acres):** The ASR recommended a strategy of NOFA for these areas. Areas A and B are geographically separated from the areas where OE is present. There is no evidence of OE at Areas A and B. The greater part of Area F is not included in INPR acreage but is a documented part of this FUDS as shown on Document G-1 of the ASR. While there are no projects recommended for Area F, it meets the requirements for FUDS eligibility. The geographic district should consider amending the FDE to qualify this land. Area F does not have a potential for OE as all indications are that the contractor limited ammunition operations to C Area.

**Areas C, Missile Site (Surface), (8.70 acres); D, Launch Control Center (LCC) & Tunnel, (Underground), and E, Missile Silo, (Underground):** The ASR recommended a strategy of EE/CA for these areas. Witnesses and historical photographs verify that 20MM HEI is present in the silo, which is now filled with water. Evidence
of ammunition (cartridge cases and bullets) was found on the surface of Area C. The ASR author also stated that since a tunnel connects Area D and the silo, Area E, there is a possibility that there is ammunition in Area D. The ASR team did not inspect the underground areas due to confined space and obstacles to entry.

**CWM:** Evidence of CWM is not mentioned in the ASR.

**Other Projects:** No other projects were approved. However, the ASR author determined that a 15,000 gallon underground diesel fuel tank may still be present next to the silo as general silo drawings indicate this is the case. However, the ASR team could not find a site specific drawing that would provide a positive indication. Also, the owner requested that the Corps securely close the partially open silo door. The owner does not want remediation.

**Other Information:** (1) Special permits might be required as this site is part of the Adirondack Park. (2) Areas D and E are underground and would require space permits. Earth moving equipment would be needed to remove soil from the entrance. The silo is filled with water up to level 2, as is the connecting tunnel to the LCC and the lower level of the LCC.

**Natural Resources:** There is no evidence of Federally or State threatened species occurring within the site area (See ASR Findings, page 7, para 3f). An on-site inspection by appropriate State and Federal personnel may still be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species, or natural communities.

**Historical Resources:** No areas of the site were identified as having any historical or cultural significance. Any intrusive measures taken within the area will require oversight by the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) and/or other like organizations.

9. **SCHEDULE SUMMARY:** NOFA

10. **FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY:** NA NOFA