Joint Base Andrews Environmental Restoration Program (ERP)

The Joint Base Andrews Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) is responsible for restoring impacted sites in accordance with relevant laws. The ERP process can be divided into several basic steps:

Discovery and Preliminary Assessment
Identifies Areas of Concern (AOCs) based on knowledge of actual releases or based on record searches of historic site activities. The Preliminary Investigation (PA) is the initial evaluation of existing information through records searches, collecting and analyzing samples to determine relative risk.

Investigation
The Remedial Investigation (RI) determines the nature and extent of the contamination and any threat posed to human health and the environment.

Feasibility Study
Potential remedial alternatives re evaluated in this step.

Record of Decision/Decision Document
After public and regulatory review, the selected remedy is recorded in a Record of Decision/Decision Document.

Cleanup
Can occur in the form of a removal action, or through treatment of site by construction of a system to remove contaminants from the soil or groundwater.

Close-out
Occurs when the regulating authority agrees that No Further Action is warranted to protect human health or the environment.

The CERCLA process of investigating and cleaning up sites can be costly and time-consuming. The Andrews AFB team has recently conducted an exhaustive overhaul of its program to ensure that resources are focused on the reduction of risk and that every opportunity to accelerate clean up is pursued. The Andrews Performance Enhanced Program is the product that sets the goals of the program - a plan that works with our regulatory partners to achieve these goals together.