Site 3: Debris Pile at Drop Zone Parcel. The Debris Pile at Drop Zone Parcel is located at the end of Runway 14/32 northwest of Mansfield Lahm ANGB. In 1964, the city of Mansfield, Ohio bought the property (later known as a Drop Zone) from a local resident. This property was formerly a farming field and mounds of solid waste were placed in this area prior to 1977. Since 1977, the Air National Guard has had a lease agreement with the City of Mansfield to use this property as a Drop Zone. In 2000, during an Environmental Baseline Survey at the Drop Zone, construction materials, truck tires, rusted drums, and glass bottles were visible on the surface of the debris pile. However, reviews of historical aerial photographs, visual site inspection of the drop zone, and interviews of neighboring farmers during the Environmental Baseline Survey provided no evidence of buried materials in the vicinity of the debris pile. During the Preliminary Assessment conducted in December 2013, concrete and wood debris, and a rusted 55-gallon drum were observed on the debris pile. Debris mounds encompass an area of approximately 100 by 500 feet and were observed to be approximately 8 feet tall with some trees growing on top of the debris mounds, indicating no disturbance of the mounds has occurred since the 2000 Environmental Baseline Survey. Based upon information collected during the Preliminary Assessment, a Site Investigation requiring the collection of 12 soil samples and six groundwater samples to be analyzed for metals was recommended.

During the Site Investigation, Soil and grab groundwater samples were analyzed for Volatile Organic Compounds, Semi Volatile Organic Compounds, low-level Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons, and metals. Eleven Volatile Organic Compounds, 4 Semi Volatile Organic Compounds, 15 low-level Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons, and 7 metals were detected in soil samples. Arsenic concentrations exceed the EPA residential soil screening value in all the soil samples. However, the detected arsenic concentrations were below the installation background value. Volatile Organic Compound, Semi Volatile Organic Compound, and low-level Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbon concentrations did not exceed Regional Screening Levels. In groundwater samples, One Volatile Organic Compound, two Semi Volatile Organic Compounds, seven Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons, and eight metals were detected. Arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, and selenium were detected at concentrations exceeding Maximum Contaminant Levels. Based on the Site Investigation results, further evaluation was recommended for metals in groundwater.

For the Remedial Investigation, two rounds of sampling were completed at four wells in January 2019. Arsenic in groundwater at all four groundwater monitoring wells at Site 3 was the only chemical detected in concentrations exceeding the EPA tap water Regional Screening Level. Arsenic concentrations in unfiltered groundwater exceeded background criteria. Arsenic was detected in filtered groundwater at Site 3. All concentrations of arsenic in filtered groundwater at Site 3 were below the site filtered background concentration, and it was not considered a Site Related Chemical. Arsenic was the only chemical detected at concentrations exceeding the EPA tap water Regional Screening Level at Site 3; however, concentrations of arsenic are below off-site background criteria. In filtered groundwater, arsenic concentrations do not exceed the background screening value. In addition, regional background concentrations of arsenic are known to be high while the risk-based screening value is low (i.e., approximately two orders of magnitude below the maximum detected background concentration). For these reasons, the site concentrations appear representative of background conditions. Therefore, No Further Action was recommended for groundwater at Site 3.