

K.I. SAWYER AIR FORCE BASE

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION CONTRACTS

A SUCCESS STORY

Partnering and TERC flexibility saved over \$6 million on a landfill capping project at K.I. Sawyer AFB, located 19 miles south of Marquette in Michigan's upper peninsula. The State of Michigan asked the base to place a cap on a 40-acre landfill closed in 1988 or face stipulated penalties.

In September 1995, the Omaha District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded a \$10.5 million task order to its TERC contractor, Rust Environment and Infrastructure, Inc., to design and construct the cap. During a predesign meeting, representatives from the state regulatory agency, the Air Force base, the Corps, and the TERC contractor noted that the state had closed several landfills of similar size for approximately \$3 million each. Through partnering, these representatives developed an excellent working relationship and significantly reduced the scope and cost of the landfill capping project:

TERC WORKS



Geomembrane installation at landfill.





- The minimum slope requirement was reduced from 4 percent to 3 percent.
- An on-site source for borrow material was identified.
- Concrete from two razed buildings and from a hardfill area adjacent to the landfill was placed on the landfill.



Unquestionably, the TERC contracting approach is an efficient, cost-effective tool for environmental restoration work. The project was designed and constructed in approximately 9 months. The use

of TERC versus the traditional fixed-price approach reduced the schedule by at least one-half. TERC flexibility enabled managers to respond to unexpected changes in work scope and field conditions.

TERC flexibility reduced project time by 50%.

The TERC team completed the project 60 percent under the originally negotiated budget, saving nearly \$6.3 million.

Small businesses were awarded 72 percent of the subcontracted work, substantially exceeding the 40 percent goal. No accidents occurred and no work days were lost.

Innovative partnering decisions saved over \$6 million.

Air Force and regulatory officials were satisfied customers. By any standard, this project was a tremendous success.

OMAHA DISTRICT

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