

Meeting Minutes for the Site Visit 12 June 1989
Naval Weapons Station Earle, Colt's Neck, NJ

Site 1

Plan of Action

The following activities are proposed for the site:

- Historical Aerial Photograph Review - Photographs will be reviewed to identify the boundaries of the disposal and burn area.
- Soil Samples - 15 soil samples will be collected from areas of the site that are identified to have the highest probability of encountered contaminants. Soil shall be collected from the surface to the water table. Samples shall be composites of six inch intervals. These collected samples shall be analyzed for nitrates/nitrites, and explosives. Provided contaminants are not detected then further investigation will not be required at the site.

Site No. 6: Landfill West of Normandy Road

Site No. 17: Disposal Area Behind Training Barge, Waterfront Area

The boundaries of these sites appear to be contiguous therefore these two sites will be studied as one site. A HNu/OVA survey, similar to that performed on Site No. 1, was conducted by the DEP as part of the RCRA site inspection. HNu readings ranging from 14 to 2000 units were recorded. On June 12, 1989 R.F. Weston performed a HNu survey as part of their Health and Safety requirement for visiting the site. Background levels of 1 unit was observed. There were no elevated readings detected during the entire site visit. Further information is needed to determine the source of the organic vapors detected in the DEP survey.

In order to accurately characterize the contamination within the site, further investigations are needed to identify the boundaries of the landfill, determine the presence or absence of contaminants, and the approximate extent of this contamination.

Plan of Action

The work tasks planned for this site include the following:

- Historical Aerial Photograph Review - The review of photographs taken prior to the construction of the recreational facility may aid in defining the landfill boundaries.

- Boring Log Review - The foundation boring logs prepared during construction of the recreation buildings may reveal additional information concerning the specific geology beneath the site, approximate piezometric surface, and the location and contents of the landfill.
- Soil Samples - Two locations for soil samples will be determined and sampled. These samples will be obtained within the area suspected of the highest contamination, as determined by the aerial photographs. Due to the varied nature of the suspected contaminants and the unknowns involved, the samples shall be analyzed for compounds on the Target Compound List (TCL +30).
- Monitor wells - Four downgradient monitor wells will be installed in the tidal marsh. The tidal marsh wells will be constructed by a mechanical post hole digger or similar device. Two upgradient monitor wells will be installed for the combined sites. (Kass - Two monitor wells in the marsh may be needed as groundwater quality information in tidal swamps is often ambiguous and hence difficult to interpret)

Site No. 8: Landfill East of S-186

Plan of Action

The following activities will provide the additional information required for the assessment of this site.

- Historical Aerial Photograph Review - This review will assist in delineating the landfill boundaries. In the case that the landfill can not be located then it is recommended that no further action be taken on the basis that no site actually exists.
- Soil Borings - Soil borings shall be taken to determine the extent of the landfill.
- Monitor Wells - Three monitor wells will be installed immediately adjacent to the determined landfill boundaries. Groundwater samples shall be analyzed for the TCL +30.

Site No. 9: Landfill Southeast of "P" Barricades

The DEP conducted a HNu investigation as part of the RCRA site investigation. Readings of 90 units at the edge of the landfill decreasing toward the center were reported. The WESTON HNu survey

conducted as part of the Health and Safety requirements on the June 12, 1989 visit showed no readings above the background level established 300 feet from the landfill during a walk over of the site. Additional information is needed to determine the exact boundaries of the landfill, to confirm the presence of contamination, and the extent of contamination.

Plan of Action

The following activities are planned for the site.

- Historical Aerial Photograph Review - Photographs will be reviewed in order to identify the landfill boundaries.

Site No. 12: Battery Acid Spill Site, Waterfront

Site Description - An area of iron stained asphalt exists on the north side of the asphalt pad. A roof drain discharges at the apex of the stain. Drainage on the pad leads to a storm sewer. Storage areas for the batteries is not precisely known. No battery storage activities are currently employed at this site.

Plan of Action

The investigation will contain the following activities.

- Historical Aerial Photograph Review - Photographs will be reviewed in order to determine the location of the spill area reported in the IAS. There is no documentation that a spill actually occurred at this site.
- Soil Samples - Two soil samples will be collected from the soils areas immediately adjacent to the asphalt pad. One soil sample shall be taken on the south side of building R1 to determine background levels of metals and soil pH. All samples will be analyzed for pH and metals. If contaminants are not detected then no further investigation will be recommended on the site.
- Sediment Sample- A sediment sample will be taken in the storm drain and analyzed for lead and pH.
- As built diagrams of the asphalt yard will be examined to determine whether the storm drain connects to the sanitary sewer or discharges to the tidal marsh. If the storm drain discharges to the tidal marsh a sample of sediment at the outfall will be obtained and analyzed for lead and pH.

Site No. 13: Defense Property Disposal Office Yard

Site Description

The Defense Property Disposal Office (DPDO) Storage Yard is located near the Rail Classification Yards at coordinates given by the IAS of 730-577. The approximate site location is shown in the IAS Figure. The IAS report stated that activities conducted at this site included the storage of scrap metals and the storage of forklift batteries. Minor spills of battery acid (on the order of 10 gallons per year or less) may have occurred at the site during the handling of batteries (e.g. batteries may have tipped over). In addition, PCB-containing transformers were stored at this site in open rail cars before being transported to the controlled storage area (QH-8). Transformer cases were periodically inspected for damage, and larger transformers were stored in empty torpedo barrels. Interviews conducted during the IAS indicated that no leakage occurred.

The NJDEP RCRA site inspection writeup has recommended no further action be undertaken. The presence of contaminants is not verified at present. Based on the lack of confirmed spillage the navy agrees with the DEP and proposes that no further work is recommended for this site.

Site No. 14: Defense Property Disposal Office Warehouse

Description

The Defense Property Disposal Office (DPDO) Warehouse, Building C-33, located in the IAS at coordinates 718-571, is a 16,000 square foot storage building for items awaiting processing. Onsite interviews, conducted by Fred C. Hart, Assoc. Inc., and confirmed in the June 12 site visit indicated that a mercury spill of one to several ounces occurred in this building in 1970. Cleanup operations were conducted, but further information on the extent of the spill and subsequent cleanup was not available in the IAS document.

The primary areas of concern are the loading dock near where the spill did occur, and areas downgradient of the building where spilled material could have migrated to.

Plan of Action

The following activities are planned:

- Surface Examination Within the Warehouse. This

examination will determine if a drains or dry well exist in the buildings. Records of the spill and the resulting cleanup will be examined.

- As built and blueprint diagrams of the facility will be examined to determine where the loading dock drains and interior drains drain.
- Sediment samples - Sediment samples shall be taken in drain sumps located in close proximity of the loading dock and building exit points. Sump sediment samples shall be obtained from floor drains in the vicinity of the spill inside the building.

Site No. 15: Sludge Disposal Site Near Waterfront South Gate

Site Description

According to interviews conducted by Fred C. Hart Assoc., Inc. during the inspection of NWS Earle, a site along the railroad tracks at the main entrance to the Waterfront Area (coordinates 787-741) was used for disposal of an unknown quantity (possibly over 5,000 gallons) of oily bilge sludge, ranging from 1 to 25 percent oil, from ships homeported at the base during the early 1970's. However, the exact location of this disposal was not apparent from close inspection of the suspected area. A parking lot was constructed in 1978 which covers a portion of this area.

Plan Of Action

- The information contained in the IAS is not sufficiently precise to locate borings or monitor wells. Records and interviews will be conducted to establish, if possible, the existence of the site as described in the IAS.

Site No. 16: Fuel Line Connecting Buildings C-20 and C-50

Site Description

This underground fuel line was used to transport diesel fuel from an underground fuel storage tank located adjacent to Building C-20 to a dispensing station (pump) located behind Building C-50, a distance of approximately 400 feet. A leak in the fuel line was discovered in June, 1977 when soil residues were discovered in the locomotive fuels, and use of the pipeline was discontinued. Subsequent excavation uncovered the location of the leak, and it was determined that the amount of diesel fuel lost was minimal (less than 50 gallons). The approximate location of this fuel line

is known. Because the leak was discovered quickly, and the amount of fuel lost was estimated to be minimal, this site was not recommended for further study in the IAS.

Plan of Action

The following activities are planned for Site 16. The purpose of these activities is to assess the cleanup procedures that have already been used on the site and determine the sufficiency of the measures employed during cleanup of the spill.

- Historical Aerial Photograph Review - This examination will confirm the location of the spill cleanup activities. The activities observed at the site of the spill will be compared to the records of the cleanup to verify cleanup and spill locations.

- HNU/OVA Soil Gas Screening - HNU/OVA Soil Gas Screening will be used to locate areas of residual contamination, if any, that were not sufficiently cleansed during the previous remediation. If soil vapor readings above background are detected, these areas will be the sites of soil borings.

- Soil sampling Soil samples will be taken from the location that has the highest probability of containing contaminants above the ECRA recommended cleanup levels. These soil samples shall be taken from the surface to the water table. Analysis shall be performed for petroleum hydrocarbons continuously at six inch intervals. If contamination exists above the cleanup levels then a RI/FS investigation will be recommended. If contaminants are not detected above the ECRA cleanup levels then no further action will be recommended for this site.

Site No. 23: Paint Chip Disposal Area Adjacent To Building D-5

Site Description

Building D-5, located in the IAS at coordinates 727-570, has been used at least since the early 1970's for reworking (i.e., repainting and stenciling) major items of ordnance such as torpedoes and aerial bombs. Approximately 200 square feet of bare area behind the building show evidence of paint spillage. The IAS report concluded that, based upon the appearance of the site, the amount of paint dumped in this area was not large enough to constitute a significant environmental or public health hazard. The NJDEP RCRA site inspection report recommended that no further investigation of the site was necessary.

Identification of Contaminants of Concern

According to the IAS report, materials used in the reworking process included zinc chromate primer, a dubois chemical "witegard" (corrosive alkaline material) and paint thinner. Although most of these materials were hauled off-site by a private contractor, all of these materials may be present within the paint spill. Contaminants resulting from these materials include the following:

- metals (Co, Pb, Zn, Cu, Cr) - derived from the paints
- volatiles - paint thinner
- naphthenates - paint dryer
- toluene - paint thinner
- xylene - paint thinner / paint remover
- methylene chloride - paint thinner

Plan of Action

The following activities are planned for the Stage I investigation.

- Historical Aerial Photograph Review - This review is intended to define the limits of the spill area.
- Soil Samples - Soil samples will be taken to determine if contamination is present in the soils underlying the area of operations. A minimum of two samples will be collected within the area where paint spillage is visible. These samples shall be taken from the surface to the water table.
- Sediment samples - Two sediment samples shall be collected from the swamp immediately adjacent to the site.

Site No. 24: Closed Pistol Range and
Site No. 25: Closed Pistol Range

Site Descriptions

These sites are former small arms ranges. Located near Site No. 24 (coordinates 7231-572), is Site 25 which is similar in nature to

Plan of Action

The following activities are planned for the Stage I investigation at this site.

- Historical Aerial Photograph Review - This review should confirm the site boundaries and determine the location

of the target area.

- Soil Samples - A minimum of two soil samples shall be collected within the target area, as determined by the aerial photographs. These samples shall be analyzed for metals associated with the cartridges and bullets. The analysis of the collected samples will be performed using a column leach test.

The Navy is considering use of a removal action on this site. A composite sample of the soil sample from the base of the target area will be analyzed for grain size. Each size fraction will be analyzed for total metals to determine which screen mesh size will most effectively remove the contaminants

Site No. 27: Projectile Refurbishing Area

Site Description

At this location identified in the IAS by coordinates 725-549, projectiles were refurbished by shot blasting, repainting and restenciling. Waste materials resulting from this process include oil-contaminated rags, paint chips, blasting shot and toluene. Presently these materials are transported offsite by private contractors. However, prior to 1978 they were retained onsite within dumpsters. Spent blasting shot and paint chips were visible at the time of the IAS in a 500 square foot area located to the rear of the facility.

A HNu soil gas survey conducted by the DEP recorded high responses up to 1900 ppm. WESTON conducted a HNu survey as part of the Health and Safety requirements for the June 12, 1989 site visit. The instrument was calibrated off-site and brought onsite with no elevation in readings. The instrument probe was placed in various animal burrows and in cracks and crevices of the Conex boxes on site without elevation of the readings. One area of dried paint was overturned and the fresh soil underneath was measured without elevated readings.

Plan of Action

The following activities will provide the additional information required to determine the nature and extent of possible contamination on the site.

- Historical Aerial Photograph Review - This review will confirm the location of the disposal area and may identify additional disposal procedures and contaminants.

- Records of the underground fuel storage tank located adjacent to the site will be examined. If tank integrity testing indicates potential leakage a RI will be recommended.
- Soil Samples - Two soil samples shall be obtained from the area of disposal. One soil sample shall be obtained from the swale adjacent to the disposal area. These soil samples shall be collected from the surface to 6' below the surface. The samples shall be analyzed for the suspected metal contaminants by the EP tox procedures.

Site No. 28: Waste Oil Tank

Site Description

The underground waste oil storage tank located behind Building C-14 has overflowed during 1982, with one to several gallons of oil being spilled on the ground surface. At the time of the NJDEP RCRA site inspection this site was undergoing a state approved closure. The RCRA site inspection report recommended no further action at this site. Mr. Vukelich reported that two rounds of water quality data have been received by the Navy from three monitor wells surrounding the former tank location.

Plan of Action

The following activities are planned for site 28 to determine whether the remedial actions taken to date have sufficiently removed the site from further action.

Review of NJDEP Approved Closure Plans - The plans for the closure of this site will be reviewed and deficiencies reported. If the closure has no significant deficiencies and the closure has proceeded to completion under the approval of the NJDEP then no further action will be recommended.

A copy of the closure plans and results of the monitor wells installed surrounding the site will be included with the work plan.

Site No. 29: PCB Spill Site, Building C-16

Site Description

This site, in the storage yard north of Building C-16, was the location of a 1977 PCB spill from a vandalized transformer. Within five days of the occurrence of the spill, over 120 cubic feet of contaminated soil was excavated and transported to an off-site disposal. All visible evidence of the oil spill (e.g. discolor d

soil) was removed during this cleanup operation.

Plan of Action

Several activities are planned to determine whether the area is still contaminated.

- Review of Documentation - Records of the cleanup, hazardous waste manifests and removal action work plans will be reviewed in order to confirm the removal of all of the contaminated soil. If the review confirms the cleanup then no further action will be recommended at the site.
- Soil Samples - A minimum of two soil samples shall be obtained from the site at locations to be determined after review of documents detailing the cleanup activities on this site. These samples shall be analyzed for petroleum hydrocarbons and PCB.