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PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING REQUEST FOR PUBLIC INPUT ON MUNITIONS SITE  
PRIORITIZATION NWS EARLE NJ  
3/30/2013  
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## MONMOUTH COUNTY

### REQUEST FOR PUBLIC INPUT Munitions Response Site Prioritization

The Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), Mid-Atlantic, has initiated a munitions response site prioritization scoring for munitions response area UXO 2 located at Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Earle, Monmouth County, New Jersey.

The results of this scoring will be used to sequence this site with other Navy/Marine Corps munitions response sites for response actions. The Navy is seeking public information and input that may be useful in assessing potential site hazards and completing the prioritization process for UXO 2.

**Background:** The Munitions Response Program works to reduce potential risks from unexploded ordnance (UXO), discarded military munitions (DMM), and munitions constituents (MC) at ranges that are no longer operational, munitions burial sites, former target ranges, and other areas where site-specific operations may have resulted in the release of UXO, DMM, or MC.

These are referred to as "munitions response sites." The Department of Defense (DoD) is required by Congress to set priorities for investigating all munitions response sites, based on overall conditions at these locations and the potential risk posed to human health and the environment. Prioritization is based on current available data and may change as additional data are collected.

After prioritization, the sites are sequenced for response action, in comparison with other Navy/Marine Corps sites. DoD policy is that a munitions response site with higher relative risks will be dealt with before a site with lower relative risks. Other factors, such as future land use, cultural and economic factors, and ecological impacts, also can influence sequencing decisions.

**Munitions Response Site:** A preliminary assessment of the site was completed in November 2012. The preliminary assessment included an initial prioritization scoring and recommended the site for further investigation and scoring evaluation. Site inspection activities are currently being planned for Piers 1 and 2.

**UXO 2** consists of approximately 100 acres along and beneath Piers 1, 2, 3A, and 4 of the Munitions Loading Pier Complex located in Sandy Hook Bay. Munitions loading activities have occurred at the Munitions Loading Pier Complex since 1943. UXO 2 is under examination for potential munitions that may be present at the site as a result of historical events and loading/unloading activities that occurred at the pier complex.

#### For More Information

For more information about UXO 2 or the prioritization scoring at NWS Earle, please contact the Navy Remedial Project Manager at 757-341-2010. Copies of the prioritization scoring are included in the Preliminary Assessment Report which is available for public review at:

Monmouth County Library – Eastern Branch  
1001 Route 35  
Shrewsbury, New Jersey

#### To Submit Comments

Written comments on the prioritization process should be sent by April 30, 2013 to:

Environmental Director  
Building C-23  
Naval Weapons Station Earle  
201 Highway 34 South  
Colts Neck NJ 07722-5031

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