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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

PUBLIC HEARING:
COMMENTS ON PROPOSED PLAN FOR OU-3
OLD FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING AREA

July 21, 2010 8:02 p.m.

Pauline L. Bailey
Professional Reporter

**Public Meeting
July 21, 2010**

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APPEARANCES:

TETRA TECH

55 Jonspin Road

Wilmington, MA 01887

BY: Stephen Parker, Lori Anderson, and

Dabra Serken

(978) 474-8434 FAX: (978) 474-8499

Also present:

Ed Corak, U.S. Navy

Cornelia Mueller, U.S. Navy

Gregor Bo, U.S. Navy

Lisa Rama, U.S. Navy

Winoma Johnson, U.S. Navy

Bob Lim, E.P.A.

D.K. Abbas, Citizen

Dan Sullivan, Citizen

Claudette Weissinger, Citizen

Manual Marques, Citizen

Thurston Gray, Citizen

John Vitkevich, Citizen

Tom McGrath, Citizen

David Brown, Citizen

Maureen Sweeney, Citizen

Chuck Flipppo, Citizen

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I N D E X

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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1 MR. PARKER: The Navy is inviting
2 you to comment on this plan. Official
3 comments will be recorded and published
4 with the Record of Decision.

5 If you don't want to make a verbal
6 comment, there is a form here in the
7 proposed plan, that you can use to mail
8 in. Write out your comment and mail it in.
9 The mailing will go to Lisa Rama in her
10 office, the Public Affairs Office. And
11 then it will be routed through Cornelia,
12 and we will include that comment as well,
13 also as part of what we call the
14 Responsiveness Summary, which is part of
15 the ROD.

16 And so, with that, I would ask
17 anybody -- I won't answer questions at this
18 point. I will ask you to -- if you feel
19 the need, make a comment and it'll be
20 recorded.

21 Do I have, should I -- should I
22 invite people to comment? I'll just go
23 around the table.

24 MR. VITKEVICH: I trained at the

1 fire fighters' -- I trained at this
2 station.

3 MR. PARKER: Excuse me, I'm going
4 to ask you to state your name and then
5 state your comment.

6 MR. VITKEVICH: John Vitkevich. I
7 trained at the fire fighters', this
8 particular fire fighting training school in
9 1972. I was -- I questioned back then what
10 was happening to all the --

11 MR. PARKER: John, can you speak
12 up?

13 MR. VITKEVICH: I was questioning
14 what happened to all the oil and water that
15 we were washing out. It went into the Bay.
16 We were not environmentally conscious.
17 I've toured this facility. I think we've
18 been there three times over the past ten
19 years. I know the facility. I know they
20 fenced it off in 1998, I believe is when
21 Katy Field got closed down.

22 All right. I'm not aware of any
23 major health risks or anybody called for
24 it, but yet, this proposed plan seems to

1 meet all of the criteria that we've
2 discussed for ten years, with respect to
3 what the future land use is going to be,
4 the land control.

5 So, I have to say I want to support
6 the proposed plan that's been presented
7 tonight for the old fire fighter training
8 area.

9 MR. PARKER: Thank you.

10 MR. VITKEVICH: Over and out.

11 MR. CORAK: Did you want to
12 comment on the -- you had commented on the
13 cost earlier. Did you want to comment?

14 MR. VITKEVICH: The cost, it costs
15 to do environmental work, especially on
16 that particular site. So, my cost comment
17 -- my cost comment was the amount of
18 monitoring. But Ms. Winoma, you know, swayed me
19 away that, you know, I

20 keep thinking of that \$420,000.00 that I,
21 you know, that we spent at McCallister last
22 year. I just don't want -- I'm saying,
23 okay, if it's going to, you know, thirty
24 years of \$100,000.00, you know, why don't

1 we just clean it up and be done with it.
2 But I think this works, and especially with
3 the land use control and the fact that
4 we're not hoping for the drinking water.
5 Those are my comments.

6 MR. PARKER: David Brown.

7 MR. BROWN: Dave Brown, I've been
8 on the RAB since --

9 THE STENOGRAPHER: Sir, I need you
10 to speak up.

11 MR. BROWN: Yeah. David Brown,
12 I'm from Newport. I've been on the RAB
13 since it began in 1995, six. I think the
14 alternatives that you are proposing make
15 good sense, provided that the solutions
16 take into account possible flows from the
17 interior part of the island that may go
18 underneath or on the surface. Two, that --
19 it -- there is a contingency plan if the
20 monitoring shows that there are some
21 problems along the way. And three, that as much
22 as possible is done to consider environmental
23 friendly ways to handle the parking lot, such as
24 permeable surface and -- and the green parts,

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1 the rain garden approaches and that kind
2 of thing that might be -- might be catchments of
3 further contamination.

4 MS. MUELLER: Thank you. David,
5 thank you.

6 MR. PARKER: Do I have any others?
7 Mr. Sullivan.

8 MR. SULLIVAN: Yes. Dan Sullivan
9 from Middletown. Do we have any estimate
10 of how much contaminant is still on the
11 site, that's going to now be there forever
12 and ever?

13 ATTENDEES: That's a question.

14 MR. SULLIVAN: Okay.

15 MR. PARKER: We do. And it's in
16 the documentation. I can -- I can give
17 that to you at --

18 MR. SULLIVAN: Okay.

19 MR. PARKER -- in another format.
20 Claudette?

21 MS. WEISSINGER: Claudette from
22 Portsmouth. I'd like to reiterate what
23 Dave has said about going as green as we
24 can with the proper surfaces. And to try

1 to make things aesthetically with trees
2 and, you know, the base is bland. And it
3 needs some beauty, which can easily be done
4 and should be done for the health of
5 everyone.

6 MR. PARKER: Thank you.

7 MR. MARQUES: Manny Marques,
8 Middletown. Hopefully, as you mentioned,
9 this is going to go off by the end of this
10 fiscal year, which is what, September 30th?
11 We'll have this settled? And does that
12 list mean that you will start the actual
13 action through the winter, you know, where
14 you would least disturb the soils out
15 there, the growing patterns and stuff.

16 MR. PARKER: Do you want to answer
17 that?

18 MS. MUELLER: Well, maybe it should
19 be that you would like for us to do it in
20 the wintertime.

21 MR. MARQUES: Yeah, I mean I would
22 like to see it move as fast as possible,
23 preferably --

24 MS. MUELLER: The comment should be

1 that you prefer we do the work in the
2 wintertime, when we would be least likely
3 to disturb soils?

4 MR. MARQUES: Yeah, and just
5 general environmental issues, when we don't have
6 the wildlife out there. And basically
7 October back 'til March. I believe the
8 fish population's down and they're not
9 spawning there. I believe there's a
10 dredging chart for dates. I believe it
11 closes at the end of February. I'm just
12 curious is that affects, will affect this
13 project.

14 MR. PARKER: No, it won't. Kathy?

15 MS. ABBASS: I'm Kathy Abbass.
16 I've been on the RAB from the beginning,
17 too, David. I'm curious about the land
18 use controls. And if those are going to be
19 put in place, just be very careful that
20 there are some penalties if the land use
21 controls are not abided by. Because I've
22 seen things happen in the local community
23 where people are given special permission
24 to do certain kinds of construction.

1 They're given special permission if they'll
2 do this, we'll let you do that, trade-offs.
3 And then it turns out there that is no
4 penalty if they don't comply. And so,
5 if those go in, then whatever those
6 arrangements are, they need to be strictly
7 monitored by the Navy or whoever does that.
8 And if they don't comply, if they don't
9 continue the monitoring, then there has
10 to be some sort of penalty imposed.

11 MR. PARKER: Thank you. Did we
12 have any other comments? I think we are
13 complete. I guess I'll ask Cornelia to
14 put a close on the hearing. We are --
15 I'll reiterate that we are collecting
16 comments. If you want to write comments,
17 please do so, and mail them, fax them, or
18 e-mail them to Lisa --

19 MS. MUELLER: Do you have a date
20 on that?

21 MR. PARKER: By July 27th.

22 MR. CORAK: Yeah, it's important
23 to know you can e-mail your comments to her
24 as well.

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MR. VITKEVICH: Are we done with
the comments section?

MR. PARKER: We are done. Thank
you.

(Proceedings concluded at 8:11 p.m.)

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

I, PAULINE L. BAILEY, PROFESSIONAL
REPORTER, do hereby certify that the foregoing is
a true and accurate transcription of my
stenographic notes, to the best of my knowledge,
and ability.

WITNESS MY HAND, this 25th day of
July, 2010.



Pauline L. Bailey

Pauline L. Bailey