



# Portsmouth Naval Shipyard

## Kittery, Maine

### Installation Restoration Program

#### RAB Update: April 15, 1999

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The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard's Installation Restoration Advisory Board met on Thursday, April 15, 1999, to hear a presentation on the draft field investigations at Sites 29 and 10. The two new RAB community members were also introduced.

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Site 29 and Site 10 were investigated in 1998 to further characterize contamination at these sites and to collect data that will assist in making remedial decisions. The Navy's conclusions and recommendations from these field investigations were presented to the RAB.

#### Site 29 - Teepee Incinerator (Operable Unit 2)

Open burning was conducted at this site from 1918 to 1965. A teepee incinerator constructed at the site was used from 1965 to 1975. Surface and subsurface soil and groundwater samples were collected and analyzed as part of the 1998 investigation. The Navy noted organic contamination in surface and subsurface soil associated with the ash disposal area and inorganic contamination in subsurface soil associated with previously filled areas. The Navy recommended preparing a human health risk assessment using all data for OU2 (including Site 6 - DRMO Storage Yard) and conducting a feasibility study to identify potential remedies for OU2.

#### Dioxin at Site 29

Low-level dioxins, a by-product of combustion, were detected in several soil samples at Site 29. The Navy conducted a preliminary risk evaluation to determine whether dioxins detected at the site posed an immediate hazard. Risk estimates for dioxins were within the EPA acceptable risk range; although some exceeded the Maine risk guideline. The Navy concluded that dioxins levels at the site do not pose an immediate hazard; however, a comprehensive risk assessment is necessary to fully understand the risks at the site.

#### Site 10 - Building 238 (Operable Unit 1)

A waste battery acid tank outside Building 238 was active from 1974 to 1984, when a leak in the tank was discovered. The tank and surrounding soils were removed in 1986. Surface soils in the vicinity of tank piping that ran beneath Building 238, subsurface soils outside Building 238, and groundwater in the vicinity of Building 238 were sampled and analyzed as part of the 1998 investigation. The Navy noted lead contaminated soils beneath Building 238 and limited contamination outside the building. The Navy recommended additional soil sampling beneath Building 238, additional groundwater sampling at the site, and a human health risk assessment for the site.

#### Questions?

If you would like more information, please contact:

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If you know anyone who would like to be added to our mailing list to receive these RAB updates and Installation Restoration fact sheets, please contact the Public Affairs Office at the address and telephone number listed above. The next RAB meeting will be held on May 20, 1999 at the Day's Inn, Kittery, Maine.