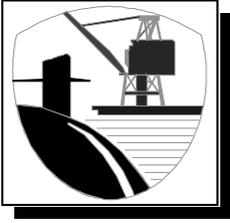


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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Environmental Restoration Program RAB Update: December 10, 2013



A meeting of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard (PNS) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) was held on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at Kittery Town Hall, Kittery, Maine. The agenda included presentations on the status of work at all Operable Units (OUs) including investigations, remedial actions, and long term management functions; Remedial Action status updates for OU2, and the Draft No Further Action Decision Document (NFA DD) for Site 30.

The Navy provides the Environmental Restoration (ER) Program Status and Updates.

The Navy presented an overview of the ER program status updates for ER for each site at PNS associated with the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). Since the last RAB meeting in June 2013,

- Two Proposed Remedial Action Plans were finalized and public comment periods were held for OU7 and OU9
- Three Record of Decision (ROD) documents were signed for OU4, OU7, and OU9
- Two OU2 Remedial Action Work Plans (RAWP) were finalized for the DRMO Area and the Waste Disposal Area
- Remedial Action (RA) construction commenced at OU2
- Two Construction Completion Reports (CCR) were finalized for OU1 and Site 30
- The Groundwater Summary Report for OU1 was finalized

Draft RAWP for OU4 and OU7, draft Land Use Control Remedial Design (LUCRD) documents for OU7 and OU9, draft final NFA DD for Site 30, and Gas Monitoring Probe Abandonment Plan for OU3 are being prepared.

The Navy presents a progress status report on the Remedial Action for OU2 (DRMO Storage Yard and Former Teepee Incinerator Site).

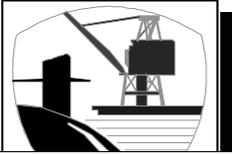
Excavation with off-yard disposal is currently underway at OU2 and is being performed by two different Navy contractors in the DRMO Area and Waste Disposal Area (WDA), respectively. The primary contaminants at OU2 include lead, antimony, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Field work began in July 2013 with excavation, sampling, and backfill progressing through Fall 2013. Excavated soil from the WDA has generally all been characterized as non-hazardous. However, nearly all soil excavated from the DRMO Area and a small volume of soil from the WDA are characterized as hazardous based on elevated concentrations of lead. The Navy is evaluating a possible on-site treatment option that would include adding Portland cement to stabilize the lead and allow the soil to be transported as non-hazardous. Soil disposal as non-hazardous waste following treatment offers numerous benefits including lower cost per ton of soil and shorter transportation distance which reduces accident potential, gasoline consumption, vehicle emissions, and time required to transport stockpiled soil off the Shipyard. All excavation, transportation of soil, backfill, and paving will be completed in Spring 2014.

The Navy provides an overview of the Draft No Further Action Decision Document for Site 30 (Former Galvanizing Plant, Building 184).

The Navy presented a summary of the NFA DD for Site 30. Contamination existed within an underground tank vault that was constructed of concrete and lined with acid-proof bricks. Before the 1960s, the vault was used to hold chemical tanks that were used for galvanizing operations and cleaning metal parts. The tanks were removed from the vault, and the vault was backfilled with soil and covered with a cement floor in the 1960s when the building was converted to a welding school. Crystalline material has been observed on the inside building wall, and it was believed that the tank vault was the source. A Non-Time-Critical Removal Action was conducted in 2011 to excavate and dispose of the tank vault fill material to reduce potential unacceptable direct exposure and ingestion risks to construction workers. When performing the Removal Action little water was observed in the tank vault, the fill had lower metals concentrations than anticipated, and the bricks were observed to be in good condition. Additional investigation concluded that the source of the crystals is efflorescence and not related to the tank vault. Efflorescence is a crystalline deposit that forms on masonry as water passes through building materials, especially

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buildings with poor drainage or high humidity, and salt crystals deposit on surface after evaporation. Based on current conditions, potential threats to public health and welfare and the environment have been eliminated at Site 30, which allows for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure. The Navy has prepared a NFA DD which will be available for public comment in January 2014 at the Rice Public Library, the Portsmouth Library and at the public website (<http://go.usa.gov/DyRH>).

Next meeting announced.

The next regular meeting of the RAB will be held in May or June 2014 on a Tuesday evening at the Kittery Town Hall, 200 Rogers Road, Kittery, Maine. Discussion topics will include presentations and updates on ER Program activities at PNS. Interested members of the public are welcome. The meeting will be announced in print and online calendars of the Portsmouth Herald and Foster's Daily Democrat and the Shipyard Facebook page.

Questions?

To be added to the mailing list, please contact the Shipyard Public Affairs Office

If you would like more information on this or other matters relating to the Environmental Restoration Program at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, please contact:

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