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FACT SHEET REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATES ON ACTION TAKEN IN BALDWIN PARK NEIGHBORHOODS NTC ORLANDO FL

11/1/2008

NAVFAC SOUTHERN

Update on Environmental Actions In Baldwin Park Neighborhood

Naval Training Center Orlando, Florida

This fact sheet was prepared to inform interested citizens about the former Naval Training Center (NTC) Orlando environmental program. Fact sheets are distributed as needed to keep the community updated on clean up progress. Additional information may be obtained by calling Art Sanford at (843) 743-2135.

Environmental Studies in the Baldwin Park Neighborhood

Environmental studies and cleanup actions are ongoing in the Baldwin Park Neighborhood of the former Naval Training Center (NTC) Orlando (see Figure 1). These studies have identified benzene and other petroleum related products in groundwater (the water deep below the ground surface)While the studies completed to date do not show any health concerns associated with this contamination, the Navy is completing additional studies to further ensure the health and safety of the community.

This fact sheet has been prepared to share the results of these environmental studies, briefly summarize the history of the investigations, share information about upcoming activities, and invite you to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Figure 1. Location Map

Location of Clean up

The area being studied is shown on Figures 1 and 2. A gasoline service station, operated by the former NTC Orlando, was located within this area of investigation between what are now 1276 and 1352 Fern Avenue.

History of the Site

In November 1993, as part of routine sampling required to ensure the integrity of underground fuel tanks, benzene and other petroleum products were found in groundwater samples near the base service station. In response, three 20,000-gallon underground fuel tanks were removed in 1994. Cleanup included removing approximately 126,900 gallons of fuel and contaminated water and approximately 1,115 cubic yards of contaminated soil. Cleanup was completed with approval from the state; no further cleanup was required or planned. Because the base was still operational, three new 20,000-gallon, double-walled, fiberglass underground fuel tanks were installed. The installation also included a concrete secondary containment structure, level indicators, and over-fill protection.

Between 1995 and 1999 the base closure was completed. There was no known contamination at the time of transfer and the property was transferred to the City of Orlando without restrictions. In 1999, as part of the base closure, the base service station was taken out of service by pumping out the underground fuel tanks and dispenser lines and filling the tanks with sand. There were no indications of any petroleum contamination at that time.

In 2002, as part of preparations for developing the site, the property development company identified petroleum contaminants in soil and groundwater near the former filling station. Aggressive cleanup efforts followed, including the removal of the underground fuel tanks and recovery and treatment of nearly 3 million gallons of contaminated groundwater, and removal of over 2,200 tons of petroleum contaminated soil.

These efforts successfully cleaned up the groundwater near the surface (approximately 16 feet below the ground). However, benzene from the tanks was detected in deeper groundwater (35 to 55 feet below ground surface) flowing to the east.

What is Benzene?

Benzene is a colorless liquid that smells like gasoline. It evaporates at room temperature and burns easily. Benzene occurs naturally in coal tar and petroleum. It is also found in commonly used products like paints, inks, gasoline and other motor fuels, and insecticides. People are exposed to benzene by inhaling gasoline vapors, working with carpet glue, varnish, and paints, and through the use of tobacco products.

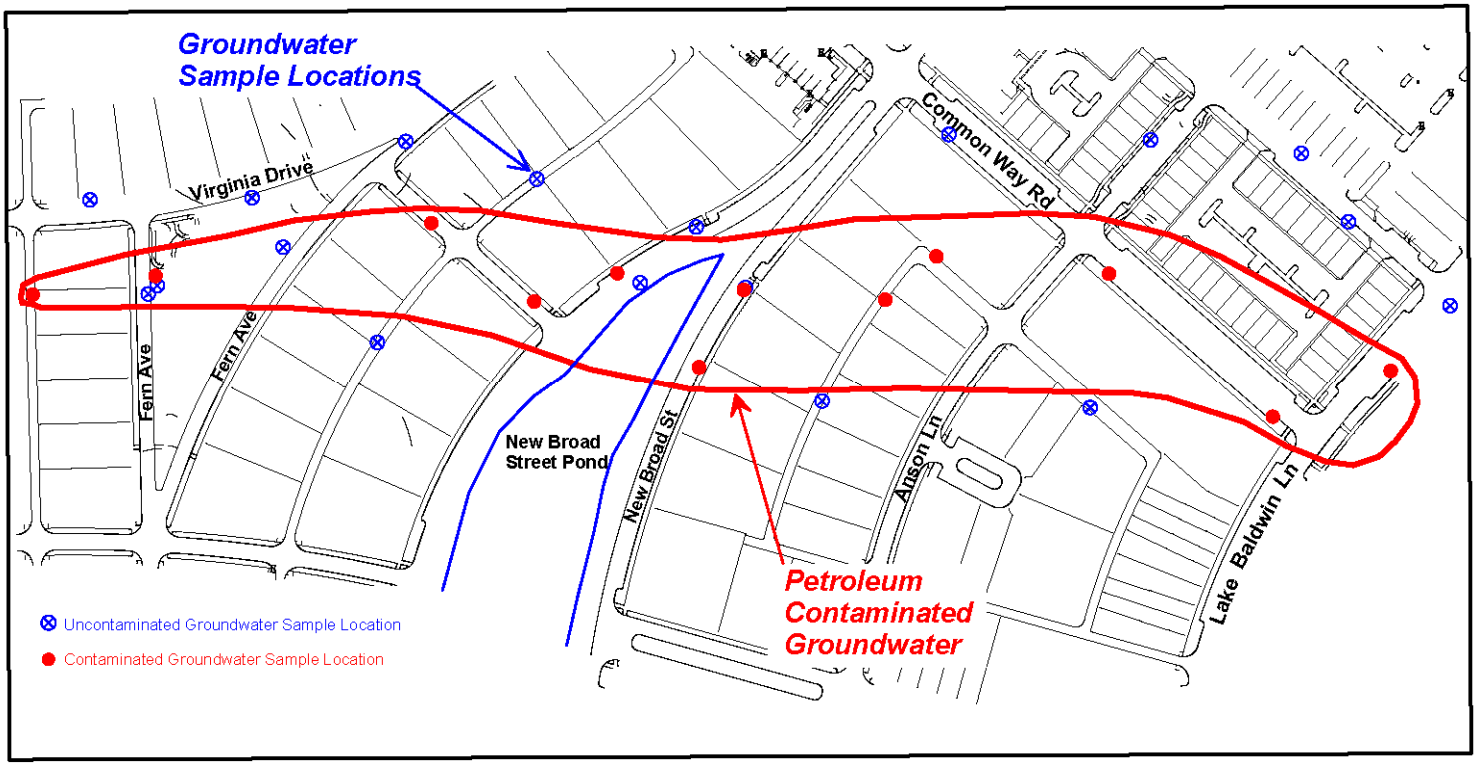

Figure 2. Extent of petroleum contaminated groundwater.

Studies of the Deeper Groundwater

In September 2003, samples were collected to further assess the size and depth of this deeper petroleum-contaminated groundwater. As part of this effort, 10 wells were installed and sampled once every three months beginning in March 2004.

Results of these investigations prompted further studies, and 24 additional wells were installed and sampled. Figure 2 shows the locations of a total of 24 wells that have been installed to date as well as the currently defined area of petroleum contamination. It is worth noting that surface water from New Broad Street Pond was sampled as part of the investigation and was found to be free of petroleum contamination.

What's Next

The Navy is currently planning an additional investigation to define the area of contaminated groundwater further east of the area shown on Figure 2. Also, the Navy is planning to complete a *soil gas survey*. This study will use small sampling devices throughout the study area to confirm that the petroleum deep in the ground is not moving upward through the soil as a gas. Because the petroleum contaminated groundwater is so deep, movement of any petroleum gas is not expected. However, this study is being performed as a further measure to protect the health and safety of the community.

These soil gas sampling devices are small and flush with the ground and will not cause any disruption or destroy a landscaped or grassy area. If you would like more information about the soil gas survey or if you would like to have your property tested, please contact the Navy at the number provided below.

For More Information...

If you have questions about the Navy's action in Baldwin Park or on the environmental program at the former NTC, Orlando in general, please contact Art Sanford at (843) 743-2135. Reports on the work at the NTC can be reviewed at the Orange County Public Library, **Orlando Branch** (2nd floor), 101 East Central Boulevard, Orlando, Florida 32801 (407) 425-4694.