

**USGS (Steve Hiortdahl) Comments on  
100% Remedial Action Design  
Site 41  
Indian Head Division  
Naval Surface Warfare Center  
December 17, 2001**

**Page            Comment**

**Existing Site Characteristics**

- 2-1            Edit the first paragraph as follows: Rather than “the pad is buried under soil” say “the pad is covered with soil”.
- 2-3            Under “Hydrogeology”, the discussion about the significance of diurnal tidal fluctuation in Mattawoman Creek is unnecessary. Suggest just simply saying that the creek is tidal and nothing more.
- 2-4            Under “Nature and Extent of Contamination”, edit the third sentence to delete “are” following “include”.

**Description of the Selected Remedy**

- 3-2            Second bullet – Consider using the acid wash “Less Than 10” to clean PCBs from concrete - Probably much more effective than just steam cleaning, which may still be necessary to first remove all the dirt..
- 3-4            In the first paragraph on this page, where screening for CADs is mentioned, add “and any other UXO-related items”.
- 3-7            The paragraph, “Backfilling and Site Restoration”, refers to a topsoil spec of >5% organic – this may be tough to meet. On the basis of past experience, 1.5% - 3% organic is usually sufficient to grow grass - >5% probably is not available on the open market and would probably require amendment with organic material such as “LeafGrow”.
- 3-8            It may be possible to work around existing groundwater monitoring wells and avoid replacement costs.