



TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Date: February 8, 2005
To: Indian Head Installation Restoration Team
From: Kim C. Turnbull, Tetra Tech NUS, Inc.
Subject: Decision Document
Site 20 – Single-base Powder Facilities
Naval District Washington, Indian Head
Indian Head, Maryland

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This technical memorandum is a Decision Document (DD) addressing Installation Restoration (IR) Program Site 20, Single-base Powder Facilities, at Naval District Washington, Indian Head (NDW-IH) in Indian Head, Maryland. The DD describes the history of Site 20, summarizes key findings from a review of available documents from the period 1983 to 2004, and recommends a site management decision based on the document review findings.

This DD was prepared by Tetra Tech NUS, Inc. (TtNUS) under the Comprehensive Long-Term Environmental Action Navy (CLEAN) Contract Number N62467-94-D-0888, Contract Task Order Number 0805.

Site 20 was identified in Appendix A of the Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA) (EPA Region III and DoN, 2000) for NDW-IH as a Site Screening Area (SSA) with suspected contamination requiring investigation under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Program. Utilizing existing site information, this DD was prepared in accordance with Section 9.3D(3) of the FFA for an SSA that has been determined to not warrant a Remedial Investigation (RI) or status as an Accelerated Operable Unit (AOU) (FFA Section 2.1.A).

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION AND OPERATIONAL HISTORY

Site 20, located in the northeastern portion of the Main Area of NDW-IH, is the location of the single-base powder facilities, including various transformer stations. Reportedly, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were suspected to have been used as coolant for transformer switches in the 1940s.

3.0 INVESTIGATION HISTORY

An Initial Assessment Study (IAS) was completed in 1983 to determine whether the potential for contamination existed at Site 20 (Hart, 1983).

4.0 DOCUMENT REVIEW

The following document was reviewed as part of the preparation of this DD for Site 20:

- Initial Assessment Study (Hart, 1983).

5.0 SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

Interviews, file searches, and site reconnaissance during the IAS indicated nothing that would suggest that the switches used contained PCBs. PCBs were not detected in a sample collected from one of the switches. The IAS recommended that a Confirmation Study not be conducted.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The evaluation of existing information indicates that no further action is required for Site 20 to protect human health and the environment.

7.0 REFERENCES

EPA Region III and DoN (United States Environmental Protection Agency Region III and U.S. Department of the Navy), 2000. Federal Facility Agreement. U.S. Department of the Navy, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head Division, Indian Head, Maryland. Docket Number: III-FCA-CERC-018.

Hart (Hart, Fred C. Associates, Inc.), 1983. Initial Assessment Study, Naval Ordnance Station, Indian Head, Maryland. New York, New York.

