



09.10.12/01/94-00422

NAVAL STATION, ROOSEVELT ROADS

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

Fact Sheet #2
December 1994

THE NAVY'S INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM

The Installation Restoration Program

In the past, a variety of wastes was generated and disposed at various Navy and Marine Installations. The majority of the disposal activities at NAVSTA Roosevelt Roads included solid waste, scrap metal, drums, solvents, waste oil and paint wastes. These were disposed in remote areas of the Station, away from work or housing areas. The majority of these activities occurred prior to 1984.

The Installation Restoration (IR) program was established in 1975 by the Department of Defense (DOD). The goal of the Installation Restoration (IR) Program, is to address uncontrolled hazardous waste sites by eliminating their possible hazards to human health and the environment.

The IR Program is initiated with a Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection (PA/SI) to identify potential threats to human health or the environment. The next phase, Remedial Investigation (RI), is designed to analyze contaminants and evaluate possible contaminant migration. Resulting data will provide an indication of the extent and rate of contamination migration as well as provide additional geological and hydrogeological

information. The IR Program is structured to match the structure of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA).

The IR Program at NAVSTA Roosevelt Roads

As a part of the IR Navy wide program, NAVSTA Roosevelt Roads was designated for an Initial Assessment Study (IAS) in August 1984 by the Naval Energy and Environmental Support Activity (NEESA), Port Hueneme, California. The IAS, conducted in 1984, revealed that past methods of storage, handling and disposal of hazardous substances, though appropriate at that time, did not meet current stringent requirements. Based on information from historical records, aerial photographs, field inspections, and personnel interviews, 20 potentially contaminated sites at NAVSTA Roosevelt Roads were evaluated with regard to contamination characteristics, migration pathways, and pollutant receptors. The IAS concluded that, while none of the sites posed an immediate threat to human health or the environment, numerous sites (approximately 15) at Roosevelt Roads warranted further investigation to assess potential long-term impacts.

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In May 1986, a Confirmation Study (CS) was performed. The CS involved actual sampling and monitoring of the sites, and was conducted to confirm or deny the existence of the suspected contamination and to quantify to some extent the problems which may exist. The CS investigated the 15 sites and was completed in 1988.

Also at this time, areas, some in the IR Program, were studied under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). RCRA was legislated by Congress in 1976, to manage the present and future waste disposal practices of municipal and industrial solid waste handling facilities.

The EPA conducted a RCRA Facility Assessment (RFA) of the Station in 1988. Included in the assessment was a Preliminary Review (PR) and a Visual Site Inspection (VSI) of 47 Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) and four areas of concern. Currently, a SWMU is defined by EPA as "any discernible unit at which solid wastes have been placed at any time, irrespective of whether the unit was intended for the management of solid or hazardous waste. Such units include any area at a facility at which solid wastes have been routinely and systematically released". This definition is not meant to include one-time spills of waste; nor is leakage from a chemical product storage tank typically considered a SWMU. A SWMU results from "the result of a systematic human activity", and includes landfills, waste piles, tanks, wastewater treatment units, and other physical, chemical, or biological treatment units. An AOC is an area, whether that an actual unit, where wastes have been stored or disposed.

The investigation process at the Station is currently under RCRA format. The overriding difference is that CERCLA addresses past waste sites while RCRA is concerned with present and future operating waste handling facilities.

Site Number/Name

- * 1. Quebrada Disposal Site, Vieques
- * 2. Mangrove Disposal Site, Vieques
- 3. IRFNA/MAF-4 Disposal Site, Vieques
- 4. Fuels Off-Loading Site, Vieques
- * 5. Army Cremator Disposal Site
- * 6. Langley Drive Disposal Site
- * 7. Station Landfill
- 8. Drone Washdown Area
- 9. PCB Disposal Dry Dock Area
- *10. Building 25 Storage Area
- 11. Building 145
- 12. Tow Way Road Fuels Farm
- *13. Tanks 212-217
- *14. Ensenada Honda Shoreline and Mangroves
- 15. Substation No. 2
- 16. Old Power Plant, Building 38
- 17. Crash Crew Fire Training Area
- *18. Pest Control Shop (Building 258) and Surrounding Area
- 19. West EOD Range
- 20. Camp Garcia Disposal Site, Vieques
- *21. Old Pesticide Storage (Building 121)

*Sites recently identified to conversion to the RCRA format.

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