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Toxic Cleanup At NTC Continues

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The Beacon

Sixteen points of interest (POIs) in the Navy's toxic cleanup plan for the Naval Training Center (NTC) are officially slated for "no further action," according to a preliminary Site Assessment/Extended Site Assessment (SA/ESA) report.

"We have cleaned 16 and have two more ready for final phase," said Keith Forman, Navy co-chair of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) and interim Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) environmental coordinator.

The two sites requiring further action during this phase of NTC's environmental cleanup are Building 443, a former dry-cleaning facility, and the former site of Building 192, a former small-arms target practice range.

The key recommendation for further action at Building 443 is based on the presence of dry-cleaning solvent found in soil

samples, according to the SA/ESA report.

At the demolished building site for the former indoor practice range, high levels of lead

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were found in the soil at the south end of the building, according to Jim Kozakowski, a Bechtel National representative. "At one end was an open pit the entire length of the building," he said. "Bullets landed in that open pit."

Detailed information on all 18 POIs was presented by Kozakowski to the members of the NTC RAB during a July 22 meeting. The RAB is a panel of citizens whose role is to review NTC cleanup plans and to provide advice on ways to keep the community informed of progress.

Of the major hazardous sites slated for cleanup, to this date six have been designated for "no fur-

ther action" and three have been transferred to military entities.

One of the larger environmental "hot-spots" at NTC is Site 1, an inactive landfill. The San Diego Port Authority has met with the Navy and agreed to explore the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) deferral authority. "This would involve a transfer of the property without (environmental) action," Forman said.

The San Diego Port Authority would become responsible for the environmental cleanup of Site 1 at its own expense, but it could prepare the property in a more specific manner to its needs.

RAB member Charles Bishop, the Peninsula Community Planning Board liaison, asked what

the cost to the Navy was at this point for environmental cleanup.

"I don't have the exact numbers with me," Forman said. "But it has crossed the threshold of eight figures."