

Atlantic Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

Bimonthly¹ Status Report: August-September, 2003

Former Navy Property, Western Vieques, Puerto Rico

This report provides the Technical Review Committee (TRC) with a status of on-going work at the Solid Waste Management Units and Areas of Concern (SWMUs and AOCs) on the former Naval Ammunition Support Detachment (NASD) property in western Vieques. The following is a summary of the activities completed during August and September 2003, and the activities planned for completion for the next few months:

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

SWMU 4

The scrap metal cleared during the Phase III investigations was transported via private barge to the Defense Reutilization Management Office (DRMO) at Roosevelt Roads on August 11th.

The results from Phase III are being integrated into the database and maps are being prepared showing the extent of UXO items. Additionally, a UXO RI/FS is being developed.

Draft Final No Further Action (NFA) Report for Nine Sites

The Draft Final NFA Report was submitted to EPA, EQB, DOI, and the TRC on May 30. EQB is expected to plan and execute a public hearing for this document.

A document summarizing the results of the NFA Report has been prepared in English and Spanish for EQB review. This document will be provided to the TRC and will be available at the public hearing.

Remedial Investigation (RI) for SWMU 6, SWMU 7, AOC H, and AOC J

The work plan was finalized in July. The field work was conducted from August 11th through October 3rd.

Remedial Investigation for AOC E

The draft RI report for AOC E is being prepared and is planned for regulatory review by the end of October. Upon EPA/EQB review, a draft final will be released for TRC and public review later in the year.

Public Information

EPA conducted a risk assessment training class on October 5th to inform the public about the risk assessment process used in the NFA report.

¹ The monthly reports have been changed to bimonthly reports to better reflect the current pace of ongoing and planned activities taking place in western Vieques.

The Navy is developing a quarterly newsletter to better inform the public on the environmental field activities and other important items of the clean-up effort. This newsletter is expected to be widely distributed among the community of Vieques.

CERCLA Technical Committee (CTC)

A CTC meeting was held in San Juan, Puerto Rico on August 28 and 29, 2003. Representatives from LANTDIV, EPA, EQB, DOI, Municipality of Vieques, Special Commissioner for Vieques, University of Puerto Rico, Management Edge, and CH2M HILL participated in the meeting. EPA Region 2 representatives were not able to attend due to lack of funding and did not send a representative from their San Juan office.

Discussion items included:

- Status of projects, schedules, next meeting dates
- Site Management Plan and schedules
- Status of the No Further Action Report and Proposed Plan
- Draft Remedial Investigation Work Plan for SWMU 6, SWMU 7, AOC H, and AOC J, and how comments were incorporated
- Update on AOC E
- Update of SWMU 4 UXO Investigation
- Overview of activities for Eastern Vieques
- Initiation of the partnering process

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- EQB will conduct a public hearing for the No Further Action Report. The public hearing is tentatively scheduled for November.
- The next TRC meeting will be scheduled for mid-November 2003.
- Although correspondence has been exchanged with the TRC Community Co-Chair, no monthly reports or comments from the TAPP consultant have been received as of today.