

Atlantic Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

Monthly Status Report-February, 2003

Former Navy Property, Western Vieques, Puerto Rico

This report provides the Technical Review Committee (TRC) with a status of ongoing 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 February 2003 and anticipated activities during the next few months:

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

SWMU 4

The Phase III field work began on February 3, 2003. CH2M HILL personnel on site are Freddie Ferreira and Gary Webb. Additionally, Wendell Morgan and Doug Kunkel will be rotating in and out over the next two months to relieve Freddie and Gary. Subcontractors on the site include Timberline Environmental (brush cutting with 3 people) and USA Environmental (unexploded ordnance technicians with 3 to 5 people on site). NAEVA Geophysical is expected to begin work on February 24th, 2003, with a 2-person crew.

AOC E

The request for proposal was received from the Navy. A scope of work and cost estimate were prepared and submitted to the Navy. The modification should be negotiated with the Navy in March. Upon receiving the new funding, the Remedial Investigation (RI) report will be prepared.

Draft No Further Action (NFA) Report for Nine Sites

The Draft NFA Report for Nine Sites at NASD was completed on November 20, 2002 and sent to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (EQB) for review. Comments were received from EPA on February 14, 2003, and from EQB on February 17, 2003. Responses will be developed for these comments and discussed with the regulatory agencies by the end of March. Based on these discussions, the report will be revised and the Draft Final report will be sent to the TRC.

RI/FS Work Plan for SWMU 6, SWMU 7, AOC H, and AOC J

The draft Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Work Plan for SWMU 6, SWMU 7, AOC H and AOC J was sent to the EPA and EQB on February 21, 2003. Comments are requested within 30 days.

TRC Business

Slides that were handed out at the January 2003 TRC meeting were too small to read details on the visuals. Full-size hardcopies were printed and were mailed to TRC members on February 20, 2003.

Draft minutes from the January 18 TRC meeting are in internal review and are expected to go out to the Co-Chairs for comments in early March 2003.

Public Information

A public notice was published in the *Vieques Times* (in Spanish and English) on February 12, *El Vocero* (in Spanish) on February 14, and *El Nuevo Dia* (in Spanish) on February 27th. It was also mailed to the TRC members and interested parties mailing list. The purpose of the notice was to inform the public about the Phase III field work at SWMU 4 in February and March 2003, to request that people stay outside the fence for safety, and to summarize what the next steps in this investigation will be.

A fact sheet to provide the general public with updates on environmental restoration activities at NASD is being drafted and is expected to be distributed in April.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

TRC Meeting

- The next TRC meeting will be scheduled in mid-to-late May, based on TRC and CTC members' availability.
- Develop agenda for May 2003 TRC meeting in April

Field Work

- Field work is tentatively planned to begin in June 2003 for the RI for SWMUs 6, 7 and AOCs H, J.
- A work plan will be prepared for the RI/FS work at SWMU 4, with the intent of conducting field work for the environmental RI for SWMU 4 in late summer 2003.

Reports

- Develop responses to EPA and EQB comments on the Draft NFA Report in March
- Revise and provide Draft Final NFA report to TRC in May for their review and discussion at the May TRC meeting