

# Naval Facilities Engineering Command – Atlantic

## RAB Status Report: November - December, 2005

### Former Navy Property, Vieques, Puerto Rico

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This report provides the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) 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 and an overview of activities on eastern Vieques. The following is a summary of the activities completed through November, 2005, and the activities planned for completion for the next few months.

## CURRENT AND COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

### ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE PROGRAM

#### WEST VIEQUES

- AOC E (Former Waste Oil Tank)

After receiving approval from EPA in August 2005 the work plan was submitted to the RAB as draft final on September 13, 2005. Subcontractor procurement was completed and the final work plan was submitted in November 2005. The field work, comprising soil and groundwater sampling, began in November 2005 and is expected to be completed by the end of December 2005.

- AOC H (Abandoned Power Plant)

Regulatory comments on the draft RI report submitted for review in April 2004 were received in October 2005. Comment responses will be prepared and submitted to the agencies for consideration in December 2005.

- AOC I (Former Asphalt Mixing Plant)

After receiving approval from EPA in August 2005 the work plan was submitted to the RAB as draft final on September 12, 2005. Subcontractor procurement was completed and the final work plan was submitted in November 2005. The field work, comprising monitoring well installation and sampling, began in late November 2005 and is expected to be completed by the end of January 2006.

- **AOC J (Former Operations/Staging Area Disposal Site)**

The draft RI report submitted for regulatory review in April 2004 is still under review. In addition, a draft engineering evaluation/cost analysis (EE/CA) to remove the debris at AOC J was submitted for regulatory review in August 2005. Regulatory agency comments were received in October 2005. Comment responses were prepared and submitted to the agencies for consideration in early November 2005. The agencies discussed and concurred upon the final comment responses in November 2005, and the Draft Final EE/CA was submitted in December 2005. The public comment period on the EE/CA is anticipated to occur from about mid-December 2005 to mid-January 2006. The removal action is anticipated to take place in mid-February 2006.

- **AOC R (Former Staging and Operations Area)**

After receiving approval from EPA, the draft final work plan was submitted to the RAB on September 30, 2005. A threatened and endangered species evaluation took place in September 2005 in preparation for the investigation field work. No threatened or endangered species or habitats were identified in the AOC R area of investigation. However, two species of the threatened plant species *Stahlia monosperma* were identified in the vicinity of AOC J, which is adjacent to AOC R. Protective measures for these trees will be implemented during any future work at AOC J (such as the removal action referred to above) that may be conducted in the vicinity of the trees. A letter summarizing the results of the survey and protective measures to be implemented was submitted to the Department of Interior in early November 2005. Subcontractor procurement was completed and the final work plan was submitted in November 2005. The field work, comprising monitoring well installation and surface water, sediment, soil, and groundwater sampling, began in December 2005 and is expected to be completed in January 2006.

In addition, an EE/CA for AOCs J and R and SWMUs 6 and 7 was prepared, as described under AOC J above.

- **SWMU 4 (Former OB/OD Unit)**

The draft RI work plan submitted for regulatory review in June 2004 is still under review.

- **SWMU 6 (Mangrove Disposal Site at Kiani Lagoon)**

The draft RI report submitted for regulatory review in April 2004 is still under review. In addition, an EE/CA for AOCs J and R and SWMUs 6 and 7 was prepared, as described under AOC J above.

- **SWMU 7 (Quebrada Disposal Site)**

Responses to regulatory comments on the draft RI report submitted to the regulatory agencies in November 2004 are still under consideration. In addition, an EE/CA for AOCs J and R and SWMUs 6 and 7 was prepared, as described under AOC J above.

## Site Management Plan

The Site Management Plan is currently being developed.

### EASTERN VIEQUES

- **Original 12 SWMUs/AOCs Contained in the RCRA Consent Order**

A data summary report summarizing the data collected during the Phase I RFI was submitted to the regulatory agencies in May 2005. The draft Phase I RFI report will be completed once the soil inorganics background investigation has been completed and its report finalized.

#### PI/PAOC sites

The approach to the Phase I RFI for eight PI/PAOC sites was concurred upon by the regulatory agencies and the Navy in June 2005, but regulatory approval is pending. The draft final work plan was submitted to the RAB on September 30, 2005. A threatened and endangered species evaluation for several of the sites took place in September 2005 in preparation for the investigation field work. The final work plan is anticipated to be submitted in December 2005. The field work is anticipated to begin in early 2006.

- **Background Soil Inorganics**

The public comment period on the Work Plan ended on June 11, 2005. The comments received remain under EPA review. It is anticipated that the responses to public comments will be released in January 2006, with the Final Work Plan and field work commencing relatively soon thereafter.

## MUNITIONS RESPONSE PROGRAM

### WEST VIEQUES

- **SWMU 4 (Open Burn/Open Detonation (OB/OD) Area)**

The Draft Munitions/Explosives Remedial Investigation Report dated April 2004 is still under regulatory review.

- A draft engineering evaluation/cost analysis (EE/CA) to remove munitions at selected areas in the vicinity of SWMU 4 will be submitted to the regulators by the end of November.

### EASTERN VIEQUES – Munitions Response Actions

The Time Critical Removal Action in the LIA continues including ecological surveys of the first 850 acres; air monitoring still in effect to assess the BIP activities.

## Public Involvement Activities

- The RAB meeting was held on November 17, 2005. Minutes, presentations and related materials will be available for RAB review in early December.
- The next RAB meeting was tentatively schedule for February 16, 2006
- The Navy is working with the agencies and RAB representatives to develop a technical workshop for the public. We anticipate the workshop to take place in late January 2006.

## VIEQUES DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL UPDATE (as of November, 2005)

| Site                | Document   | Submitted By Navy To Regulators for Review | Regulator Comments Submitted To Navy |
|---------------------|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| <b>West Vieques</b> |  |  |                                      |
| AOC E               | Final Supplemental RI Work Plan submitted in November 2005 | Not Applicable                             | Not Applicable                       |
| AOC H               | Draft RI Report  | April 2004                                 | October 2005                         |
| AOC I               | Final Supplemental RI Work Plan submitted in November 2005 | Not Applicable                             | Not Applicable                       |
| AOC J               | Draft RI Report  | April 2004                                 | Not Received                         |
|                     | Draft EE/CA  | August 2005                                | October 2005                         |
|                     | Draft Final EE/CA  | Submitted to RAB/Public in December 2005   | Not Applicable                       |
| AOC R               | Final RI Work Plan submitted in November 2005              | Not Applicable                             | Not Applicable                       |
|                     | Draft EE/CA  | August 2005                                | October 2005                         |
|                     | Draft Final EE/CA  | Submitted to RAB/Public in December 2005   | Not Applicable                       |
| SWMU 4              | Draft RI Work Plan   | June 2004                                  | Not Received                         |
| SWMU 6              | Draft RI Report  | April 2004                                 | Not Received                         |
|                     | Draft EE/CA  | August 2005                                | October 2005                         |
|                     | Draft Final EE/CA  | Submitted to RAB/Public in December 2005   | Not Applicable                       |
| SWMU 7              | Response to comments on Draft RI Report                    | November 2004                              | Not Received                         |

|                      |   |   |   |
|----------------------|---|---|---|
|                      | Draft EE/CA   | August 2005                                   | October 2005                                  |
|                      | Draft Final EE/CA   | Submitted to RAB/Public in December 2005      | Not Applicable                                |
| NFA Sites            | PREQB Response to Public Comments on No Further Action Report | Not Applicable                                | Not Received                                  |
| <b>East Vieques</b>  |   |   |   |
| Background Soil      | Revised Draft Final Background Investigation Work Plan        | Public Comments Submitted to EPA in June 2005 | EPA Responses Not Received                    |
| Original RFI Sites   | Data Summary Report   | May 2005                                      | Not Applicable                                |
| 8 PI/PAOC Sites      | Draft Final Phase I RFI Work Plan                             | Submitted to RAB in September 2005            | Final Work Plan will be submitted in December |
| Baseline Groundwater | Draft Final Groundwater Baseline Investigation                | May 2005                                      |   |