

Naval Facilities Engineering Command – Atlantic

RAB Status Report: October, 2005

Former Navy Property, Vieques, Puerto Rico

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 October, 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 is anticipated to be completed by the end of October 2005, the final work plan will be submitted in November 2005, and the field work is anticipated to begin in November 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 is anticipated to be completed by the end of October 2005, the final work plan will be submitted in November 2005, and the field work is anticipated to begin in November 2005.

- **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 are being prepared and will be submitted to the agencies for consideration in early November 2005. The public comment period on the EE/CA is anticipated to occur in late 2005.

- **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 will be submitted to the Department of Interior in November 2005. Subcontractor procurement is anticipated to be completed by the end of October 2005, the final work plan will be submitted in November 2005, and the field work is anticipated to begin in November 2005.

In addition, a draft EE/CA to remove the debris at AOC R was submitted for regulatory review in August 2005. Regulatory agency comments were received in October 2005. Comment responses are being prepared and will be submitted to the agencies for consideration in early November 2005. The public comment period on the EE/CA is anticipated to occur in late 2005.

- **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, a draft EE/CA to remove the debris at AOC R was submitted for regulatory review in August 2005. Regulatory agency comments were received in October 2005. Comment responses are being prepared and will be submitted to the agencies for consideration in early November 2005. The public comment period on the EE/CA is anticipated to occur in late 2005.

- **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, a draft EE/CA to remove the debris at AOC R was submitted for regulatory review in August 2005. Regulatory agency comments were received in October 2005. Comment responses are being prepared and will be submitted to the agencies for consideration in early November 2005. The public comment period on the EE/CA is anticipated to occur in late 2005.

- **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 November or 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.

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.
- Ecological survey to identify State and Federally listed flora and fauna has been conducted for the first 850 acres at the LIA. Ecological surveys will continue to be conducted.
- Air monitoring is being conducted to assess the BIP activities. An Air Monitoring quarterly report was submitted October 19, 2005.

Public Involvement Activities

- RAB members, Navy and regulatory agencies representatives had a conference call on October 13th to discuss several outstanding items related to the RAB and discuss the agenda for the next RAB meeting. Notes from the call have been distributed to RAB members.
- The next RAB meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2005 at the Multiple Use Center in Isabel Segunda from 5:00 to 9:00 pm.

VIEQUES DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL UPDATE (as of October, 2005)

Site	Document	Submitted By Navy To Regulators for Review	Regulator Comments Submitted To Navy
West Vieques			
AOC E	Draft Final Supplemental RI Work Plan	Submitted to RAB in September 2005	
AOC H	Draft RI Report	April 2004	October 2005
AOC I	Draft Final Supplemental RI Work Plan	Submitted to RAB in September 2005	
AOC J	Draft RI Report	April 2004	
	Draft EE/CA	August 2005	October 2005
AOC R	Draft Final RI Work Plan	Submitted to RAB in September 2005	
	Draft EE/CA	August 2005	October 2005
SWMU 4	Draft RI Work Plan	June 2004	Not received as of October 31,2005
SWMU 6	Draft RI Report	April 2004	
	Draft EE/CA	August 2005	October 2005
SWMU 7	Response to comments on Draft RI Report	November 2004	
	Draft EE/CA	August 2005	October 2005
NFA Sites	No Further Action Report	May 2003	Not received as of October 31,2005

East Vieques			
Background Soil	Revised Draft Final Background Investigation Work Plan	Public Comments Submitted to EPA in June 2005	Navy has not received public comments as of October 31,2005
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 by end of November
Baseline Groundwater	Draft Final Groundwater Baseline Investigation	May 2005	