



West Vieques Area of Concern (AOC) H

Proposed Plan No Action

**Public Meeting
February 7, 2008**

Site History



- **Occupies approximately ½ acre**
- **1941 – 1943: Building housed power generation equipment and diesel generators**
- **1943 – 1960s: Building and surroundings vacant**
- **1960s – 1980s: Building used for fire training**
 - diesel fuel poured on rubber tires inside building and ignited to simulate structural fires



History of Environmental Activities



- **Environmental Baseline Survey (2000)**
 - PCB wipe samples inside building collected (none detected)
- **Expanded Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation (PA/SI) (2000)**
 - Monitoring wells installed; surface and subsurface soil and groundwater samples collected
- **Ecological Survey (2000)**
 - No protected species identified; no ecological impacts observed
- **Remedial Investigation (2003)**
 - Monitoring wells installed; surface and subsurface soil, surface water, sediment, and groundwater samples collected

Data Findings



- **Soil**
 - One volatile organic compound (VOC), six semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), six inorganics (metals), and three pesticides were detected in surface soil above human health and/or ecological screening values (and background for metals)
 - One metal was detected in subsurface soil above the human health screening value and background
- **Groundwater**
 - Four metals (filtered) and one pesticide were detected in groundwater above human health screening values
- **Surface Water**
 - One metal was detected in surface water above its ecological screening value
- **Sediment**
 - No constituents were detected above screening values (and background [upstream] for metals)

Human Health Risk Assessment



- **The following exposure scenarios were evaluated:**
 - Recreational user exposure to soil, surface water, and sediment
 - Construction worker exposure to soil and groundwater
 - Resident exposure to soil and groundwater
 - Maintenance worker exposure to soil
 - Industrial worker exposure to soil and groundwater
- **For the above exposure scenarios, the human health risk assessment (HHRA) determined potential risks (relative to background) are acceptable, based on levels established by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

Ecological Risk Assessment



- **The site provides terrestrial habitat for plants and animals**
- **Portions of the ephemeral stream located adjacent to the site provide brackish/saltwater habitat for fish, invertebrates, plants, and semi-aquatic birds**
- **Based on the above ecological receptors, the following exposure scenarios were evaluated:**
 - Direct exposure and food web exposure to soil, surface water, and sediment
- **For the above exposure scenarios, the ecological risk assessment (ERA) determined that potential risks are within acceptable risk levels**

Conclusion and Recommendation



- **Based on the information collected at AOC H, the Navy, EPA, and Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (EQB), in consultation with the Municipality of Vieques (MOV), conclude:**

- There are no unacceptable risks (relative to background) for unrestricted use of the site

and, therefore, recommend:

- No Action