
Continued Beneficial Use of OU2

The current plan is to continue to use Sites 6 and 29 for industrial purposes. Removal of contaminated surface soil and placement of a soil cover will prevent industrial workers at the site from exposure to subsurface contamination in the waste disposal area. Removal of contaminated soil posing a risk to industrial workers in the remainder of Site 29 and at Site 6 will remediate this area to mitigate potential current risks to construction workers and future potential recreational users and occupational workers. LUCs will be used to restrict future residential use at Sites 6 and 29. The expected long-term risk reduction is consistent with current and reasonably anticipated future use of these sites.

There are no restrictions for current or future residential use of the DRMO Impact Area, including Quarters S, N, and 68.

Where To Find Out More Information:

Visit the Information Repositories for Portsmouth Naval Shipyard at:

Rice Public Library
8 Wentworth Street
Kittery, Maine 03904
(207) 439-1553

Portsmouth Public Library
175 Parrott Avenue
Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801
(603) 427-1540



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December 2011

Record of Decision for Operable Unit 2



**Portsmouth Naval
Shipyard
Kittery, Maine**



Operable Unit 2

The Record of Decision (ROD) for Operable Unit (OU) 2 was signed in September 2011 and presents the Selected Remedies for remediation at OU2. The Navy and United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) jointly signed the ROD, with Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) concurrence. This fact sheet describes OU2, the environmental concerns associated with OU2, and the Selected Remedies to address these concerns.

Where is OU2, and What Is It?

OU2 is located in the south-central portion of PNS along the Piscataqua River. OU2 includes Site 6—the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO) Storage Yard, Site – 29, the Former Teepee Incinerator Site, and the DRMO Impact Area. Sites 6 and 29 are located on filled land and have been used for industrial activities since the 1920s. The DRMO Impact Area includes Quarters S, N, and 68, which have been used as residences since the 1800s. Past storage of batteries and other material in the DRMO Storage Yard resulted in releases of contaminants to the soil. Past open burning and disposal of trash were the major sources of contamination at Site 29. Soil in the backyards of Quarters S and N was impacted by adjacent DRMO Storage Yard activities.

Selected Remedies: Eliminating Risk

A risk assessment estimates what risks exist at a site if no action was taken. Potentially unacceptable risks associated with lead and other chemicals in soil were estimated based on current and future potential land use scenarios for human receptors at Sites 6 and 29. Future potential erosion of contaminated soil from these sites to the Piscataqua River is also a potential future concern. The remedies selected for Sites 6 and 29 are necessary to protect current and future human and ecological receptors from these potentially unacceptable risks.

Contaminated soil in the backyards of Quarters S and N was removed in 2010, and further action is not required to protect human health and the environment in the DRMO Impact Area.

The Selected Remedies for Sites 6 and 29 include four major components:

- Excavation and off-site disposal of soil from 0 to 2 feet below ground surface and placement of a 2-foot-thick soil cover over the remaining subsurface contaminated soil within the portion of Site 29 used for waste disposal.
- Excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil posing a potential risk to industrial workers in the portion of Sites 6 and 29 excluding the waste disposal area.
- Implementation of land use controls (LUCs) for Sites 6 and 29 to prevent future residential site use.
- Groundwater and sediment accumulation monitoring for Sites 6 and 29 to confirm that remaining contamination does not adversely impact groundwater or the offshore area.

No Further Action is the Selected Remedy for the DRMO Impact Area.

