

Naval Facilities Engineering Command – Atlantic

RAB Status Report: September/October, 2006

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 the Munitions Response Activities on eastern Vieques. The following is a summary of the activities completed through September and mid October 2006, and the activities planned for completion for the next few months.

CURRENT AND COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

WEST VIEQUES

- **AOC E (Former Waste Oil Tank)**
The Supplemental Remedial Investigation (RI) field work, comprising soil and groundwater sampling, began in November 2005 and was completed in December 2005. Updated human health and ecological risk assessment protocols are being developed (via an interactive process with the stakeholder agencies). The human health risk assessment and the ecological risk assessment for AOC E will be conducted once the protocols have been finalized.
- **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 were prepared and submitted to the agencies for consideration in January 2006. A meeting was held among the agencies in May and September 2006 to discuss the comment responses and reach concurrence on an acceptable set of responses and associated report revisions. It is anticipated that the final set of comment responses will be concurred upon and the Draft Final RI Report produced in October or November 2006.
- **AOC I (Former Asphalt Mixing Plant)**
The Supplemental RI field work, comprising monitoring well installation and sampling, began in late November 2005 and completed in January 2006. Updated human health and ecological risk assessment protocols are being developed (via an interactive process with the stakeholder agencies). The human health risk assessment and the ecological risk assessment for AOC I will be conducted once the protocols have been finalized.
- **AOC J (Former Operations/Staging Area Disposal Site)**
The Draft Final EE/CA for AOC J, AOC R, SWMU 6, and SWMU 7 was submitted in December 2005. The public comment period on the EE/CA was scheduled from about

mid-December 2005 to mid-January 2006, but a request from a RAB member extended the public comment period for an additional 2 weeks. No public comments on the EE/CA were received. A draft removal action work plan was submitted to the regulatory agencies in November 2005. Regulatory comments were submitted to the Navy in March 2006. Navy responses to comments are currently being prepared. Once regulatory concurrence on the comment responses is reached, the draft final removal action work plan will be prepared. The removal action is anticipated to take place in early 2007, pending finalization of the removal action work plan.

Regulatory comments on the draft RI report submitted for review in April 2004 were received in January 2006. Comment responses were prepared, taking into consideration the removal action to be conducted at the site, and were submitted to the regulatory agencies for consideration in May 2006. A meeting was held among the agencies in September 2006 to discuss the comment responses and concur upon a path forward for revising the report. It is anticipated that the Draft RI Report for AOC J will be produced in late 2006.

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

The RI field work, comprising monitoring well installation and surface water, sediment, soil, and groundwater sampling, began in December 2005 and was completed in March 2006. The analytical data are currently being evaluated to determine if they are sufficient for assessing the nature and extent of contamination and potential risks.

See the discussion above under AOC J regarding the EE/CA and removal action work plan for this site. The removal action at AOC R may take place at a later date than what is planned for AOC J, SWMU 6, and SWMU 7.

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

Regulatory comments on the draft RI work plan submitted for review in June 2004 were received in January 2006. Comment responses were prepared and submitted to the regulatory agencies for consideration in April 2006. A meeting was held among the agencies in May and September 2006 to discuss the comment responses and reach concurrence on an acceptable set of responses and associated work plan revisions. It is anticipated that the final set of comment responses will be concurred upon and the Draft Final RI Work Plan produced in October or November 2006. It is anticipated that the RI will be implemented in January 2007.

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

Regulatory comments on the draft RI report submitted for regulatory review in April 2004 were received in June 2006. Comment responses were prepared and submitted to the agencies for consideration in August 2006. See the discussion above under AOC J regarding the EE/CA and removal action work plan for this site.

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

Responses to regulatory comments on the draft RI report submitted to the regulatory agencies in November 2004. A path forward for revising the RI report was discussed among the stakeholder agencies in September 2006. It is anticipated that the Draft Final RI Report will be produced in late 2006. See the discussion above under AOC J regarding the EE/CA and removal action work plan for this site.

Site Management Plan

A Site Management Plan will be prepared in accordance with requirements defined in the Federal Facility Agreement, which is under development.

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 final PA/SI work plan for 8 PI/PAOC site was submitted in January 2006, based on regulatory agency approval. The field work began in January 2006 and was completed in April 2006. The draft PA/SI Report will be prepared once the soil inorganics background investigation has been completed and its report finalized.

- **Background Soil Inorganics**

The public comment period on the Work Plan ended on June 11, 2005. Based on the public comments, several revisions were made to the technical approach to the Background Investigation (i.e., several sampling locations relocated, explosives analysis added for each sample collected, etc.). The Final Work Plan, with these revisions incorporated, was submitted in May 2006. Agency responses to the comments were finalized, and they were discussed with the RAB at the June RAB meeting. The field work commenced in June 2006 and was completed in early July 2006. The data are currently being evaluated and it is anticipated that the draft report will be prepared in late 2006.

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 was submitted to the regulatory agencies in December 2005. Regulator comments received March 13, 2006. Navy and Regulatory agencies are determining appropriate approach for areas and the Draft-Final EE/CA is expected to be submitted November 2006.

EASTERN VIEQUES - Munitions Response Actions

The Time Critical Removal Action in the LIA continues; air monitoring still in effect to assess the BIP activities.

An amendment to include the eastern most half of the Live Impact Area and Eastern Conservation Area has been submitted to the regulatory agencies and comments on the amendment have been received. The amendment includes these areas due to the frequent trespassing and hazard present from munitions items located in these areas.

Draft EE/CA being developed for removal action at beach areas and selected roadways.

Public Involvement Activities

- The RAB meeting took place on September 14, 2006.
- The Navy will be conducting a RAB site visit the week of November 13, 2006

VIEQUES DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL UPDATE (as of September 2006)

Site	Document	Submitted By Navy To Regulators for Review	Regulator Comments Submitted To Navy
West Vieques			
AOC H	Draft RI Report	April 2004	October 2005
	Preliminary responses to regulatory comments	January 2006	Discussed in May and September 2006
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
	Draft Removal Action Work Plan	November 2005	March 2006
SWMU 4	Draft RI Work Plan	June 2004	J January 2006
	Preliminary responses to regulatory comments	April 2006	Discussed in May and September

Site	Document	Submitted By Navy To Regulators for Review	Regulator Comments Submitted To Navy
			2006
West Vieques			
SWMU 6	Draft RI Report	April 2004	June 2006
	Preliminary responses to regulatory comments	August 2006	
	Draft EE/CA	August 2005	October 2005
	Draft Final EE/CA	Submitted to RAB/Public in December 2005	Not Applicable
	Draft Removal Action Work Plan	November 2005	March 2006
SWMU 7	Response to comments on Draft RI Report	November 2004	Discussed in September 2006 October 2005
	Draft EE/CA	August 2005	Not Applicable
	Draft Final EE/CA	Submitted to RAB/Public in December 2005	
	Draft Removal Action Work Plan	November 2005	March 2006
NFA Sites	PREQB Response to Public Comments on No Further Action Report	Not Applicable	
East Vieques			
Background Soil	Revised Draft Final Soil Inorganics Background Investigation Work Plan	Public Comments Submitted to EPA in June 2005	November 2005
	Final Soil Inorganic Background Investigation Work Plan	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Original RFI Sites	Data Summary Report	May 2005	Not Applicable
8 PI/PAOC Sites	Final PA/SI Work Plan submitted in January 2006	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Baseline Groundwater	Draft Final Groundwater Baseline Investigation	May 2005	