



# Vieques Cleanup News!

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<http://public.lantops-ir.org/sites/public/vieques>

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## Groundwater Remediation Pilot Study at west Vieques AOC E and AOC I



In March 2010, the Navy began a groundwater remediation pilot study at two sites on west Vieques. Area of Concern (AOC) E was the site of a former waste oil underground storage tank. AOC I was a former asphalt production facility.

Low levels of groundwater contaminants have historically been detected in groundwater at each site. Over time, organic contaminants in groundwater are degraded naturally by microorganisms. That process has already been taking place at these sites.

The purpose of the pilot study is to determine if cleanup of groundwater at the two sites can be accelerated. To do this, the Navy is basically creating an oxygen-rich environment by placing oxygen-containing material in the contaminated groundwater at each site. The photograph above shows this work being done at AOC E.

In an oxygen-rich environment, the rate of contaminant degradation may be accelerated, so that groundwater cleanup might be achieved in a shorter time over what would occur naturally.

The pilot tests are anticipated to take between 2 and 3 years to complete. Groundwater samples will be periodically collected at both sites to evaluate:

- (1) Whether the addition of the oxygen-containing material has created the desired oxygen-rich environment and, if so,
- (2) Whether the rate of groundwater cleanup has been accelerated

## Munitions Response Program Cleanup Progress through 19 March 2010

Acres Surface Cleared	
Live Impact Area (LIA)	859
Surface Impact Area (SIA)	492
Eastern Conservation Area (ECA)	136
Total	1487
Subsurface Anomalies <sup>a</sup> Investigated	
LIA/ECA Roads	7185
SWMU <sup>b</sup> 4 Roads	2781

- a. Metallic objects that might be munitions  
 b. Solid Waste Management Unit

### WARNING

To protect Vieques residents and visitors, the roads leading to the areas that contain munitions and explosives have been blocked and identified with warning signs.

The water that surrounds the former training area is a danger zone. **For your safety, do not anchor your boats or visit the beaches in this danger zone.**