



NAVFAC HAWAII PUBLIC AFFAIRS INTERNAL NEWSGRAM
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Newsgram 5: Installation of SVE System at Onizuka Village Housing Area Hickam-side

The Navy has hired a contractor to install a Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) system on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) at Onizuka Villages, Hickam-side near the Base Commissary and Exchange, beginning with drilling efforts scheduled from June – July 2014.

“The installation of the SVE system is completely safe and will require drilling beneath some buildings and roads within Onizuka Village,” Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii Remedial Project Manager Brian Whitehouse. “Beginning about May 19, residents and base personnel passing by the housing area can expect to see workers onsite performing utility surveys and marking drilling locations.”

In 2013, the Navy conducted an environmental investigation in Onizuka Village to determine the locations and amount of petroleum stained soil beneath the area. The investigation concluded that while there were no detections of petroleum vapors inside homes or immediately beneath building foundations, three areas have elevated concentrations of petroleum in soil vapor above recommended action levels, at depths of 4 to 6 feet below ground surface outside some residences.

An SVE system with horizontal wells beneath residences will remove and treat elevated soil vapor. It has a vacuum pump which will extract soil vapors from soil pore spaces into the underground wells and pull them to the SVE enclosure across Freedom Avenue.

Drilling is currently scheduled to begin the week of June 2 and will last for approximately six to seven weeks, on weekdays and during daylight hours.

For the protection of all residents from construction hazards, a temporary fence will encompass the work zones.

After completion of the horizontal drilling, shallow vertical borings will be drilled into the soil at the 10 locations. A soil vapor monitoring point will be installed in the soil at each of these locations with work expected to be completed within two days.

It is anticipated that the SVE system will start up in September 2014.

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“NAVFAC Hawaii recognizes the concerns expressed by many residents and appreciates their patience while it performs construction and testing,” said Whitehouse. “We will continue to work with base leadership and Hickam Communities to keep residents informed of work schedules and the latest developments.”

Questions on the SVE system can be addressed to Brian Whitehouse, 471-1171, Ext. 340 or brian.whitehouse@navy.mil.

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Article by Denise Emsley, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii Public Affairs Officer.

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