

May 1999

INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM

FACT SHEET

NAVAL WEAPONS
INDUSTRIAL RESERVE PLANT
Bethpage, New York



INTRODUCTION

This fact sheet provides an update on the progress made at Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant (NWIRP) Bethpage under the Navy Installation Restoration (IR) Program. The purpose of the IR Program is to identify and clean up past hazardous waste sites at Navy installations.

ABOUT NWIRP BETHPAGE

NWIRP Bethpage is a 108-acre site surrounded by the 505-acre Northrop Grumman complex in the Hamlet of Bethpage. NWIRP Bethpage was established in 1943 with the primary mission of assembling military aircraft. These activities involved the use of a number of industrial chemicals and materials that resulted in contamination of several areas of the facility. Three sites and two areas of concern (AOCs) have been identified under the IR Program at NWIRP Bethpage. These sites and AOCs are described below.

SITE AND AOC DESCRIPTION

Site 1 – Former Drum Marshalling Area

Until 1982, Site 1 was used as a marshalling area for drummed waste at NWIRP Bethpage prior to off-site disposal. A sanitary leach field was present underneath the drum marshalling pads and a sludge drying bed was present northeast of the pads.

In the early 1990's, solvents, metals, and PCBs were detected in soils and metals and solvents were detected in the groundwater at Site 1. In 1995, a Record of Decision (ROD)

was signed that identified remedial actions for Sites 1, 2, and 3. The ROD identified excavation and off-site disposal of metal and PCB contaminated soils and in situ treatment of solvents in soils and shallow groundwater for Site 1. Deeper and down gradient groundwater contamination from the site is being addressed by a groundwater containment system on the Northrop Grumman property. As required by the ROD, an air sparging and soil vapor extraction system to remove solvents from Site 1 soils and groundwater has been running since 1997. The metal and PCB contaminated soil will be excavated after the solvents have been removed from site soils and groundwater.

Site 2 – Recharge Basin Area

Recharge basins naturally filter surface water back into the groundwater. Storm water and non contact cooling water from the Plant No. 3 area were discharged to the recharge basins at Site 2. Sludge drying beds were located adjacent to the recharge basins. The sludge drying beds have not been active since the 1970s and were reportedly removed. The recharge basins continue to be used for storm water management.

In the early 1990's, PCBs and low levels of solvents and metals were detected in the soils and groundwater at Site 2. As required by the ROD, the PCB contaminated soils were excavated in 1996. The solvents and metals were at a low enough level that remediation was not required. Groundwater flowing from this site is contained by the Northrop Grumman groundwater containment system.

Site 3 – Salvage Storage Area

Metal parts were stored at the salvage storage area prior to recycling. In the early 1990's, low levels of solvents and metals were detected in site soils and groundwater. As provided in the ROD, soils and groundwater at Site 3 do not require remediation. Groundwater flowing from this site is contained by the Northrop Grumman containment system.

AOCs 20-08 and 34-07 – Dry Wells

Dry wells, located in and around Plant No. 3, were investigated. Most of the dry wells were either found to be clean or the well contents were excavated to remove contamination. Currently, two dry wells remain contaminated and are being investigated to determine the extent of contamination.

AOC 22 – Former Underground Storage Tanks

Until the early 1980s, three underground storage tanks were located south of Plant No. 3. Soil testing conducted in the area found low to moderate levels of fuels in the soils. Testing results were not conclusive as to whether groundwater contamination or free product at the water table was present. This area is being investigated to determine the extent of contamination.

Regional Groundwater

Groundwater underneath NWIRP Bethpage starts at a depth of approximately 60 feet below ground surface and extends to a depth of approximately 500 feet. The predominant groundwater flow in the area is to the southeast toward the Atlantic Ocean. Solvents have been found in

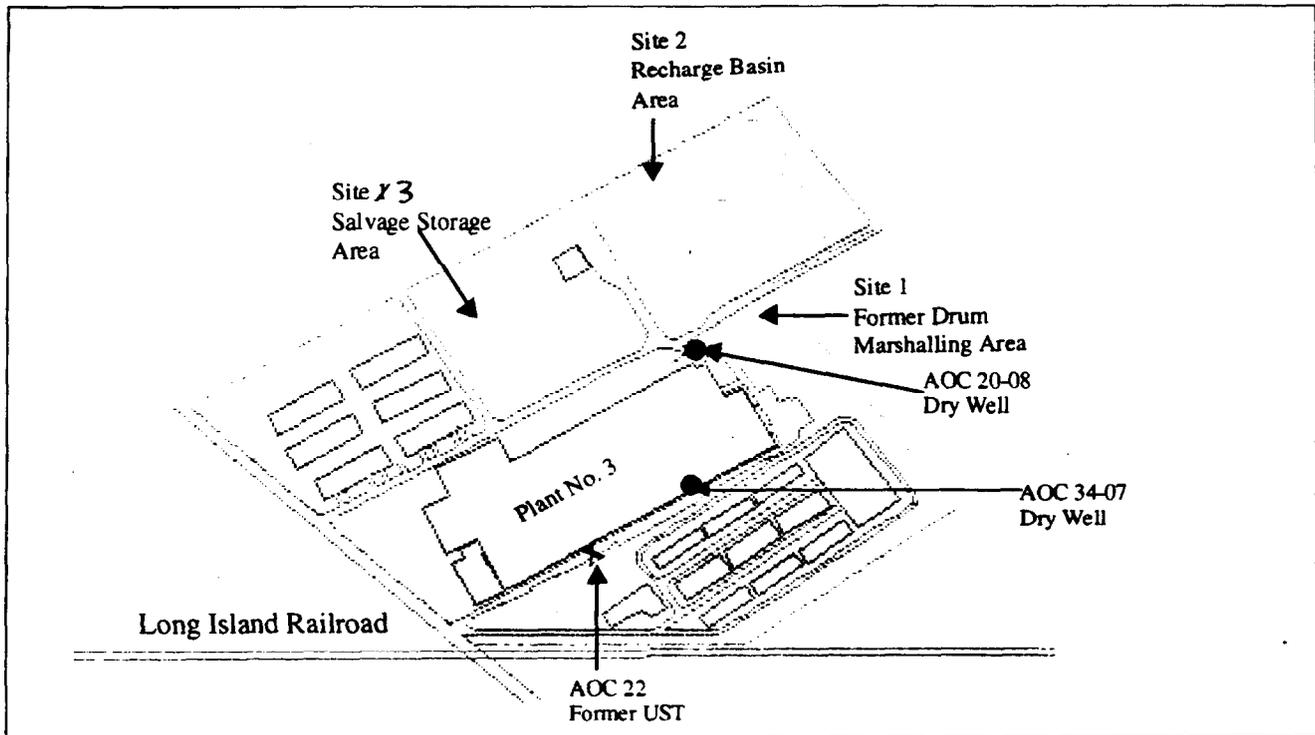
the on site and off site groundwater. Options for remediating this groundwater are currently being evaluated. In the interim, a groundwater containment system has been installed on Northrop Grumman property to control the migration of solvents in groundwater. To ensure protection of the local water supply, a system for filtering the solvents from the groundwater is in place at the affected extraction wells.

INFORMATION REPOSITORY

Documents related to the environmental activities being conducted under the IR Program are available in the Information Repository for NWIRP Bethpage. The Information Repository is available for public review at:

Bethpage Public Library
47 Powell Avenue
Bethpage, New York, 11714
(516) 931-3907

Hours of Operation:
M-F: 9:30 am to 9:00 pm
Sat: 9:30 am to 5:00 pm
Sun: 12 pm to 4 pm (Oct. – April only)



NWIRP Bethpage, Site Map