



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
*Northern Division*  
*Naval Facilities Engineering Command*  
*10 Industrial Highway, Mail Stop #82*  
*Lester, Pennsylvania 19113-2090*

**NEW YORK STATE**  
*Department of Environmental Conservation*  
*50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12233-7010*



*Langdon Marsh*  
*Commissioner*

**PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE**

**NAVAL WEAPONS INDUSTRIAL RESERVE PLANT**

**BETHPAGE, NEW YORK**

**FOR**

**OPERABLE UNIT 01**

**NOVEMBER 15, 1994 AT 7:30 P.M.**

**BETHPAGE HIGH SCHOOL**  
**STEWART AVENUE, BETHPAGE**

The purpose of the public meeting, sponsored by the Department of the Navy, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and the New York State Department of Health is to discuss the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) for Operable Unit 01 at the Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant (NWIRP), Bethpage.

In June 1986, the Navy conducted an Initial Assessment Study at the Bethpage facility. This study identified three areas of concern and the Navy agreed to conduct a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS). The RI work was conducted in two phases, beginning in June 1991 and ending in October 1993. Soil contamination was identified and the FS, completed in March 1994, proposed several alternatives for addressing the contaminated soils. The proposed alternatives and the preferred method of addressing on-site soils are summarized in the attached fact sheet.

All site-related reports are available for review at the Navy's information repository located at the Bethpage Public Library. Anyone interested in more information is encouraged to review the documents and to bring their comments or concerns to the public meeting.



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## INTRODUCTION

This fact sheet provides information about the Navy Installation Restoration (IR) Program. The purpose of the IR Program is to identify and clean up contamination resulting from past activities at Navy installations. The progress and proposed remedial actions for onsite soils at the Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant (NWIRP) are summarized below. Additional detail on the proposed remedy for onsite soils is presented in the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP), which can be found in the information repository at the Bethpage Public Library. Remediation of contaminated groundwater associated with the NWIRP will be addressed in a future fact sheet and PRAP.

## BACKGROUND

NWIRP Bethpage is a Government-Owned and Contractor-Operated (GOCO) facility, which is situated on 108 acres in Nassau County in the Hamlet of Bethpage, Town of Oyster Bay, Long Island, New York. The Navy's land is bounded on the east by a residential neighborhood and on the remaining sides by Northrop Grumman Corporation (the operator of the facility).

NWIRP Bethpage was established in 1943 with the primary mission of assembling military aircraft. These activities involve the use of a number of industrial chemicals, most of which included heavy metals and solvents. Environmental restoration efforts at both Northrop Grumman and NWIRP Bethpage sites are coordinated by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), with input from the county and state Department of Health and the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

## IR PROGRAM SUMMARY

The IR Program consists of four distinct stages: Preliminary Assessment, Site Inspection,

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, and Remedial Design/Remedial Action. These stages are implemented sequentially with each stage determining whether the subsequent stage is necessary.

An Initial Assessment Study (IAS) was conducted at the NWIRP Bethpage in June 1986, as part of the Preliminary Assessment (PA) phase of the IR Program. The purpose of the IAS was to identify and assess sites posing a potential threat to human health or the environment because of past operations. Three areas of concern were evaluated with respect to chemical characteristics, migration pathways, and pollutant receptors. The PA concluded that while none of the three sites posed an immediate threat to human health or the environment, further investigation was warranted. To expedite the Navy's IR Program, the Site Investigation (SI) was not conducted, and the Navy proceeded directly to the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) phase.

The RI was initiated in June 1991 and completed in October 1993. The RI was a two phase effort which identified the nature and extent of soil and groundwater contamination at the facility. The results of the RI are available in the information repository at the Bethpage Public Library and have been summarized in previous fact sheets. The Feasibility Study, which was completed in March 1994, identified options for addressing both soil and groundwater contamination.

To accelerate cleanup of the site, the Navy and NYSDEC divided the site into two parts called "Operable Units". The cleanup of onsite soils is being addressed as Operable Unit 01, which is the subject of the November 15, 1994 public meeting. Remediation of contaminated groundwater at the Northrop Grumman, Navy, and Hooker/RUCO sites will be addressed as Operable Unit 02. A proposed plan for Operable Unit 02 is expected to be issued in the Fall of 1995.

## **FEASIBILITY STUDY (FS)**

The FS was conducted to develop and evaluate the effectiveness, implementability, and costs required to contain and/or treat soil and groundwater contamination at the site. At this time, only soil alternatives are being discussed in this fact sheet; groundwater alternatives will be considered as a future action under Operable Unit 02.

The FS developed a variety of soils alternatives. The alternatives ranged in protectiveness from no action to removal, offsite treatment, and/or disposal of all contaminated soils. Ten different alternatives were developed in the FS. The no action alternative was evaluated but was not considered to be protective of human health and the environment and would not comply with environmental regulations. Of the nine remaining alternatives, six of the alternatives were considered to be protective of human health and the environment, comply with environmental regulations, and be reasonably economical to implement. The last three alternatives evaluated were not considered to be cost effective.

The alternatives developed in the FS considered the pathway for exposure and potential exposure under both the present industrial-use of the site and a potential future residential-use of the site. At this point in time, the Navy has determined that the site will remain as an industrial area. Therefore, only the alternatives developed in the FS that consider the industrial-use scenario will be considered. In the future, if residential use of the site is considered, then the implemented remedy may have to be re-evaluated for continued protectiveness.

The alternatives developed in the FS address these risks through capping (covering); excavation of PCB-contaminated soils; offsite incineration or offsite landfilling of the excavated soils in accordance with environmental regulations; excavation of metal-contaminated soils and offsite treatment/landfilling of these soils; and in-place vapor extraction of solvent-contaminated soils in combination with air sparging to treat the shallow onsite groundwater. Vapor extraction/air sparging uses air to remove contaminants from soils and groundwater in place. In the soils, the solvents evaporate into the air stream. The air is then

collected and treated. For additional details on the findings of the FS, a copy is available in the information repository at the Bethpage Public Library.

## **SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE**

The Navy and NYSDEC have proposed a preferred remedial alternative for onsite soil contamination (Operable Unit 01). Public input for the preferred remedial alternative is being requested at this time during the public comment period. The Navy and NYSDEC will select a final cleanup alternative after careful consideration of these comments. The Navy will then proceed to the Remedial Design/Remedial Action for these soils.

The selection of the preferred alternative is based on nine criteria. Two of the criteria are considered threshold criteria. A selected remedy must meet these criteria. The two threshold criteria are overall protection of human health and the environment and compliance with environmental regulations.

Five of the criteria; short-term effectiveness, long-term effectiveness and permanence, reduction of toxicity, mobility, or volume, implementability, and cost are considered balancing criteria. Relative strengths and weaknesses of alternatives are compared to each other based on these criteria.

The last two criteria; state acceptance and community acceptance are modifying criteria. These criteria are used to potentially modify a preferred alternative during the development process and during the public comment period.

## **SUMMARY OF THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE**

The preferred alternative for the cleanup of the soils at the NWIRP Bethpage is based on FS alternative S6, and includes the following actions.

1. Excavation of PCB-contaminated soils, and off site landfilling or incineration of these soils in accordance with environmental regulations.

2. Excavation of metal-contaminated soils (identified as hazardous wastes), treatment of these soils in accordance with environmental regulations, and offsite landfilling.
3. In-place vapor extraction of solvent-contaminated soils and air sparging of associated shallow contaminated groundwater.
4. Install a soil and/or gravel cover in places of residual contamination. In addition, place deed restrictions on the site and implement a long-term monitoring and cover maintenance program.
5. Protect the public water supply under the guidance of the Bethpage Water District.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

This fact sheet has been prepared to notify and solicit public comment on the preferred alternative for the onsite soils. The issuance of the proposed plan starts the public comment period for the preferred alternative. A public meeting will be held during the public comment period to solicit verbal and written comments on the proposed plan. In addition to the public meeting, the public may submit written comments on the proposed plan during the public comment period.

The official public comment period for the proposed plan is November 1, 1994 to December 16, 1994. Written comments can be submitted to the address below. A public meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held at the Bethpage High School at 7:30 pm on November 15, 1994. You are invited to attend this meeting to express your concerns and comments on the preferred alternative. In the event that the public meeting is postponed, you will be notified.

Written comments must be sent to:

Mr. Jim Colter, Navy (Code 1821)  
Northern Division  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
10 Industrial Highway, Mail Stop 82  
Lester, PA 19113-2090  
Phone: (610) 595-0567, ext 163

For additional information you may contact Mr. Colter at the address above, or:

Mr. John D. Barnes, P.E.,  
Project Manager  
NYSDEC  
50 Wolf Road, Room 222  
Albany, NY 12233-7010  
Phone: (518) 457-3395, (800) 342-9296

Mr. Joshua Epstein, PhD  
Citizen Participation Specialist  
NYSDEC - Region 1 Office  
Building 40 - SUNY  
Stony Brook, NY 11790  
Phone: (516) 444-0249

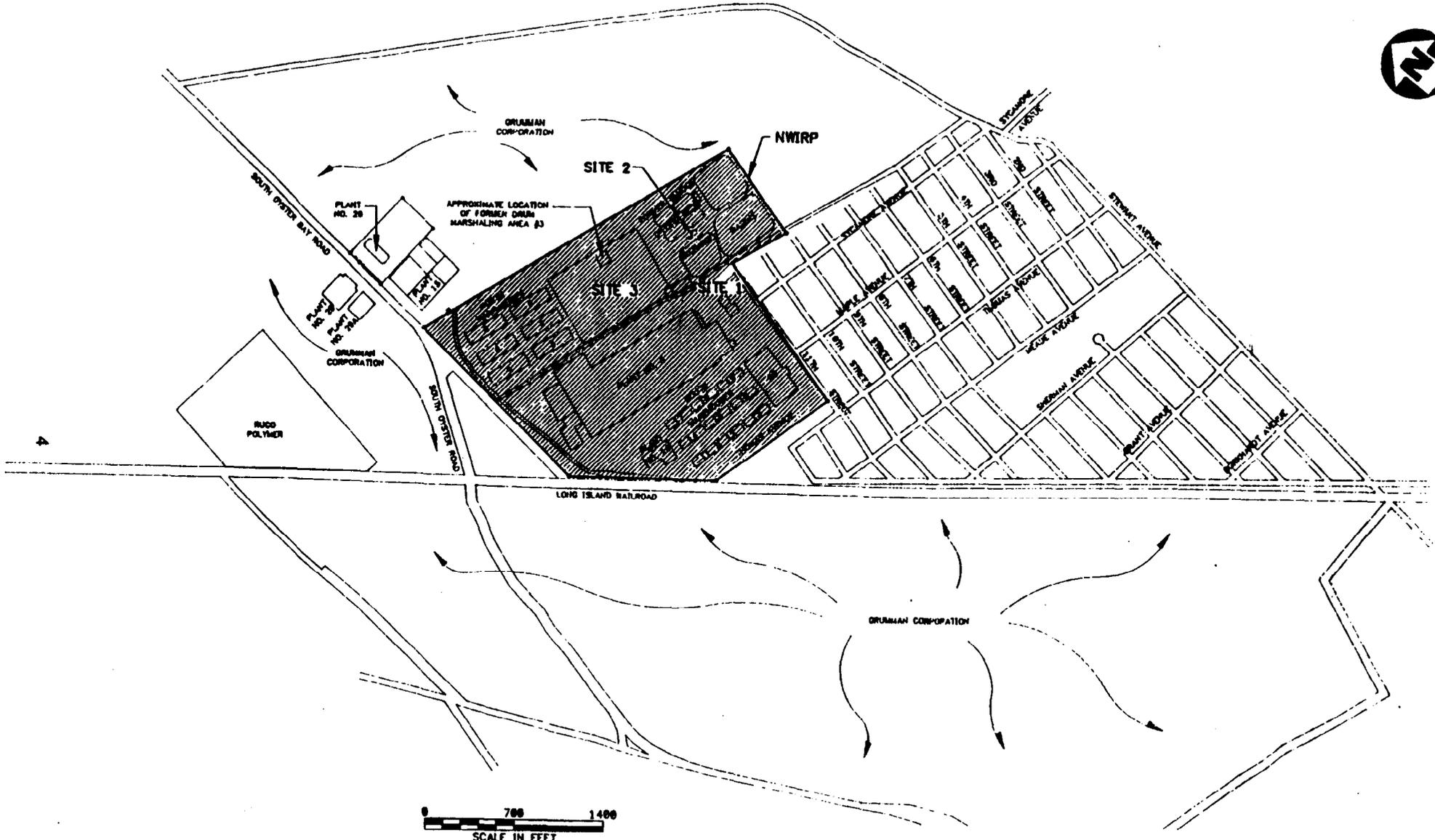
For health related concerns, contact:

Mr. Timothy Vickerson  
New York State Department of Health  
2 University Place  
Albany, NY 12203  
Phone: (518) 458-6305

Ms. Nina Knapp  
Health Liaison Program - HYSDOH  
2 University Place  
Albany, NY 12203  
Phone: (800) 458-1158, ext. 402

All documents generated from the investigation are located in the information repository, located at the Bethpage Public Library, 47 Powell Avenue. Hours of operation are:

Monday-Friday	9:30am - 9:00pm
Saturday	9:30am - 5:00pm
Sunday	Closed



**SITE LAYOUT MAP**  
**PHASE 2 - REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDY**  
**NWIRP, BETHPAGE, NEW YORK**