

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NORTHERN DIVISION
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19112-5094

IN REPLY REFER TO

6280
Ser 3080/1422

JUL 14 1988

From: Commanding Officer, Northern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering
Command

To: Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station, Brunswick (PAO)

Subj: COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Ref: (a) Conversation during community relations meeting prior to TRC
meeting of 8 July 1988, Brunswick

Encl: (1) Interviews for Community Relations Plan, Naval Air Station,
Brunswick
(2) NORTHNAVFACENGCOM comments on Draft Community Relations Plan
(3) TRC Community Member at Large comments on draft Community
Relations Plan

1. As requested of Ms. Patricia Ferrebee during reference (a), enclosures
(1) through (3) are submitted.



T.F. ROONEY
By direction



INTERVIEWS
COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN
NAVAL AIR STATION, BRUNSWICK

During the course of the preparation of the Community Relations Plan (CRP) for Naval Air Station Brunswick, I spoke with the following officials and citizens:

1. Cdr. Geoffery D. Cullison - NASB, Public Works Officer
2. Lt. Dan O'Toole - NASB, Judge Advocate
3. Lcdr. Bill McLaughlin - CPWL, Public Affairs Officer
4. Mr. John Gerard - Executive Director,
Brunswick Chamber of Commerce
5. Mr. Norman Cyr - General Superintendent, Brunswick
Topsham Water District
6. Mr. John Bibber - Town Manager, Brunswick

The officials interviewed (1-3, above) gave me information concerning site background, the history of NASB - Community Relations, and their interaction with citizens concerning the current hazardous waste situation. They also made their file of press clippings available. All three reported that there have not been any citizen inquiries regarding the discovery of hazardous waste, NPL listing, or proposed remediation; all such inquiries have been made by members of the press.

Interviews with community citizen representatives are summarized below:

Mr. John Gerard - Executive Director, Brunswick Area Chamber of Commerce, which serves Brunswick, Topsham, Bowdoinham, and Harpswell. Mr. Gerard is also a member of the Military Community Council, and appoints the council's civilian membership. Mr. Gerard spoke with me about (1) Brunswick's self-sufficient nature, with its own jobs, trade services, and cultural base, (2) the area's four-component economic base, of which NASB is a component, and (3) the reasons behind the excellent Community-Military relations. Mr. Gerard depicted the Brunswick community as environmentally sensitive and suggested that the low level of community involvement is not an indicator of a lack of interest, but rather a reflection of their attitude that they expect and trust that problems will be rectified. The only problematic issue he identified was the delay in initiating the site clean-up program. Issues of concern to the community include growth management, traffic, overcrowding of schools, and (regionally) solid waste disposal.





Naval Air Station, Brunswick

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May 11, 1988

Mr. John Bibber - Town Manager, Brunswick; member of the Technical Review Committee; and member of the Military-Community Council Subcommittees on Hazardous Waste and Public Relations. Mr. Bibber related that citizens do have knowledge of the hazardous waste situation at NASB, through thorough coverage by the Brunswick Times Record. The citizens are also aware that the local water district is monitoring the situation, as far as the Jordan Ave. wellfields are concerned. He says that there is interest in the situation, but not what he would describe as concern. Issues Mr. Bibber feels are of concern to the public include development pressures, traffic circulation, and solid waste disposal.

Mr. Norman Cyr - General Superintendent, Brunswick-Topsham Water District; Member of Technical Review Committee; member of Military Community Council Hazardous Waste Subcommittee. Mr. Cyr feels that NASB has been a diligent leader in site remediation, and extremely cooperative.





31 May 1988

From: Code 1422/PF
To: Code 1421/RS
Via: Code 1422 TPR

Comments on Community Relations Plan, NAS Brunswick

Page 4,

2.5 History of Hazardous Waste Investigations, paragraph 5

It should be mentioned that the Navy is now using the same terminology as EPA.

Page 6,

2.6 Assignment of Naval Air Station Brunswick to National Priority List (NPL), paragraph 2

EPA is listed as lead agency. Paragraph should be rewritten so that Navy is the lead agency and will meet standards of EPA, etc..

Page 6,

3.0 Community Background

3.1 Community Profile of Brunswick Area, paragraph 1

A community cannot have strong ties to water quality, but can have strong ties to activities which require certain standards of water quality.

Page 8,

4.0 Community Relations Plan Development

4.1 Resources and Key Individuals, paragraph 1

First sentence is poorly written, ways of communicating are in place, not the public.

4.1.1 Technical Review Committee, paragraph 1

Community representative should also be listed here.

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Figure 3, Community Relations Activities and Schedule

The word additional should be changed to OPTIONAL, and the Military Community Council should be added to the line with the Technical Review Committee.





Appendix A
Technical Review Committee Membership

3. Code 1422 should be changed to Code 1421

PAO should be added as 3rd member for Brunswick.

Community Representative should be listed.
Appendix A

Should include a list of newspapers where information on the Installation Restoration Program at Brunswick will be regularly published.

Appendix D

Should be changed to two Appendices--Appendix D, Description of Selected Community Relations Activities and Appendix E, Description of Optional Community Relations Activities.

Appendix D should include:

- Communication of Milestone Events
- Goals
- Guidelines
- Public Hearings
- News Conferences
- Written Material
 - Information Repositories
 - News Releases
 - Fact Sheets

Media

Maintaining Regular Media Contact

Appendix E should include:

Outreach Activity Options

(The sections on Communication Training Program, Home/Neighborhood Visits, and Questionnaires should be left out.)





Subject: U.S. Department of the Navy
Naval Air Station, Brunswick
Brunswick, Maine
Community Relations Plan
Remedial Investigation Feasibility Study

Date: May 17, 1988

From: Susan Corderman Weddle
Technical Review Committee Community Member at Large

The plan states "There has been no noticeable or verifiable public action or reaction to the presence of hazardous waste at NASB." (p.7) This is primarily due to the lack of information provided to date. It is anticipated that once the RI/FS study has commenced and sampling data becomes available, there will be a great deal of public interest and reaction. Citizens will want to take an active part in monitoring activities at NASB, not just leave the task to "these groups (that) will collectively be able to rectify the situation." Furthermore, the April 12, 1988 Times Record had an article entitled "Groups protest toxic waste dumps", with a picture showing protestors outside NASB. The article states that "members of seven community organizations took part in Monday's demonstration."

The plan mentions "the absence of off-site migration of contaminants". (p.3) This has not been verified and is based on conjecture, not quantifiable sampling results. To date, the only off-site data available are for the Jordan Avenue wellfield. It should be modified to read "the apparent absence".

Where will the Technical Review Committee press releases (p.8) be posted and/or distributed? Will some information provided to the TRC not be available to the general public?

Figure 3 shows two subtasks under the Draft CRP task - (1) telephone interviews of officials/citizens and (2) designate point of contact for citizen concerns. There is no documentation to determine if these subtasks been performed. The figure structure indicates that they should be completed prior to approval of the Community Relations Plan.

Appendix C, Information Repository, does not state what will be in the repository or if it has been established. Its existence should be publically advertised in the local papers and posted at the library.

Appendix D, Description of Selected Community Relations Activities, states that "NASB should continue its ongoing program of sending representatives and speakers to meet with public workshops..." To my knowledge, NASB has never addressed the ranking or any other aspect of prior waste disposal at public meetings, although a general informational meeting prior to





start of the RI field program would start community relations off on a positive note. The most important aspect of the community relations program is to generate regular news releases and progress reports so that the community does not feel it is being kept in the dark.

