



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL AIR STATION
BRUNSWICK, MAINE 04011-5000

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IN REPLY REFER TO

7 October 1992

Dear Neighbor:

As the new air station commanding officer, I am proud to be associated with the Installation Restoration program that has accomplished so much in moving our former landfills towards clean-up. At every step, past commanding officers were committed to moving the program along without delay.

Now we are entering the clean-up phase of the program when all our years of investigation will pay off. By focusing on each individual site on the base instead of on the base as a whole, we were able to accelerate the process. This individual site focus allows our Navy engineers to attack smaller parcels that are much more manageable, and we hope it allows the EPA and the DEP to review smaller documents more quickly. As documents review is completed, we are able to get out ahead and keep the process moving.

Much of this rapid progress is made possible by our efforts to communicate frequently with everyone involved with or affected by the program. By communicating effectively, we can expect early comment on our direction and proposals not just from the regulators but also from area residents. I appreciate the time you have taken to keep yourself informed.

Enclosed is a fact sheet with details of our proposal for Site 8, the Perimeter Road Construction Debris Site, and an update on the last Technical Review Committee meeting. I want to be sure you know that there will be a public meeting for the Site 8 proposals at 7:00 PM on Thursday evening, October 15th, at the Jordan Acres School.

Should you have any questions, please call me or our Environmental Community Relations office at 921-2340.

Sincerely,

R. L. RACHOR, JR.
Captain, U. S. Navy
Commanding Officer

Naval Air Station Brunswick, Maine 04011

Environmental Update

For more information, call
Lt. Cmdr. Mike L'Abbé
(207) 921-2340

Site 8
Construction Debris
Disposal Site

Public Meeting
Jordan Acres School
Thursday, October 15,
7 p.m.

Public Comment Period
through October 31st

See page 2

Committee reviews air station waste clean-up initiatives

Focusing on efforts to move from investigating to cleaning up former waste sites at the Brunswick Naval Air Station, the Technical Review Committee met Thursday, October 1, to review a long list of Navy environmental initiatives. The Committee, called the TRC, is comprised of EPA, Maine DEP, Navy and local officials and community members who meet regularly to discuss the program which addresses past waste disposal areas and hazardous waste spill sites at the air station.

This TRC meeting was the first chaired by the new base commanding officer, Captain Robert Rachor. Also attending for the first time was the new public works officer, Commander Todd Brubaker.

"I am proud to be associated with a program that has accomplished so much!" Rachor told the committee. "I am equally committed to the [Installation Restoration Program] and the expedient clean-up of our sites," he said.

Highlights of the agenda included:

- **Community involvement sought for Site 8.** The Navy is presently proposing its preferred alternative to address Site 8, the Perimeter Road Disposal Area. The site is located at the north end of the air station, about 2000 feet southeast from the Jordan Avenue Well Field. Inactive since 1974, there is still some visible evidence of construction debris among the shrubbery and woods now covering the area. Groundwater from the site does not flow in the direction of the well field.

(MORE)

The Navy's plan for closing this site in accordance with State of Maine guidelines is now available in the Curtis Memorial Library in the reference section. The Navy is taking comments on the plan during the public comment period running through the month of October. A public meeting will be held on October 15 at the Jordan Acres School at 7 p.m. Navy, Maine DEP and EPA officials will be available to answer questions after a short presentation on the plan. A fact sheet describing the site and clean-up plan is available at the meeting or by calling 921-2340.

The proposed alternative for the site is a soil cover that meets all State requirements. The Navy will continue to monitor the site and will fence and post the area. Cost for this action is estimated to be over \$450,000.

•The next sites for transition from investigation to remedial action will be Sites 5 and 6, two asbestos disposal areas. Proposed plans for the clean-up of these sites are expected in February of 1993.

•The committee also discussed plans to remove an old pestiferous shop and the contaminated soil around it. The contamination around the wooden frame building is predominantly DDT, a pesticide used widely until 1973. Although the DDT contamination is not migrating, the Navy proposal will focus on expeditiously removing the building and the contaminated soil to remove any potential hazards. Although not required by statute, the Navy intends to hold a public comment period on this action. Working with an accelerated schedule, the plan should be ready by November of 1992.

•A presentation by ABB Environmental Services, the Navy contractor on this program, discussed the groundwater modeling that will be used to determine where extraction wells should be placed to treat the contaminated groundwater body called the Eastern Plume. A Record of Decision on actions to extract groundwater and to treat it to remove contaminants was signed by the Navy and concurred with by the EPA and DEP on June 16th. This coincided with the signing of the Record of Decision for the clean-up of Sites 1 and 3. Engineering designs are underway for these clean-up actions. The committee reviewed the methods by which the Navy will ensure that the treatment will be effective when the treatment system is in operation.

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