

ORIGINAL

PUBLIC MEETING FOR PROPOSED PLAN

SITE 5, ORION STREET ASBESTOS DISPOSAL SITE

SITE 6, SANDY ROAD RUBBLE AND ASBESTOS DISPOSAL SITE

NAVAL AIR STATION, BRUNSWICK

April 8, 1993

7:00 p.m.

Head Table:

JIM CARUTHERS, NASB, Environmental Project Manager

COMMANDER TOM BRUBAKER, NASB, Public Works Officer

CAPTAIN BOB RACHOR, NASB, Commanding Officer

BETH WALTER, ABB Environmental Services, Environmental Engineer

JIM SHAFER, Navy Facilities Engineering Command, Northern Division, Philadelphia, PA, Project Manager

MEGHAN CASSIDY, US EPA, Project Manager

MARK HYLAND, Commissioner's Office, Maine Department of Environmental Protection

Daphne G. Estes, RPR/CP
Court Reporter

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PROCEEDINGS

1
2 MR. RACHOR: Good evening. My name is Captain
3 Bob Rachor. I'm the commanding officer of the Naval
4 Air Station at Brunswick, and I'd like to start off the
5 meeting first with just some very brief comments about
6 the spill, and then we'll set the tone for the rest of
7 the meeting.

8 I would like to repeat and reiterate the apology
9 from myself and from the Naval Air Station and from the
10 Department of the Navy. We sincerely regret the
11 incident. We sincerely regret the fuel spill and
12 pledge our best efforts to never let something like
13 that happen again out there; and we'll pledge our best
14 efforts also to clean it up.

15 That said, we'll have a long discussion on that
16 afterwards secondarily. After 8:00 we'll give you a
17 presentation on that. We'll spend some time answering
18 your questions and giving you as clear an answer as we
19 possibly can this evening on any questions that you
20 might have.

21 Before we get to the fuel spill and discuss that,
22 we do have a requirement to have a public hearing on
23 site 5 and site 6 and the remediation of those sites
24 under the National Priorities List Program out at the
25 Naval Air Station. I don't mean -- this does not mean

1 that the fuel spill is not important to us. The legal
2 requirement here is to have a hearing for site 5 and
3 site 6, but we knew there would be a number of you out
4 there who would want to come and have questions for us
5 and we wanted to be available to do that afterwards.

6 Jim Shafer from the Northern Division of the Navy
7 Facilities Engineering Command will give an introduction
8 this evening, followed by Beth Walter of -- the
9 environmental contractor, ABB, out of Portland who is
10 doing the work for us on the NPL site. Following her
11 presentation, there will be a question and answer
12 session.

13 Also at the table here is Meghan Cassidy of the
14 EPA and Mark Hyland of the DEP who are here to answer
15 your questions in that regard as well.

16 Once we've finished with the site 5 and 6
17 discussions, we'll then take a few minutes to give you
18 a presentation on the fuel spill; and I'll take you
19 through that and take you through the investigation and
20 take you through the cleanup and answer your questions
21 and answers.

22 We will have a legal stenographer operating with
23 us tonight because the site 5 and 6 hearing does
24 require a legal requirement because it is a full public
25 hearing. The second hearing is more informal. We're

1 really here just to answer your questions in that
2 regard and tell you how things went with the fuel
3 spill.

4 Without delay, I'll turn this over to Jim Shafer.

5 MR. SHAFER: Thank you, Captain.

6 Can everybody hear me okay?

7 AUDIENCE: Yes.

8 MR. SHAFER: Yes?

9 MR. MacLEOD: I'm Jim MacLeod, Brunswick Marine
10 Resources. During the question on site 5 and site 6,
11 will you also field questions on the pool?

12 MR. RACHOR: No. The public hearing has to be
13 discussed, 5 and 6. We'll take questions on 5 and 6,
14 and only 5 and 6; and then there will be a time
15 thereafter.

16 MR. SHAFER: Yes. Before we get started, I'd
17 like to know if everybody has a copy of the agenda and
18 the handouts for today's meeting. If you don't, Mike
19 L'Abbe at the back of the room will be happy to give
20 you one.

21 The agenda for today, I will start out and give
22 you a brief overview of the Navy's Installation and
23 Restoration Program which is a term for the Navy's
24 cleanup program for past hazardous waste sites at the
25 Naval Air Station at Brunswick. That will be followed

1 by presentation by Beth Walter from ABB Environmental.
2 That's the Navy's consultant. Our total presentation
3 tonight will last approximately one half of an hour.
4 Our presentation is going to focus on sites 5 and 6.

5 I just want to say that this meeting was scheduled
6 several months ago. It was announced in the newspaper
7 several weeks ago. As the Captain stated, the reason
8 we scheduled a second presentation after this one is we
9 knew there were people that would show up at this
10 meeting that would want to talk about the fuel spill.

11 As the Captain mentioned, we have a stenographer
12 that's here, and the stenographer will record
13 everything that's said at this presentation; and she
14 will record, also, all the questions and comments you
15 may have to offer on sites 5 and 6.

16 This is a requirement that we have to comply
17 with. Part of the Navy's process in selecting a remedy
18 for a site involves public involvement. We want to
19 hear your comments and concerns. And anybody that's
20 been part of our program and attended past meetings is
21 well aware that we do consider your comments, and your
22 comments have affected the final remedy that the Navy
23 has selected for our sites.

24 Well, this is kind of passe now. Let me put up
25 this one here.

1 I want to review our cleanup program at the Naval
2 Air Station. We have 13 past hazardous waste sites at
3 the Naval Air Station at Brunswick, Maine. This is the
4 third public hearing we've held to discuss proposed
5 cleanup remedies for our sites.

6 As you can see from the top line of this flow
7 chart, there are five distinct phases to our program.
8 The first two phases, the Remedial Investigation
9 Feasibility Studies, have been completed for all 13
10 past hazardous waste sites at the Naval Air Station.

11 During the remedial investigation phase, that was
12 the early part of our program, was our investigative
13 stage of our program where we collected scientific
14 data, we took groundwater samples, we collected soil
15 samples, and we identified any type of contamination
16 that may exist on the site. We identify the type of
17 contamination and the distribution of the
18 contamination. We call this characterizing the site.
19 With that information, we developed Risk Assessments.
20 We looked at potential risks to human health, the
21 potential risk to the environment.

22 Based on that information, we go into our next
23 phase of the program, which is the Feasibility Study
24 phase. The Risk Assessment helps us develop
25 engineering solutions or cleanup solutions for our

1 site. As I stated, we're completed now with the
2 Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Studies for all
3 13 sites at the Naval Air Station.

4 Today we're in the Record of Decision process.
5 This is the decision-making process on how we're going
6 to clean these sites up. There are four distinct
7 phases in this Record of Decision process. This is a
8 critical point for us in the program because this is
9 the part where we get to hear your comments on our
10 proposed remedy to clean up the sites.

11 The first thing the Navy does is we prepare a
12 proposed plan. This plan is put into our public
13 information repository, and it's also put into the
14 administrative record. It's a document that's written
15 with such language that we hope everyone can understand
16 it. It's summarizes the volumes of studies that were
17 prepared when the Remedial Investigation Feasibility
18 Study -- and I can tell you that we have an
19 approximately 60 documents, several inches thick, that
20 have been prepared up until this point in time; but for
21 sites 5 and 6 all the information is summarized in this
22 proposed plan.

23 This is a critical turning point in the program
24 because we move from the investigative study phase of
25 the program to the cleanup phase of our program. It's

1 very important to us because we want to hear your
2 comments.

3 This proposed plan already has some public
4 involvement. At the Air Station we hold what's called
5 Technical Review Committee meetings. We hold them --
6 we held them every three months on a quarterly basis.
7 There are members from the Naval Air Station at that
8 meeting. There's member from the United States
9 Environmental Protection Agency Region I, from the
10 Maine Department of Environmental Protection, we have
11 various citizens that participate in that meeting and
12 citizen groups as well, The Brunswick Area Citizens for
13 Safe a Environment. So there is some public
14 involvement already in this document.

15 Today we're at a public hearing. Before this
16 hearing tonight we published notification in the
17 newspapers several week ago, on -- several times we
18 announce this. We hope the information is getting out
19 to you. If it's not, we want to know about it. We
20 want to do everything we can to get you involved in our
21 program.

22 We also prepared this fact sheet. This fact sheet
23 is an executive summary of the proposed plan. It's
24 about four pages long. We realize that not everyone
25 has time to go to the library and take this out and

1 review it. We mail this fact sheet out to people that
2 are on our mailing list. Right now we have
3 approximately 300 people on our mailing list. If you
4 would like to get future information from the Navy on
5 any environmental matters, not only the IR Program,
6 please contact myself or Mike L'Abbe. Give us your
7 name and address, and we'll be more than happy to send
8 you future information on our program.

9 The public comment period for sites 5 and 6 runs
10 from March the 29th to April the 27th. Any comments
11 you have, there's an address that's on the back of this
12 fact sheet. If you don't have the fact sheet, it is
13 also in the handouts you have. Please send your
14 comments to me by April the 27th.

15 After the public comment period is done and the
16 Navy has had a chance to review all of the comments
17 that were submitted to us, we evaluate those comments
18 and we prepare responses to those comments in
19 consultation with the United States Environmental
20 Protection Agency and the Maine Department of
21 Environmental Protection.

22 All the comments that we received will have a
23 written response to it. That will appear in the
24 decision-making document. That is the document
25 that -- the documents -- the final remedy that's

1 selected to clean up the sites. That's called the
2 Record of Decision.

3 Part of the Record of Decision, as I stated, is
4 the response of the summary which will list every
5 comment and the Navy's response to it. The Record of
6 Decision will also explain the Navy's rationale, why it
7 selected the final remedy that it did.

8 After the Record of Decision is submitted to the
9 Environmental Protection Agency and is signed by the
10 Environmental Protection Agency and also reviewed by
11 the State of Maine, it's put into the administrative
12 record. At that point the Navy then goes on to the
13 final stage of the program, which includes remedial
14 design, and eventually cleaning up the site.

15 That's all I have to say. Thank you. I'll turn
16 it over at this time to Beth Walter from ABB
17 Environmental.

18 MS. WALTER: Okay. Thank you.

19 What I'm going to do today is review the remedial
20 investigation results and the Risk Assessment and the
21 Feasibility Study that was conducted at sites 5 and 6.
22 I just want to mention in the back of the handouts is a
23 glossary of technical terms. So if I happen to mention
24 something that you're not familiar with or you're not
25 quite sure of the definition, you can check the

1 glossary.

2 The other thing, there's a couple of extra over-
3 heads in your packet. We just tried to provide a
4 little bit more information than I'm going to go over
5 here. Some of it is just definition of terms and
6 additional site maps. So that's why you may come
7 across some things that you don't see up here.

8 To put the sites into perspective, the sites we're
9 talking about today are sites 5 and 6. They're two
10 asbestos disposal sites. Site 6 is located somewhat in
11 the central portion of the base, and site 5 in the
12 southern portion. I've also highlighted sites 1 and 3
13 because as we get into the presentation you'll realize
14 that the Navy's preferred alternative for sites 5 and 6
15 involved sites 1 and 3.

16 Site 5 is a small site, approximately a quarter of
17 an acre, and it was reportedly used for a very discrete
18 period of time for the disposal of asbestos-lined pipes
19 from the demolition of one of the buildings at the air
20 station. It came to the attention of the Navy through
21 actual written documentation that these pipes actually
22 were buried in a specific location. The site is
23 currently covered with soil, is seeded, and is actually
24 marked as an asbestos disposal area.

25 Site 6 is a little bit larger, approximately 1

1 acre, located in the central portion of the base, and
2 it was reportedly used for the disposal of construction
3 debris and rubble. Old aerial photographs show the
4 site 6 area to originally have been a slight
5 depression, and our belief is that over the years
6 construction debris was buried. And during a site
7 walk-over in the early '80's, there was some visual
8 observations of pipes protruding from the ground, and
9 it appeared that these pipes contained asbestos. And
10 it was based on that observation that the Naval Air
11 Station took a closer look at it.

12 There was also some information that aircraft
13 parts may have been disposed of at this site. The site
14 is level, for the most part, and open. There currently
15 exists a soil stockpile on the eastern part of the site
16 approximately 15 feet tall, and the site is bordered to
17 the north by a stream.

18 The remedial investigations at 5 and 6 took place
19 in 1990, and the first thing that we did out there was
20 a magnetometer and a ground-penetrating radar survey.
21 Basically what that is are screening techniques used to
22 get -- to try and get a better understanding of what
23 might be below the surface. And a magnetometer is
24 basically an expensive metal detector, and it's capable
25 of identifying iron objects beneath the ground

1 surface. And the ground penetrating radar, or GPR, as
2 it is sometimes referred to, is a device that emits
3 radar down into the soils; and what it is capable of
4 doing is determining where you have undisturbed or
5 native soils versus areas where you may have had fill.
6 And the reason we were using it out at sites 5 and 6
7 was to try and identify areas where things may have
8 been buried.

9 We also did some detailed site inspections,
10 especially at site 6 where there were reports of the
11 pipes protruding from the ground. We collected four
12 surface samples for asbestos analysis at site 5, and we
13 collected six surface samples for asbestos analysis at
14 site 6.

15 We installed four test borings and monitoring
16 wells at site 6 because that was the site where there
17 was some -- there was a report that aircraft parts may
18 have been disposed of, and we were interested in
19 characterizing the groundwater. And we collected
20 samples for organic and inorganic analysis, the
21 standard -- the standard range of compounds that we
22 analyze at all our Super Fund sites. And we also did
23 an aquifer-permeability test up at site 6. We wanted
24 to characterize the groundwater and the direction in
25 which it was flowing.

1 Since 1990, the Navy went back out in February of
2 this year, after we got a little further along in the
3 process, and we had an idea as to what we wanted to do
4 at sites 5 and 6. We recognized that there were some
5 data gaps. As you notice from the previous slide, we
6 hadn't done any subsurface soil investigation.

7 At site 5 we felt very comfortable that that
8 wasn't needed. We had a good idea as to where the
9 pipes were buried, and that was pretty well
10 documented.

11 What we weren't quite sure about is what really
12 was out at site 6, so we wanted to go out and collect
13 additional information to support the design efforts of
14 the removal action and to better identify the extent of
15 fill material out at site 6.

16 We went out and did site surveys at both of the
17 sites, and we also excavated five test pits and two
18 trenches at site 6. We took a backhoe out there and
19 dug along the site and were able to see visually what
20 was beneath the soils, and also we were able to collect
21 soil samples. And we sent those samples off for
22 analysis, and the asbestos analysis results for some of
23 those sample are back. The organic and inorganic
24 results are still in the laboratory. Those samples are
25 still being analyzed. They were just collected a

1 couple of weeks ago.

2 This is a picture of site 5, the location of the
3 four soil samples that were collected in 1990, and the
4 aerial extent of contamination or where we believe the
5 asbestos pipes are buried. The results of the 1990
6 investigation at site 5 showed that there were two
7 magnetic anomalies. The metal detector picked up
8 signals. The metal detector is also influenced by what
9 might be present on the surface, and in this case one
10 of the anomalies was related to a little old heap of
11 tin cans; and the second one was a significant feature,
12 and that is believed to represent where the buried
13 pipes are.

14 The pipes that were generally covered with
15 asbestos were iron pipes that would be detected by a
16 magnetometer. No asbestos was detected in the four
17 surface soil samples that were collected, and the
18 ground inspection did not identify the presence of any
19 asbestos material.

20 The groundwater out at site 5 is reportedly 25 to
21 35 -- 30 feet below ground surface. That's important
22 because these trenches were only dug to a depth of
23 about 10 feet. So the asbestos material sits well
24 above the groundwater.

25 Asbestos is a fiber -- quite long fiber that does

1 not migrate. So it's not of a concern of percolating
2 water coming through and carrying asbestos down into
3 the groundwater and transporting it off-site. Asbestos
4 is very stable in the environment, and that -- those
5 were the results for site 5.

6 Site 6 -- this figure identifies -- the small x's
7 are where we took the surface soil samples in 1990, and
8 you can see where we went out and took -- dug the
9 trenches and the test pits. And the results of these
10 studies, again, showed two magnetic anomalies. One was
11 related -- there were some metal dumpsters that were on
12 the western part of the site, and they were picked up
13 as one anomaly; and the second anomaly was identified
14 as a semicircular area. You can see that in this
15 figure. It was believed to be the result of rebar --
16 reinforcing bar -- that's put into concrete.

17 A lot of concrete material was disposed of out at
18 site 6, and this anomaly came up, and our
19 interpretation of the information was that it was most
20 likely the result of the reinforcing bar in the
21 concrete.

22 The information that we got when we went out in
23 February identified that the fill material at site 6
24 extended beyond that initial semicircle area, and it
25 extended right out to the tree line. So the area that

1 had been cleared had been filled, and the fill ranged
2 from 2 feet to 16 feet deep. There was no asbestos
3 material in the six surface soils samples that were
4 collected, and the ground -- the surface inspection did
5 not identify the presence of asbestos material. And,
6 again, it was mostly asphalt and concrete that we saw
7 out there.

8 The test pits, when we dug into site 6, again
9 revealed nothing like aircraft parts or paint cans or
10 anything. It was, again, mostly asphalt and rubble.

11 The groundwater at this site is 15 to 20 feet
12 below the ground. As you recall, we installed four
13 monitoring wells and collected samples from those
14 wells, and there were no organic compounds detected.
15 So there is no reason to believe that anything like a
16 solvent or paint was disposed of at site 6 that got
17 into the ground. The groundwater was clean with
18 respect to organics. Inorganic compounds like iron and
19 manganese are naturally occurring. You expect to see
20 them in groundwater samples. The concentrations we saw
21 are within what we consider to be background or
22 naturally occurring levels.

23 As I mentioned, the test pit and trench soil
24 samples that we collected are currently being analyzed,
25 and those soil sample or subsurface soil samples are

1 being analyzed for organic compounds as well as
2 inorganic compounds and asbestos.

3 So based on that information, the next step of the
4 RI process is to conduct a Risk Assessment, and the
5 purpose of the Risk Assessment is to determine the
6 baseline risks to human health and the environment, and
7 it's to identify the need and extent of cleanup. And
8 we also look at both the short and long-term impacts of
9 any of the remedial actions that we may propose.

10 So the Risk Assessment is something that's carried
11 forward throughout the rest of the process. It's to
12 identify if there's a risk and a need for remediation,
13 it's to help determine what level you have to remediate
14 to, and then it's used as a criterion for evaluating
15 how effective your alternatives are.

16 The basic concept of risk is really -- it's a
17 function of two things: Exposure and hazard. You have
18 to have both in order for there to be a risk to either
19 human or environmental receptors. And so the Risk
20 Assessment really focuses in on trying to characterize
21 how people or animals or organisms may be exposed to
22 the contaminants; and, also equally important,
23 evaluating the hazard of those contaminants.

24 In the Human Health Risk Assessment we were
25 concerned about inhalation of asbestos. Asbestos is

1 pretty benign if it stays in the ground. Where you
2 really have a risk is when it gets airborne and it's
3 inhaled. So we were very concerned about inhalation of
4 asbestos, and we were also interested in direct contact
5 with the soils. And right now, as you -- the results
6 of the 1990 sampling event indicated that there was no
7 asbestos material in the surface soils. So there was
8 no current exposure to asbestos, either at site 5 or
9 site 6.

10 So what we were evaluating or focusing in on was
11 what would be the potential future risks if the land
12 use at either sites 5 or 6 were to change. What the
13 results of the Risk Assessment showed, as I mentioned,
14 is because there was no asbestos out there, there was
15 no current risk, and we couldn't do -- there was no
16 need to do a Quantitative Risk Evaluation; however,
17 future land use at these two sites may change. Someone
18 may come in and excavate the area unknowingly and
19 expose themselves or other people to asbestos, and so
20 the Navy was very concerned about the potential risks
21 under that scenario.

22 We also conducted an Ecological Risk Assessment.
23 The Ecological Risk Assessment follows the same basic
24 methodology as the Human Health Risk Assessment. It
25 focuses in on exposure to a contaminant, the toxicity

1 of that contaminant, and then uses those two factors to
2 determine the risk.

3 The Ecological Risk Assessment, again, because
4 there was no asbestos in the surface soil, there was no
5 current exposure, and exposure to subsurface asbestos
6 for ecological receptors was less of a concern than for
7 humans. Animals do not burrow greater than 2 feet, and
8 it wasn't really expected that you would get organisms
9 or animals exposed to the asbestos that was buried down
10 beneath the soils.

11 So sites 5 and 6, it was a very much simplified
12 Risk Assessment than some of the other sites that we've
13 done at the base. And the results here were that there
14 was only a potential risk if the land use at 5 and 6
15 were to change; and for ecological there was no current
16 or likely future risk.

17 With this information, we turned it over to the
18 engineers who were tasked with coming up with
19 appropriate remedial actions to take at sites 5 and 6
20 to address those two -- the criteria of protecting
21 human health against future exposure.

22 The Feasibility Study process is very well defined
23 under the Super Fund law. It's the same process that
24 we go through at every Super Fund site. It basically
25 consists of the six steps that I've identified.

1 The first part is to identify remedial response
2 objectives; what are you actually trying to accomplish
3 during the Feasibility Study process. It's also
4 equally important to identify all Federal and State
5 regulations that pertain to any actions that are
6 taken. What they don't want to happen is to create
7 another environmental problem by solving the problem
8 that you have on hand. You identify remedial
9 technologies that are capable of addressing the issue
10 or problem that you have, you develop your remedial
11 alternatives, and then you go through a very prescribed
12 screening process to try and identify the preferred
13 alternative.

14 The objective of the Feasibility Study at sites 5
15 and 6 was to limit future potential exposure to
16 asbestos, and also, and equally as important, to
17 properly close out the two sites, site 5 and site 6, in
18 accordance with the Maine Department of Environmental
19 Protection requirements for asbestos landfills. So
20 just because in the Risk Assessment we found that there
21 was no current risk, that no one was being exposed, and
22 no one is at risk to asbestos, it wasn't possible to
23 just walk away and do nothing.

24 So with those objectives in mind, we developed a
25 summary -- a list or a range of remedial alternatives.

1 Your handout contains the same overhead in more
2 detail. It goes through each of these six
3 alternatives, identifying what the key components are.

4 As part of the Feasibility Study process, you're
5 required to develop a range of alternatives that go
6 from no action or basically doing very little out at
7 the site, all way down to something that's very
8 aggressive and really attacks or provides for a
9 permanent solution to the problem that you have out
10 there.

11 And what we looked at was a minimal action, which
12 really would address the future risk. It would just be
13 posting the -- both sites as potential asbestos
14 contaminated areas and placing deed or land-use
15 restrictions at both sites 5 and 6 that would prevent
16 those two areas from ever being developed.

17 We also looked at putting a low-permeability cover
18 system over each of the sites. That would meet the
19 Maine requirements for closing out asbestos disposal
20 areas; however, you would still be required to place
21 land restrictions at both sites 5 and 6 so that no one
22 could come at a later date and build a house on top of
23 your soil cover.

24 We also looked at excavating the material at both
25 sites and bringing it off-site for disposal at a

1 hazardous waste landfill.

2 We also looked at consolidating the two sites,
3 removing the material from site 5, bringing it over to
4 site 6, and then placing a cover system only at site
5 6.

6 And then the final one we looked at, and this is
7 the preferred alternative that the Navy has selected,
8 is excavating the material, both at site 5 and at site
9 6, and bringing that material over to sites 1 and 3,
10 which is the large landfill that's currently under
11 remediation, and using the material at sites 5 and 6 as
12 subgrade material. I'll get into that in a little bit
13 more detail. So we're consolidating the material at
14 sites 1 and 3, but, most importantly, we're excavating
15 it from both sites 5 and 6 and bringing it over to 1
16 and 3.

17 Once we identify all the alternatives, we're
18 required to go through a process whereby we screen each
19 of these six alternatives against nine criteria. The
20 criteria have been developed by the EPA and are applied
21 to all Super Fund sites, and it's to provide an
22 objective way to evaluate the good points and the bad
23 points of each of your alternatives. And in your hand-
24 out you have a description -- a more detailed
25 description of what each of those criteria are, and

1 basically they're looking at human health and the
2 environment. They don't want to create a greater risk
3 to either human health or the environment by doing
4 something.

5 Again, compliance with ARAR's or Applicable,
6 Relevant and Appropriate Requirements, looking at all
7 State and Federal regulations that pertain to any
8 action that's taken.

9 They also -- you're also required to look at the
10 effectiveness, how effective is what you're proposing.
11 Is it something that's going to last for 5 years, and
12 then you're going to be back repairing it; or is it
13 something that's very permanent.

14 Also very interested in reducing the toxicity, the
15 mobility, or the volume of your contaminants. There's
16 a focus in the environmental restoration not to just
17 create -- not to just dig up everything and bring it
18 somewhere and just create another problem somewhere
19 else. There's really looking at a treatment to reduce
20 the mobility of contaminants by binding them with other
21 materials, reduce the toxicity by breaking them down
22 into more simple compounds or reducing the volume.

23 They are also required to look at the short-term
24 effectiveness, making sure that during the
25 implementation of your action you're not creating a

1 short-term problem, particularly to the community or
2 the people that may reside around the areas.

3 Also looking at implementability, is it a proven
4 technology that has been shown to work and has been
5 effective at addressing the contaminants that you
6 have.

7 And, of course, cost is a criteria that is
8 evaluated.

9 And then the last two, State acceptance and
10 community acceptance are critical criterion. I'd just
11 like to point out that the community acceptance -- as
12 Jim mentioned earlier, the Navy has been involved in
13 providing information to the public. They're required
14 at certain steps of the process to have public
15 involvement, and we have used that public feedback to
16 help direct some of our remedial actions; and sites 5
17 and 6 are a good example.

18 We have heard concerns expressed by the public at
19 other sites that we've given public presentations; the
20 concern over tying up small parcels of the Naval Air
21 Station, restricting future use, and the concern being
22 that if the Naval Air Station were to close down, many
23 small pockets of the Naval Air Station would never be
24 able to be developed because we'd have these small
25 little landfills out there with cover systems on them.

1 As I mentioned earlier, the Navy's preferred
2 alternative out here is to excavate the material from
3 site 5 and from site 6 and bring it over to sites 1 and
4 3. The components of the different steps that would be
5 involved in physically doing that include -- because
6 we're dealing with asbestos, the big concern is
7 exposure. As you go in and excavate the material, you
8 can potentially generate dust and take the asbestos
9 that's been covered underground and generate or release
10 it into the air. So the first and a very significant
11 part of our plan would be to develop a health and
12 safety plan that addresses both community concerns as
13 well as health -- safety worker concerns.

14 The site preparation would require the removal of
15 a few trees and small brush at the site, laying a paved
16 road so that we could bring excavating equipment on to
17 both sites 5 and 6. We would do controlled
18 excavation.

19 Asbestos handling is regulated by the Federal and
20 State governments, and you are required to have a
21 licensed asbestos hauler come and do the work. So it's
22 something that someone is trained to do. We would --
23 those people would be subcontracted to come in.

24 There's also a lot of engineering controls that
25 can be used to minimize the risk of generating airborne

1 dust. Sprinkler systems would be employed to
2 constantly wet the soils, thereby minimizing the chance
3 of dust. You'd also have people who are trained in
4 asbestos removal who are wearing protective clothing.

5 There's also requirements concerning sampling the
6 air around your excavated area to make sure that
7 asbestos is not wandering or being dispersed off-site.

8 We would containerize the asbestos. Again, that's
9 also regulated. You have to wrap your asbestos
10 contaminated material in plastic before you even can
11 place it onto a truck. So it would be wrapped in
12 plastic, placed onto a truck, and driven approximately
13 1 mile -- point 6 to 1 mile away to sites 1 and 3.

14 After the material was excavated, we'd go in and
15 take confirmation samples and analyze those for
16 asbestos and other organic and inorganic contaminants
17 to make sure that we have removed all the material that
18 we're concerned about.

19 And then, as I mentioned, the material will be
20 disposed of beneath sites 1 and 3, and then both sites
21 would be restored to their natural state. And once
22 this was completed and the confirmation samples came
23 back to show that there was no asbestos or other
24 hazardous material out at the site, the sites could
25 basically be cleared, and they would not be restricted

1 for the future land-use development.

2 Again, I've shown just the areas in your handout
3 to be excavated. It's this area. It's approximately
4 12 cubic yards out at site 5 would be excavated and
5 brought over to sites 1 and 3; and it's a larger volume
6 of material out at site 6. The engineers -- originally
7 we were just looking at excavating the semicircle and
8 this soil stockpile, bringing them over to 1 and 3, but
9 based on the results of the February sampling we'll be
10 excavating the entire area shaded in yellow.

11 And just to give you some sort of conceptual idea,
12 this is a cross section of the landfill cover system
13 that's being designed over at sites 1 and 3. So it's
14 not looking down on the landfill, it's taking a slice
15 right through the cover system and looking at it from
16 this direction. So the final impermeable cover system
17 is right up here.

18 The original grade out at sites 1 and 3 is quite
19 hilly and lumpy, and what they need to do -- the
20 engineers need to do is have a very defined and even
21 surface on top of the landfill cover. So they're
22 required to bring fill material in and place it over
23 the irregularly-shaped existing topography to raise it
24 up to a certain level. And this is just to give you an
25 idea that the material would be brought over, placed

1 here, and then on top of that would be a landfill cover
2 system that is actually more stringent than is required
3 by either State or Federal regulations for handling or
4 disposing of just asbestos.

5 The other thing I just wanted to mention, the last
6 few pages in your handout -- I don't have the over-
7 heads. It's more for your information, is a summary of
8 that comparative analysis that we went through, where
9 we looked at each of the six alternatives specifically
10 against each of those nine criteria and evaluated where
11 the alternatives met or did not meet the intent of
12 those criterion.

13 So that ends the formal presentation or the
14 technical presentation of the preferred alternative
15 that the Navy is proposing for sites 5 and 6, and I'll
16 turn it back to Jim.

17 MR. SHAFER: Before we start answering questions
18 and taking comments on sites 5 and 6, I notice that
19 there were a lot of people that came in after the
20 introduction.

21 I just want to explain to them that we just
22 finished our presentation on the Navy's plans to clean
23 up sites 5 and 6. We're now going to hear questions on
24 sites 5 and 6 and any comments offered.

25 As soon as that's done, we will adjourn our

1 meeting, and then we will go into our second meeting
2 which will deal with the fuel spill that recently
3 occurred at the Naval Air Station.

4 At this time, I'd like to open the floor to any
5 questions you may have, or comments.

6 Yes, sir?

7 MR. MacLEOD: Yes, sir. The lady speaking
8 mentioned about taking material from site 5 and 6 and
9 putting it in site 1 and 3. Does that mean that your
10 future plans for site 3 is to leave that at the base?

11 MR. SHAFER: Yes.

12 MR. MacLEOD: All that hazardous material? All
13 that asbestos, oils that is said to be in those sites
14 are going to stay there?

15 MR. SHAFER: At sites 1 and 3, yes.

16 There's a microphone back there, by the way,
17 also.

18 MR. MacLEOD: What I asked was, are you putting
19 the materials from 5 and 6 into 1 and 3, and then going
20 to leave 1 and 3 there because you've already put
21 materials in it? Is that the strategy?

22 MR. SHAFER: Yes. 1 and 3 is a large landfill
23 that -- we held a public hearing on that, and we
24 discussed the Navy's plans on the different
25 alternatives that were considered for sites 1 and 3;

1 and we also have a Record of Decision for those sites.
2 They're currently under design. It's a large
3 landfill. And just to review a little bit, it's far
4 too large, far too hazardous to remove.

5 MR. MacLEOD: We're talking money now instead of
6 safety.

7 MR. SHAFER: We're talking money, plus there
8 aren't any other technologies out there today to deal
9 with large landfills. We came up with the best remedy
10 that we had, and we went through a public comment
11 period on that.

12 But to answer your question: Yes, it will remain
13 on base; but it will be contained and it will be
14 monitored, also.

15 Yes?

16 MR. FUSCO: Hi, Jim. I have a couple of
17 questions. The first one relates to a request that the
18 base had made about doing some sampling for radioactive
19 material, and we haven't heard anything on that. I'm
20 just wondering where that is on 5 and 6?

21 MR. SHAFER: Okay. We are going to do it. I'll
22 let Beth Walter explain exactly what screenings we're
23 going to use.

24 MR. FUSCO: Okay.

25 MS. WALTER: The comment has come up at the other

1 public hearings that we've had. We've gone back and
2 evaluated what tools are appropriate to do radiation
3 screenings, and we're proposing to use a Sodium Iodide
4 Scintillation Probe, and so when we're out there
5 actually doing any invasive work, or as part of the
6 design, that tool would be used to screen the area. It
7 is capable of picking up gamma radiation. And based on
8 those results -- those results would be made available;
9 and based on those results, any need for additional
10 action would be addressed as appropriate.

11 MR. FUSCO: Another question, I have. On site 6
12 you said that there's construction debris and aircraft
13 parts. And my question is, what's on the aircraft
14 parts -- wait a minute. I think my next question
15 relates to that, which is you're talking about doing
16 some controlled excavation and being able -- as you're
17 digging that up, being able to identify what's there.

18 How are you doing that, and what happens if, in
19 the process of digging it up, let's say, you hit
20 airplane parts and you find out that there's some
21 contaminants on there. What do you do with it? Is it
22 going over to sites 1 and 3, and what's the process for
23 doing that on-site -- what's the criteria for doing
24 that, that on-site assessment of what's being dug up?

25 MR. SHAFER: You asked a number of questions.

1 Remind me if I don't get them all.

2 First of all, it was reported that there were
3 aircraft parts there. We haven't actually found any
4 aircraft parts. We're just assuming the worst when we
5 go into this. As part of the remedy, part of the
6 design that hasn't been completed for these sites, we
7 would -- we're going to do some predesign field work.
8 We're going to do some test pitting and sampling to do
9 more invasive type work to see -- we're going to do
10 some trenching, also. That will help us and evaluate
11 further what's there.

12 As we excavate the material, if -- for example, if
13 we find some aircraft parts, if we see anything that
14 remotely looks suspicious, we'll sample it. We'll get
15 the results of that.

16 Based on what we find, Tom, will determine how to
17 dispose of it. If it's not hazardous materials, we can
18 put it at sites 1 and 3. If it's material that
19 requires additional treatment before it can be disposed
20 of, we will do that.

21 I'm not sure if I answered all your questions.

22 MR. FUSCO: I think so.

23 MR. SHAFER: Okay. Any other questions?

24 MR. HYLAND: Just to add to that, Tom, from the
25 State, and I believe from the EPA's perspective as

1 well, anything in those landfills that's found to be
2 hazardous waste will have to be removed and disposed in
3 a licensed hazardous waste landfill. It can't go into
4 sites 1 and 3.

5 MR. SHAFER: Everything will be coordinated with
6 the Environmental Protection Agency and the State of
7 Maine. Any results we get will be submitted to them,
8 and we'll also submit them to our Technical Review
9 Committee meeting.

10 MS. CASSIDY: Part of that, too, Tom, during the
11 excavation, EPA, and I believe the State, will be doing
12 some oversight. But if there's anything hazardous,
13 there are other regulations that will come into play.

14 So it basically -- we can't take any hazardous
15 material over to 1 and 3 at this point in time. So we
16 will have to be aware of that; and if we come across
17 that, it will be handled differently and we'll have to
18 be called in at that point to sit down and discuss how
19 to handle that properly.

20 MR. FUSCO: That will come back to -- I mean,
21 will that come back to your committee so we'll have an
22 opportunity to look at that?

23 MR. SHAFER: We'll coordinate that with the TRC.
24 We'll make sure that you get information on that. As
25 you're aware, certain materials, certain hazardous

1 substances can't be landfilled. They have to go
2 through some type of treatment. We have no choice.
3 We're going to comply with the law. It's something we
4 just have to do.

5 Yes, Susan?

6 MS. WEDDLE: I just wanted to know if you could
7 tell us about your criteria for evaluating the
8 nonasbestos waste, and also your confirmation sampling,
9 if you have any?

10 MR. SHAFER: Well the criteria, we're going to
11 sample what we call the full-scan analysis. It's
12 called the target compound. It includes organic
13 compounds, inorganic compounds, pesticides, PCB's, and
14 there's a whole gamut of contaminants that -- it's a
15 full screening. If there's anything hazardous that's
16 out there, we'll find it, we'll detect it.

17 Does that answer your question?

18 MS. WEDDLE: That's within the confirmation
19 sampling, is that what you're saying?

20 MR. SHAFER: Yes.

21 MS. WEDDLE: What about the nonasbestos waste, as
22 you're removing it? The pipes, obviously, you can
23 visually identify. But in terms of the removal, in
24 terms of the extent of what you're going to remove, do
25 you have a criteria for that?

1 MR. SHAFER: We're also going to use the same
2 parameters we're going to use as part of our predesign
3 work. As I mentioned before, we're going to dig test
4 pits and sample the test pits. We're going to dig some
5 long trenches and do some sampling. And, as in the
6 past, we use -- there's going to be a geologist there
7 and some field people, and if anything looks
8 unordinary, it will be sampled.

9 MR. HYLAND: The other part -- there's a second
10 step in the confirmatory sampling process, and that is
11 that the State -- we will have people on site
12 overseeing the process as it goes along, and we'll be
13 taking confirmatory samples -- independent confirmatory
14 samples and taking them back to our own labs as well.

15 MR. SHAFER: I guess I should explain. After all
16 the material is removed and after we feel we've removed
17 everything, we then go ahead and take additional
18 samples of the subgrade material to make sure that
19 nothing is left behind; and if we detect any
20 contamination, we remove that material. We keep
21 removing it until we no longer find anything.

22 MS. CASSIDY: Susan, the only thing to add to
23 that is any confirmation sampling, that's something
24 that the Navy will have to present to EPA and DEP, and,
25 as you know, you know, it will go to the TRC, as will

1 most documents, I assume; and that will have to be
2 approved prior to its implementation.

3 So there will be a plan that they have to use in
4 the field that will outline how many samples, where the
5 samples are taken, what they're analyzed for, what
6 steps need to be taken, things like that, prior to
7 getting in the field.

8 MR. SHAFER: Yes?

9 MR. KATZ: What were the pipes at site 5 used to
10 convey? Were they steam, heating pipes, the asbestos
11 pipes?

12 MR. SHAFER: I don't know. I'm not sure what the
13 report said.

14 MS. WALTER: The report said that they were pipes
15 that resulted from the demolition of a building. They
16 weren't any more specific. The people who presented
17 the report did not see the pipes. It was just
18 documentation that the pipes had been brought from this
19 demolished buildings over to site 5 and buried.

20 MR. KATZ: I would think it would be important to
21 at least examine the interior of the pipes and make
22 sure there isn't some kind of hazardous materials built
23 up on the inside of the pipes.

24 MR. SHAFER: Okay. We'll do that.

25 MR. KATZ: Not just look at the asbestos.

1 MR. SHAFER: We'll do that.

2 MR. KATZ: At site 6, is that underlined by
3 clay?

4 MS. WALTER: Yes. Probably 30 to 40 -- where
5 we're seeing the depth of clay in that part of the base
6 is 30 to 60 feet below ground surface.

7 MR. KATZ: Did any of the monitoring wells go to
8 bedrock?

9 MS. WALTER: I believe -- I don't believe that
10 they did. I'll have to check that. That information
11 is in the remedial investigation. The reason we put
12 the wells in, is because there were reports that
13 aircraft parts or solvents may have been disposed. So
14 we were looking at the shallow water to see if there
15 was impact there.

16 MR. SHAFER: Are there any other questions or
17 comments on our proposed cleanup plans for sites 5 and
18 6?

19 I thank you all for coming. Thank you for your
20 comments.

21 At this point, for the record, the public meeting
22 for site 5 and 6 is now closed.

23 (Concluded at 8:00 p.m.)

24

25

CERTIFICATE

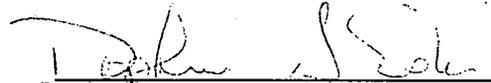
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I, Daphne G. Estes, a Notary Public in and for the State of Maine, hereby certify that this public hearing was stenographically reported by me and later reduced to print through Computer-Aided Transcription, and the foregoing is a full and true record of the public hearing.

I further certify that I am a disinterested person in the event or outcome of the public hearing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I subscribe my hand and affix my seal this 2nd day of April, 1993.

Dated at Falmouth, Maine.


Notary Public

My Commission Expires
October, 1993.