



U.S. Navy Announces the Anoka County Riverfront Park Investigation Fridley, Minnesota

Facility Description

Anoka County Riverfront Park is located on the southernmost tip of Anoka County, Minnesota. The park is situated on the east bank of the Mississippi River and about a mile south of Interstate 694. To the east of the park is the Naval Industrial Reserve Ordnance Plant (NIROP) Fridley, which is separated from the park by East River Road. The 46-acre area located south of the site is owned by United Defense LP (UDLP), the NIROP Government Owned Contractor Operated (GOCO) operator. This site to the south now owned by UDLP was formerly owned by FMC. NIROP and FMC are both listed on the USEPA Superfund National Priorities List.

The park is owned and operated by Anoka County and is used for fishing, picnics, biking, hiking, and cross-country skiing. The park is a day use recreational facility consisting of approximately 60 acres of land built on top of fill material comprised mostly of silty sand, gravel, foundry sand and miscellaneous construction debris. The subsurface soils located within the park are of glacial origin and are up to 150 feet thick.

Site History

In 1971, with the approval of the MPCA, foundry sand was used as one of the fill materials to raise the elevation of the land west of NIROP Fridley which is now part of the Anoka County Park.

NIROP Fridley dates back to 1940 when Northern Pump Company negotiated with the Navy for the construction of a new manufacturing plant on approximately 80 acres of land situated in the northern portion of the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area.

Northern Pump had been under contract to the Navy throughout the 1930's. These defense contracts eventually reached a level where Northern Pump's existing plant in Minneapolis was inadequate and a move to a new manufacturing plant was needed. The plant was in full production by January 1941 and is now being operated by United Defense LP.

Previous Investigations at NIROP Fridley

The scope of the environmental investigation was developed in Partnering Meetings between the USEPA,



Installing a Monitoring Well

MPCA, and the US Navy. These meetings provided a dedicated forum for discussion of site specific objectives, and continue to this day. At these meetings, initial organization of the workplans was developed, and then later, comments and suggested modifications to the draft work plans were resolved in this forum. This has proven itself to be a more efficient method of addressing these issues than conventional document and letter exchanges.

In December of 1980, an anonymous telephone call to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) concerning past disposal practices ultimately led to the discovery of trichloroethene (TCE) in the three NIROP plant water supply wells finished in the Prairie du

approximately 2,000 feet downstream from the NIROP site.

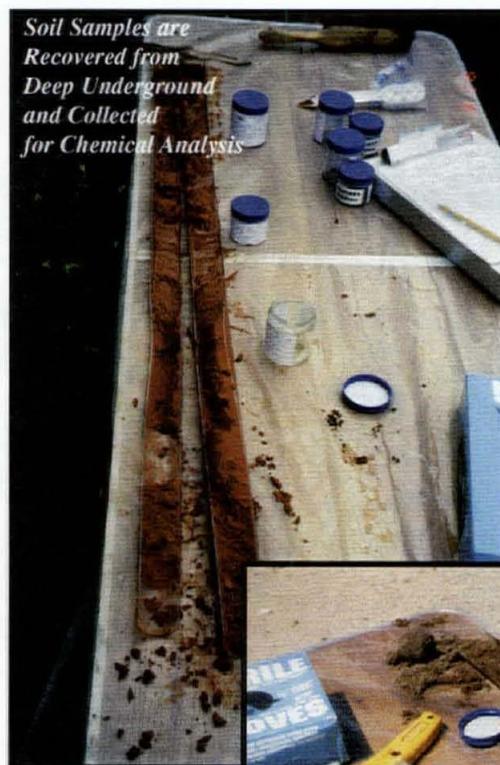
Contamination associated with the park is assumed to have originated from the NIROP Fridley and migrated via groundwater to the park. For this reason, additional investigations of Anoka County Riverfront Park have been undertaken.



Chien/Jordan Dolomite aquifer. TCE is a hazardous substance listed under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as well as a Minnesota Environmental Response and Liability Act (MERLA). These onsite water supply wells were taken out of drinking water service in 1981. Soon thereafter, investigation leading to an Interim Response Action started. Most recently, the groundwater recovery system, which originally discharged groundwater to the sanitary sewer, was upgraded in 1998 to capture and remove the groundwater contamination.

Environmental Investigations of NIROP Fridley and Anoka County Riverfront Park

The additional investigation at the NIROP and Anoka County Riverfront Park will consist of sampling unsaturated and saturated soil, groundwater in the shallow, intermediate, and deep unconsolidated aquifer(s) and in the Prairie du Chien (PC) bedrock aquifer and related subsurface investigation activities. A total of 42 well borings/monitoring wells and 3 soil borings will be installed as part of this investigation. The borings/monitoring wells will be installed using the Rotosonic, hollow stem auger, and air rotary techniques. Soil samples will be collected from 7 well borings and 3 soil borings and groundwater samples will be collected from the 42 newly-installed wells and 9 existing wells at the site. The proposed field investigation is anticipated to last 7 months.



The groundwater at the site flows from the site toward the Mississippi River. Sampling at the City of Minneapolis' Mississippi water intake plant also revealed trace concentrations of TCE. The City of Minneapolis draws its municipal water from the Mississippi River



The United States Environmental protection Agency (US EPA) and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) have approved the Navy's Work Plans through the partnering process. A Summary Report will be prepared at the conclusion of the investigation.

OBJECTIVES OF THE INVESTIGATION

The following five objectives have been prepared as a basis for this investigation. An attempt is being made to address each of these objectives in this investigation.

1. Better define the extent of the TCE plume in the shallow, intermediate, and deep intervals of the unconsolidated aquifer(s). It is believed that this plume extends from the industrial facilities west across the road, and into Anoka Park. The actual extent of the plume must be identified.
2. Further develop the hydrogeologic framework at the site overall and define the impact on the Prairie du Chien (PC) bedrock aquifer from site-related contamination.
3. Verify capture zone effectiveness of the present extraction system and, based upon this evaluation, recommend modifications, if needed, to the system.
4. Establish compliance monitoring network for discharge of the plume to the river (i.e., the site compliance point
5. Better define the sources of any additional contamination in Anoka Park. Prior investigation suggests the possibility of a pocket of higher-concentration contamination in an area of the Park between NIROP and the River. One theory being tested is the potential for contamination to have been cut-off from the main plume during installation of the groundwater recovery system.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AT NIROP FRIDLEY

On July 31, 1989, the U.S. Navy established a Public Information Repository for documents relating to NIROP Fridley. The repository is located at the NIROP Facility on East River Road in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Additional information on the OUI groundwater treatment system, as well as information on OU2 and OU3, is placed in the Information Repository.

For more information on RAB activities or the Public Information Repository, contact Kerry Morrow at NIROP. Mr. Morrow can be reached during normal business hours at (612) 572-6360.

For more information about subjects in this Fact Sheet, contact any of the following individuals:

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