

**NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE - NEW LONDON  
INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM  
SITE 15 - SPENT ACID STORAGE AND DISPOSAL AREA  
PROPOSED PLAN**

**Introduction**

As part of the Installation Restoration Program (IRP) being conducted to address environmental concerns at the Naval Submarine Base - New London, Groton, Connecticut, the Navy is proposing no further action at the Spent Acid Storage and Disposal Area (SASDA). In accordance with Section 117 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), this proposed plan identifies the preferred alternative for remediation of the SASDA site.

Information summarized in this document can be found in greater detail in the Phase II Remedial Investigation (RI) and other documents contained in the Administrative Record at the Naval Submarine Base ("NSB"). The Navy encourages the public to review these documents to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the studies and activities at the sites.

The public is encouraged to comment on the no further action decision for the SASDA described herein.

**Learn More About the Proposed Plan**

The Navy has scheduled an informal public information session and a formal public hearing. This session will give the public the opportunity to ask representatives of the Navy, the EPA, or the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

(CTDEP) questions about the preferred alternative for the SASDA. During the formal hearing, the Navy will accept verbal and/or written comments on this proposed plan for the SASDA.

***Public Hearing and  
Information Session***

*Thursday  
July 10, 1997*

*Best Western Olympic Inn  
360 Route 12  
Groton, CT*

***Public Information Session  
&***

*Presentation by the Navy  
6:00 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.*

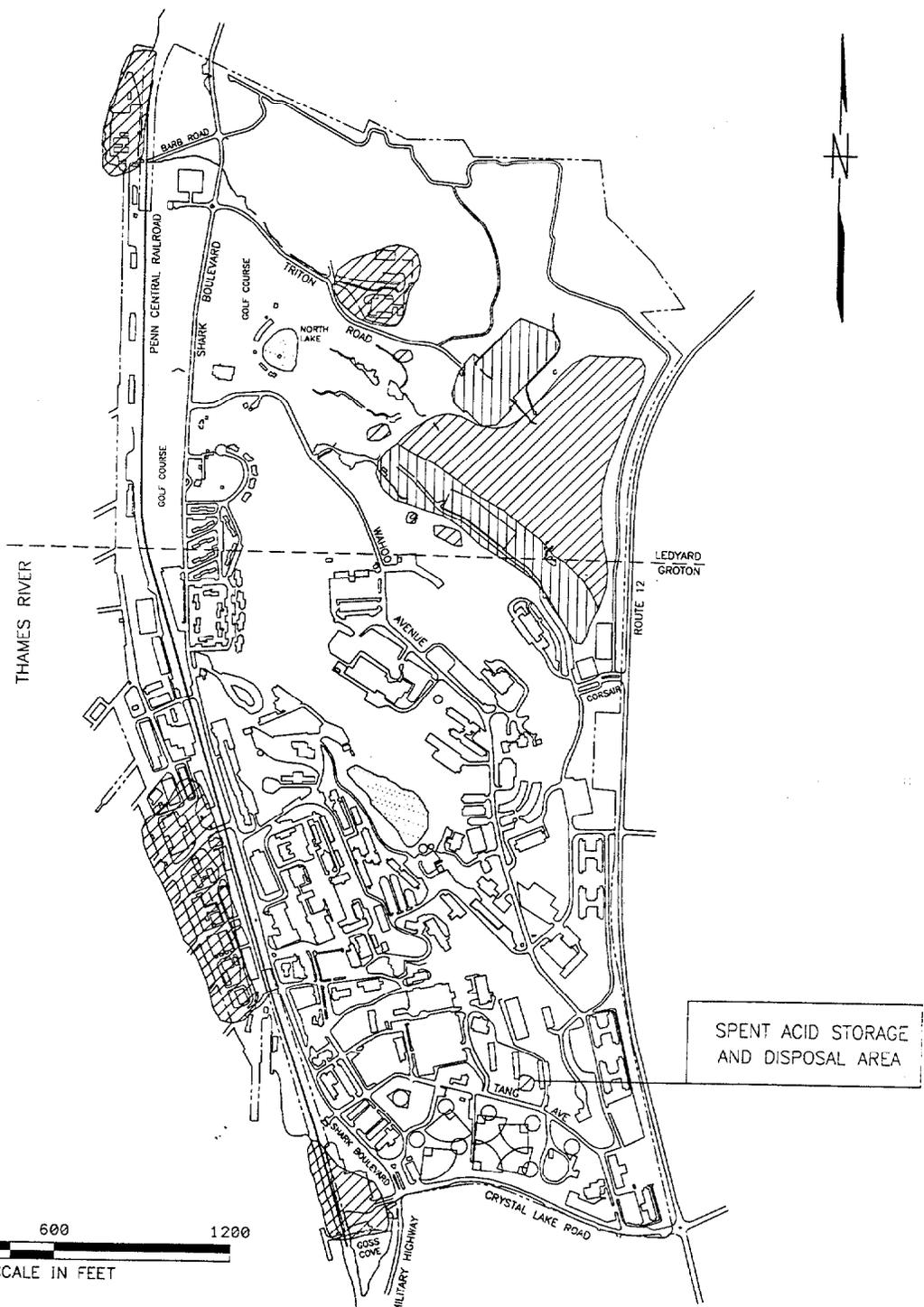
*Formal Public Hearing  
6:30 P.M.*

Comments received at the hearing will be recorded and transcribed, and a copy of the transcript will be added to the NSB Administrative Record, available for public review at:

Groton Public Library  
52 Route 117  
Groton, CT  
(860) 449-5191

**Public Comment Period**

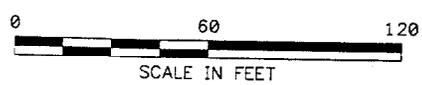
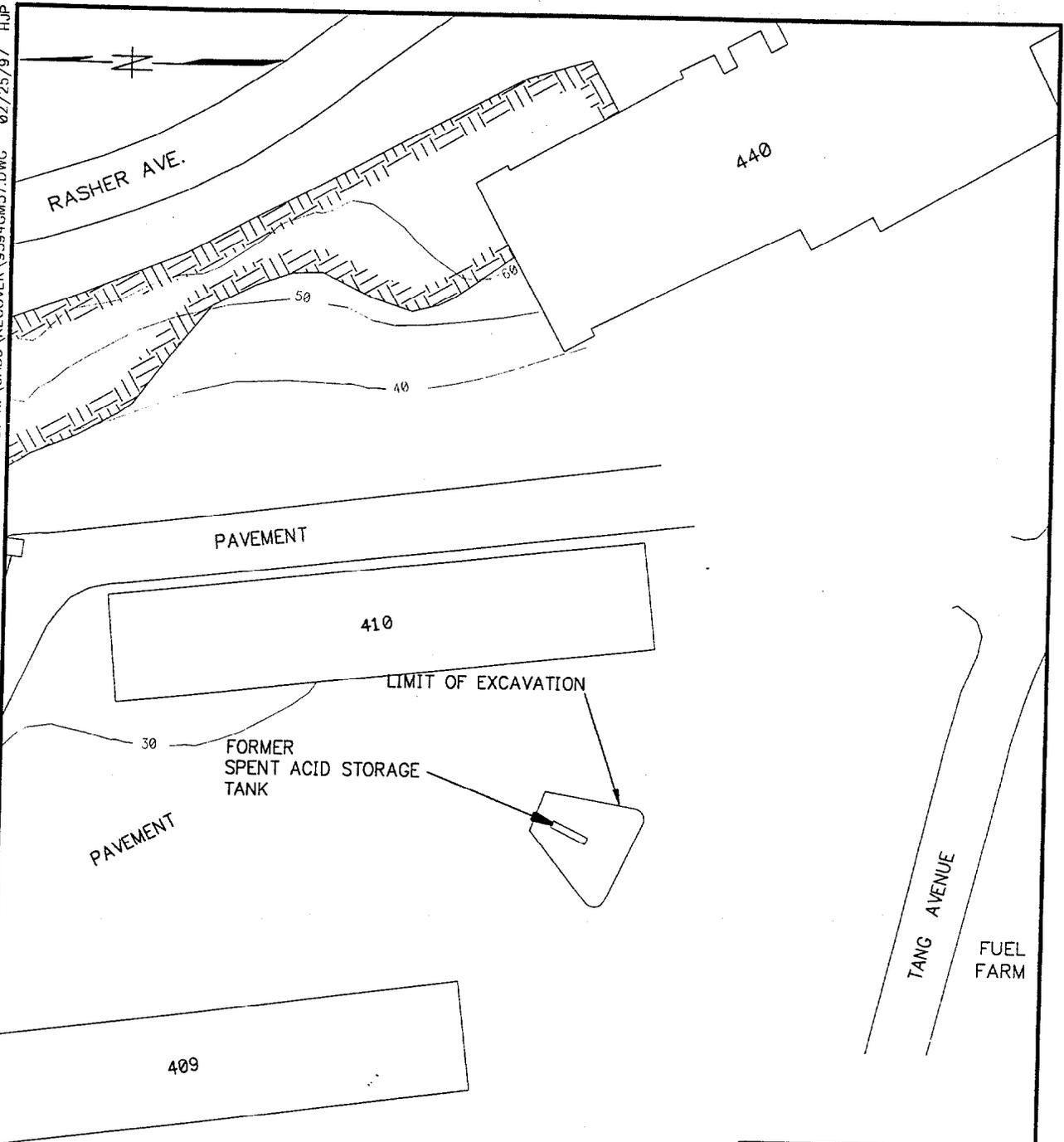
The Navy is accepting comments on the proposed plan from July 3, 1997 to August 4, 1997. During this comment period, the



Source: Naval Submarine Base Existing Conditions, April 1985, Laureiro Engineering Associates

DRAWN BY HJP	DATE 2/24/97	Brown & Root Environmental	CONTRACT NO. 9594	OWNER NO.	
CHECKED BY	DATE		APPROVED BY	DATE	
COST/SCHED-AREA	<b>SITE LOCATION MAP</b> <b>NSB-NLON</b> <b>GROTON, CONNECTICUT</b>		APPROVED BY	DATE	
SCALE AS NOTED			DRAWING NO.	FIGURE 1	REV. 0

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LEGEND	
10	EXISTING CONTOUR
123	BUILDING No.
	EXPOSED BEDROCK

DRAWN BY HJP	DATE 2/25/97	 <b>Brown &amp; Root Environmental</b>  <b>GENERAL SITE ARRANGEMENT</b> <b>SPENT ACID STORAGE</b> <b>AND DISPOSAL AREA</b> <b>NSB-NLON</b> <b>GROTON, CONNECTICUT</b>	CONTRACT NO. 9594	OWNER NO.
CHECKED BY	DATE		APPROVED BY	DATE
COST/SCHED-AREA	SCALE AS NOTED		APPROVED BY	DATE
			DRAWING NO.	FIGURE 2

FORM CADD NO. SOUTH\_AV.DWG - REV 0 - 02/07/97

public is invited to review and comment on the proposed plan.

If you would like to comment on the Navy's preferred alternative for the SASDA, you can do so at the public hearing or mail written comments, postmarked no later than August 4, 1997, to:

Mark Evans, Remedial Project Manager  
U.S. Department of the Navy  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
Northern Division  
10 Industrial Highway  
(Code 1823, Mail Stop 82)  
Lester, PA 19113-2090

The Navy will review comments received from the public as part of the process for reaching a final decision on the most appropriate remedial alternative for the SASDA. The Navy's final selection of a remedial alternative will be issued in a Record of Decision (ROD). A Responsiveness Summary that summarizes the Navy's responses to comments received during the public comment period will be issued as an appendix to the ROD. Once the ROD is signed by the Navy and the EPA, with concurrence from the CTDEP, it will become part of the Administrative Record.

#### History of Naval Submarine Base

1868 - The U.S. Navy officially designates the present NSB as a Navy Yard.

1916 - The U.S. Navy officially designates the site as an NSB.

1935 to 1975 - The NSB greatly expands from 112 to 547 acres, with the largest increase near World War II.

1990 - The NSB is placed on the National Priorities list. Various quantities of fuels, oils, solvents, pesticides, lubricants, and protective coatings were used as part of base activities. Releases of contaminants into the environment occurred.

#### Site Description

A map of NSB depicting the location of the SASDA and the general site arrangement of the SASDA is contained in Figures 1 and 2, respectively.

The SASDA was a tank that was used for temporary storage of waste battery acid before and after World War II. The batteries were placed on a concrete pad next to the tank where some acid occasionally leaked. The SASDA was located in a paved parking lot in a well-developed portion of the NSB. The tank was 4 feet high by 4 feet wide by 12 feet long.

A removal action was completed in January 1995. The tank, 318 tons (200 cubic yards) of lead contaminated soil, contaminated pavement, and the tank contents were removed. Preliminary remediation goals were set at 500 mg/kg lead in the soils and 5 mg/l lead in the TCLP leachate. The lead concentration in the soils remaining in place ranges from 6.13 mg/kg to 432 mg/kg; TCLP lead concentrations ranged from 0.018 mg/l to 3.32 mg/l. The excavated area was backfilled with clean borrow and covered with bituminous pavement. A risk assessment was performed as part of the Phase II RI for the groundwater and the soils remaining in place (the results are briefly described below).

The groundwater at the NSB is not used for human consumption. The NSB is

supplied by the town public water supply. The groundwater is classified as GB.

### Summary of Site Risks

A baseline risk assessment was prepared as part of the Phase II RI to evaluate whether the contaminants left in place after the removal action pose adverse risks to either human or ecological receptors.

The human health risk assessment estimated the potential present and future risks to human health posed by contaminants detected in the soils and groundwater. The risk scenarios evaluated included construction workers and future residents. Ecological risks were assumed to be negligible because the site is located in a paved parking lot that does not provide a valuable wildlife habitat.

The conservative risk assessment did not indicate any significant adverse health threats to humans or the ecosystem. The risk assessment is summarized below and explained in greater detail in the Phase II RI. Chemicals of concern include metals and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.

*Cancer:* The highest cancer risk estimated was for a future resident (1.8E-04). Groundwater ingestion was the predominant contributor to risk. Since the site will likely remain an industrial area and the groundwater will not be used for drinking water, the risks associated with this site are unlikely.

*Non-cancer:* The highest non-cancer Hazard Index was 3.6 and corresponds to the future resident. Groundwater ingestion was the predominant contributor to this risk and was driven by manganese. Dermal contact with groundwater also contributed

to this risk for the Construction worker scenario.

*Ecological:* Ecological risks were not evaluated because the SASDA does not represent a habitat suitable for supporting a wildlife population.

Since the baseline risk assessment indicates that there is no unacceptable risk to human health or the environment and that no remedial action is warranted, then CERCLA Section 121 cleanup standards for selection of a Superfund remedy, including the requirement to meet ARARs, are not prompted. Generally, the methods and criteria for determining the appropriate extent of a CERCLA response action are established "...when there is a release into the environment of any pollutant or contaminant that may present an imminent and substantial danger to the public health or welfare..." [see 40 CFR § 300.400(a)(2)]. Since the risks are generally considered acceptable, the Navy and EPA do not believe that any further remedial action under CERCLA is necessary at the SASDA.

### The Navy's Preferred Alternative

The Navy's preferred alternative for the SASDA cleanup consists of No Further Action. EPA and CTDEP concur with the preferred alternative described in this Proposed Plan.