



# Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Kittery, Maine

## Installation Restoration Program

### RAB Update: March 15, 2001

#### Navy Addresses Public Concerns at Jamaica Island Landfill

The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard's Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) met on Thursday, March 15, 2001 to discuss public concerns about the Operable Unit 3 (OU3) Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) and to hear a presentation about the formal process for a Record of Decision (ROD).

To resolve concerns expressed by the public during the public comment period for the OU3 PRAP, the Navy asked the RAB to participate in a discussion of these concerns. The major concerns from the public comment period regarded the Navy's approach to address the groundwater and seeps at the Jamaica Island Landfill (JILF), including the schedule for sampling. Based on discussion among the Navy, EPA, and MEDEP, the Navy has agreed to accelerate the schedule for OU6 (which addresses seeps and groundwater migration from the JILF), and several actions associated with OU6 will be written into the OU3 ROD, a legally enforceable document. Within 60 days after signing the ROD, the Navy will hold a meeting to determine the necessary sampling for OU6. The Work Plan for OU6 will be completed before the JILF cap is complete. As part of the OU3 Remedial Design, the Navy will evaluate consolidating portions of JILF to reduce the overall size of the cap, expose area upgradient of mudflats in Jamaica Cove that could be used for wetland erosion control, and to reveal an existing outfall that, if repiped around JILF, could alleviate some of the upgradient groundwater flow through JILF. The Navy will also evaluate using wetlands for water quality improvement.

#### Record of Decision Process Explained

The OU3 Record of Decision (ROD) is the next phase in the process for work at JILF. The ROD is a legally enforceable document that states the remedial action plan for the operable unit, certifies the remedy selection was carried out in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the National Contingency Plan (NCP), describes the technical parameters of the remedy, and provides the public with a summary of information about the remedy, including the selection rationale. The ROD also includes a Responsiveness Summary, which provides responses to significant comments received during the public comment period on the PRAP. In accordance with CERCLA and the NCP, EPA and Navy sign the ROD. MEDEP is asked to provide a letter of concurrence but does not sign the ROD.

#### Other Issues

The Navy will schedule, prioritize, and fund work for FY02, and the RAB will provide input and voice their concerns. Before the next RAB meeting, the Navy will check with community members to see if they are interested in continuing on as members. Based on this survey if members the Shipyard may need to recruit new members. Any openings will be posted to the public.

#### Questions?

If you would like more information, please contact:

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If you know anyone who would like to be added to our mailing list to receive these RAB updates and Installation Restoration fact sheets, please contact the Public Affairs Office at the address and telephone number listed above. The next RAB meeting will be held on May 23, 2001 at the Courtyard Marriott.