



# Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Kittery, Maine

## Installation Restoration Program

### RAB Update: May 23, 2001

The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard's Installation Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) met on Wednesday, May 23, 2001 to discuss the recent field work at Building 184 (Site 30), prioritization of work, RAB membership, and the planned additional investigation for Site 10.

Exploration under the floor of Building 184 conducted

Exploratory excavation was conducted in the floor of Building 184 to provide information on the contents of a below ground acid proof pit that was previously used as part of activities in the building. The excavation was conducted to determine whether the acid proof pit is the source of crystalline growth observed along the floor and wall near the pit. A hole dug in the floor into the pit showed crystalline growth within the pit. Water was also observed in the pit. Samples of the crystals, water, and pit fill material were collected for analysis. A report of the results of the investigation will be prepared.

Site 32 (Topeka Pier Site) should be next for funding

The Navy plans to put funding of the investigation for Site 32 (Topeka Pier Site) at the top of the prioritization list. Recent data for the area offshore of the site indicates investigation of Site 32 should be started before the other activities currently not funded due to high metals concentrations (particularly copper). The RAB was in agreement with the Navy.

New community RAB members will be sought

In the upcoming months, the Navy will work with a selection panel to recruit new community members for the RAB. Currently, two positions are open for new community members.

Additional investigation of Site 10 is planned.

The Navy plans to conduct additional soil sampling and testing, groundwater monitoring well installation, and groundwater sampling and testing at Site 10. From 1974 to 1984, lead-battery acid drainage activities were conducted and the drainage was directed to a pipeline that connected to an underground storage tank at this site. After a leak was detected in the tank, use of the tank and pipeline were discontinued and the tank was removed. Previous sampling and testing at the site indicated the presence of lead and other metals in the soil and groundwater. Additional sampling and testing of site soil and groundwater is required to understand potential risks to people at the site and to the offshore. Currently access to the crawl space where most of the contaminated soil is present is restricted by either asphalt or grates. Field activities are currently planned for September/October 2001.

#### 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 June 21, 2001 at the Courtyard Marriott.**