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NAS CECIL FIELD, FL  
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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL AND U S NAVY RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS FROM FLORIDA  
REPRESENTATIVE STEPHEN WISE REGARDING 103RD STREET FUEL PIPELINE NAS  
CECIL FIELD FL  
6/26/1996  
NAS CECIL FIELD



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
COMMANDER NAVAL BASE JACKSONVILLE  
BOX 102, NAVAL AIR STATION  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32212-0102

5700  
Ser 00/ 0531  
26 JUN 96

Honorable Stephen R. Wise  
Representative, District 13  
Post Office Box 7914  
Jacksonville, FL 32238-0914

Dear Representative Wise:

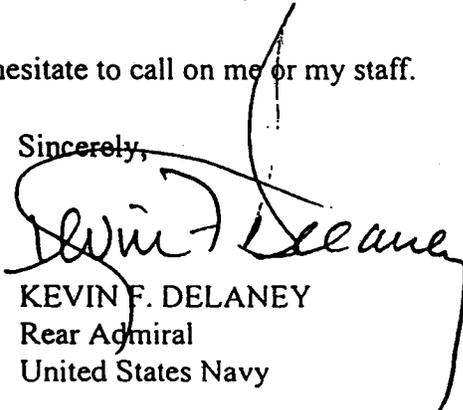
The Navy has been involved with addressing environmental issues attendant to the 103rd Street fuel pipeline since June 5, 1989, and will continue our efforts until the area is restored to its original state. Repairs to the pipeline are now complete and testing has shown no additional leaks. The Navy will continue to monitor the pipeline until it is closed coincident with Naval Air Station Cecil Field base closure.

Enclosed are our responses to your questions of May 23, 1996.

As part of the Jacksonville community, the Navy will continue to be a good neighbor and a careful environmental steward. Our goals remain to maintain fleet support and operational readiness of our seagoing forces through safe operations while protecting our environment.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call on me or my staff.

Sincerely,



Handwritten signature of Kevin F. Delaney in black ink, written over a large, stylized flourish.

KEVIN F. DELANEY  
Rear Admiral  
United States Navy

Encl:  
(1) Responses to questions

PROBABLE MEMO TO  
CNB FROM LUNOS-

**Question:** *History of pipeline, leaks, etc.*

**Answer:** The original pipeline was constructed in 1953 and placed into service April 20, 1954. It is constructed of seamless wrapped carbon steel, with a 0.25 inch wall thickness, schedule 20/40, ASTM A53, and is 8 inches in diameter. The depth below ground level of the pipeline varies from 3 to 12 feet. We are unable to determine who built the pipeline.

The capacity of the pipeline is 201,237 gallons and is under constant static pressure due to the elevation difference between NAS Jacksonville and NAS Cecil Field. The resulting static pressure is less than 50 psi. During pumping the maximum pressure at NAS Jacksonville pump head is 140 - 150 psi, the receiving pressure at NAS Cecil Field is 5 psi. The pipeline has been used to transport both JP-4 and JP-5 type fuel.

The original pipeline was constructed to a uniform depth of 36 inches below land surface; the following modifications were made: (1) the section from the Ortega River to Blanding Blvd was replaced by the State of Florida in 1971/1972 time frame due to the widening and relocation of Timuquana Road; (2) the pipeline was uncovered between Blanding Blvd and NAS Cecil Field in about 1974 when 103rd Street was widened to seven lanes. The pipeline was found to be in good condition at that time; (3) the pipeline was lowered by the State of Florida in the area of Fishing Creek in 1977; (4) the pipeline was lowered in the area of McGirt's Creek in 1986; and (5) the pipeline was lowered in the area of Bent Creek during construction in 1990.

A Magnetic Flux (Pig) analysis was completed in 1994 which indicated some erosion of the metal thickness, but no indication of any leaks found. Prior to the 103rd Street leak found in 1989, a small leak was found in a valve and repaired in April 1973.

The 103rd Street leak was located by filling the pipeline and using the magnetic flux method. A total of four (4) sections were identified as questionable and were excavated: Bent Creek, the Go Cart Track, Mr. Hawkins' property, and one spot aboard Cecil Field. The only leak found was adjacent to what was Mr. Hawkins' property.

During the period of September 6-25, 1990, soil boring samples were advanced along the pipeline in areas of concern to determine if there were any additional releases. The Magnetic Flux records were used to identify specific locations. No additional releases were found along the pipeline.

**Question:** *What was the cause of the leak?*

**Answer:** The corrosive nature of the soil is suspected of causing the leak as no evidence of an external agent or force was discovered during the investigation.

**Question:** *Who detected?*

**Answer:** On or about June 5, 1989, Kerr-McGee found free product during removal of their underground gasoline tanks. Then on or about June 8-9, 1989, 10,400 gallons of free product petroleum was removed and taken off-site by Kerr-McGee contractors. The petroleum was analyzed by Kerr-McGee and found to be of the gasoline and kerosene groups. On or about June 12, 1989, NAS Cecil Field was notified by Florida Department of Environmental Regulations officials of the suspected discharge from the pipeline. The pipeline was secured and emptied on June 19, 1989, when the leak could not be found fuel was put back into the pipeline, with Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) permission, and Magnetic Flux testing performed. This test must be performed with fuel in the line as fuel is used to push the "PIG" through the line. The pipeline was secured and emptied again after the leak was found.

**Question:** *How much fuel leaked?*

**Answer:** In July 1989, monitoring wells were installed and 6 to 8 inches of free product (petroleum) were found. Because these wells are not routinely monitored or bailed, you can not accurately determine how much free product (in gallons) remains in the ground. No other technical data exists other than the measurements made several years ago.

**Question:** *Why did it take so long to purchase the property on 103rd Street that was damaged by the leak?*

**Answer:** NAS Cecil Field was first notified of the problem in June 1989. Monitoring wells were installed in July 1989 and an investigation into the source and extent of the release commenced. The source of the release was found to be a leak in the pipeline adjacent to Mr. Hawkins' property on 103rd Street. The pipeline was shutdown until repairs were completed in April 1990.

The Contamination Assessment Report was completed and filed with the FDEP in May 1990, and approved by FDEP in June 1990. A Remedial Action Plan was submitted to the FDEP in August 1991, and approved in early 1992.

A request for cleanup funding was submitted in 1992, but funds were not made available until late 1994. Bechtel Environmental, Inc. was awarded the cleanup contract in September 1994.

During the 1992, to early-1994, time frame, issues related to occupancy of the property were discussed with Mr. Hawkins. Mr. Hawkins made it clear, at the time, he had no interest in selling the property and moving, but was willing to cooperate in the cleanup process as necessary.

In mid-1994, Mr. Hawkins was again approached on the issue of occupancy. At that time his daughter approached Navy officials indicating sale of the property to the Navy was now a possibility. Negotiations for the sale were initiated and in September 1994, MILCON Project P-900 for the purchase of Mr. Hawkins' property, was submitted for funding.

Two issues surfaced prior to funding approval: (1) the original Navy offer was withdrawn for revision when the survey results indicated the property was smaller than originally indicated, and (2) the Congressional Oversight Committee submitted a request for further information supporting justification of the purchase. Both issues were subsequently resolved.

Once funding was approved in 1995, for an FY96 purchase, the sale was finalized and the purchase was closed on March 26, 1996, with the Navy taking possession on March 28, 1996.

**Question:** *What testing has been done to determine the spread of the leak?*

**Answer:** Working with Florida environmental regulations, test wells were installed to determine both the extent of fuel leakage as well as the size and direction of the resulting plume. These wells remain in place and are used to monitor the plume. They will also be used to monitor remediation progress during the actual cleanup of the site.

**Question:** *Direction of the plume?*

**Answer:** The plume is generally following the natural flow of the ground water which is to the Southeast.

**Question:** *Does it pose any threat to any residents off-site?*

**Answer:** The plume poses no threat to any other resident and based on plans for remediation of the site it will be cleaned up before it can pose a threat to any other property.

**Question:** *Have any wells been tested in the vicinity?*

**Answer:** Yes, the potable water well on Mr. Hawkins' property was tested August 16, 1989, and no contamination was found. There is only one potable water well on the property, however, it should be noted that the location appears differently on several different maps.

The Hawkins well was routinely tested by the City of Jacksonville, according to Mr. Hawkins. There are no other wells in the immediate vicinity of the plume. There is a city water supply that runs parallel to 103rd Street and is used by most of the adjacent properties.

The Hawkins well is located inside the Texaco plume, not the plume from the pipeline leak. The Hawkins well is 156 feet deep, and the ground water plume has been detected at a maximum depth of 13 feet. Wells screened at depths between 20 to 25 feet show no contamination.

The soil contamination and groundwater plume extend under 103rd Street to the North, but do not extend beyond the Hawkins property in any other direction. No other wells have been treated or tested.

**Question:** *When Cecil Field is closed, will the pipeline be removed or simply closed off?*

**Answer:** When NAS Cecil Field closes, the pipeline will be secured and closed in place in accordance with all local, state, and federal regulations.

**Question:** *Is it possible to get a map of the pipeline?*

**Answer:** An "As Constructed" map is not available. Due to security concerns related to details of the pipeline shown on sectional/survey maps, these maps are not available for public release. However, should you, a staffer or your concerned constituent desire an opportunity to review the drawings at NAS Cecil Field, please contact Mr. Bert Byers at (904)778-6055. Generally speaking the pipeline exits NAS Jacksonville and proceeds north under Roosevelt Boulevard then turns west at the intersection of Timaquana Road and Roosevelt Boulevard, and proceeds under Timaquana Road and 103rd Street to NAS Cecil Field.

**Question:** *What is the estimated cost of the cleanup?*

**Answer:** The original estimated cleanup costs was \$1,249,000, which included \$332,000 for the purchase of Mr. Hawkins' property, and \$917,000 for remediation of the site. The remediation cost will probably be much less since a pump and treat system will not be required. The revised remediation costs are estimated at \$600,000. Although the U. S. Navy has assumed responsibility for remediation of the site, both Texaco and Kerr-McGee underground gasoline storage tanks contributed to the ground water contamination and each will be billed a pro-rated share of the cleanup costs. Exact percentages that each will be billed are currently under negotiation.

The original award was \$917,889 for cleanup of this site, but was reduced to \$617,889 when FDEP agreed that the pumping and treating of the ground water was not necessary. The following figures include estimates for the cost to date:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Contamination Assessment Report (CAR)	\$ 40,000
Remedial Action Plan (RAP)	\$ 39,000
Resampling of site by ABB (1994)	\$ 20,000
Purchase of Hawkins Property (1996)	\$ 332,000
Remedial Action	\$ 617,899

Total cost to date:

\$1,048,899

- EOQA -

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Frank

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