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NAS CECIL FIELD, FL
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SITUATION REPORT 9 ON REMEDIAL ALTERNATIVES FOR OPERABLE UNIT 3 (OU 3)
SITE 7 FORMER FIREFIGHTING TRAINING AREA NAS CECIL FIELD FL
10/1/1997
ABB ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES INC

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SITREP #9

NAS CECIL FIELD

Situation Report on Remedial Alternatives for Site 7, Former Firefighting Training Area Operable Unit (OU) 3

Background. This summer, the Navy finalized the Feasibility Study for Operable Unit (OU) 3. A feasibility study, or FS, is a document identifying the remedial action objectives (RAOs) and remedial alternatives for a site. The FS also evaluates each alternative against certain criteria, and then compares and contrasts each alternative against each other. The cleanup alternative ultimately chosen for a site is determined based on the outcome of the analysis presented in the FS.

History of OU3. OU3 consists of two sites: Sites 7 and 8. Site 7, located 800 feet east of Lake Fretwell, was an old fire-fighting training area. From the 1950s through the mid-seventies waste paints, paint thinner, spent solvents, petroleum oil, and lubricant wastes were burned during firefighter training exercises. Site 8, the Boresite Range, Hazardous Waste Storage Area, and Firefighting Training Area, is discussed in SitRep #10.

Contamination Summary. The FS for OU3 addresses surface soil contamination at Site 7. The chemicals present in the surface soil include inorganics, such as arsenic, antimony, cadmium, lead, and iron (some of which may be naturally-occurring). Also included are polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), such as benzo(a)pyrene. PAHs are chemicals that are often found in plastics, areas where burning has taken place, and near runways and highways.

The contaminant of concern in groundwater at Site 7 is benzene, which was detected at only one sample location. Benzene is a common component of fuels and solvents.

RAOs for OU3. RAOs, or cleanup objectives, for contaminated media at OU3 were established to protect human health and the environment, and to comply with State and Federal regulations. The objectives for Site 7 are as follows:

RAO 1: Prevent exposure to chemicals in soil that pose an unacceptable human health risk and are present in concentrations exceeding the Florida Soil Cleanup Goals for industrial sites.



RAO 2: Prevent humans from coming in contact with the groundwater. Chemical concentrations in groundwater exceed the Florida Drinking Water Standards. The groundwater at Site 7 may pose a risk to humans if it is used as a drinking water source.

Remedial Alternatives for Site 7 Surface Soil. Two alternatives were developed for addressing surface soil at Site 7:

No Action: For this alternative, no remedial actions would be taken to address contamination at the site.

Excavation and Offsite Disposal: This alternative was developed because the volume of contaminated soil is very small. Under this alternative, the soil would be excavated to a depth of 1 foot below ground and hauled to an offsite landfill for disposal. After the soil is excavated, the site would be restored to its original condition.

Remedial Alternatives for Site 7 Groundwater. Two alternatives were developed for addressing groundwater at Site 7:

No Action: For this alternative, no remedial actions would be taken to address contamination at the site.

Annual Monitoring: This alternative was developed to monitor a small area (one monitoring well) where benzene was detected above Florida Drinking Water Standards. Data indicate the benzene is not migrating from this location. Under this alternative four monitoring wells will be sampled annually over a 30 year period. If migration occurs, site conditions will be reevaluated. Use of groundwater from the surficial aquifer at Site 7 will be restricted.

What's Next. Before implementing any remedial action at OU3, a proposed plan will be written and sent out for public comment. A proposed plan summarizes the results of the FS in nontechnical language, and recommends an alternative for the site. The proposed plan facilitates public participation by soliciting public review and comment on all alternatives for the site, not just the recommended alternatives.

The proposed plan for Site 7 will be available for review at the NAS Cecil Field Information Repository located at the Charles D. Webb Wesconnett Library starting on October 28, 1997. This plan recommends the excavation and disposal alternative for contaminated surface soil. The plan also recommends annual monitoring for groundwater. A public comment period on this proposed plan is scheduled from October 28 through November 28, 1997. Comments on the plan may be written or verbal, and should be submitted to the NAS Cecil Field Public Affairs Officer.

Glossary



FS: Feasibility Study, an engineering analysis and report which involves identifying and evaluating the most appropriate technical approaches for addressing contamination problems at a site.

PAH: Polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons, chemicals that are often found in areas where burning has taken place, near runways, and in plastics.

RAO: Remedial action objectives, or cleanup goals for the site.