

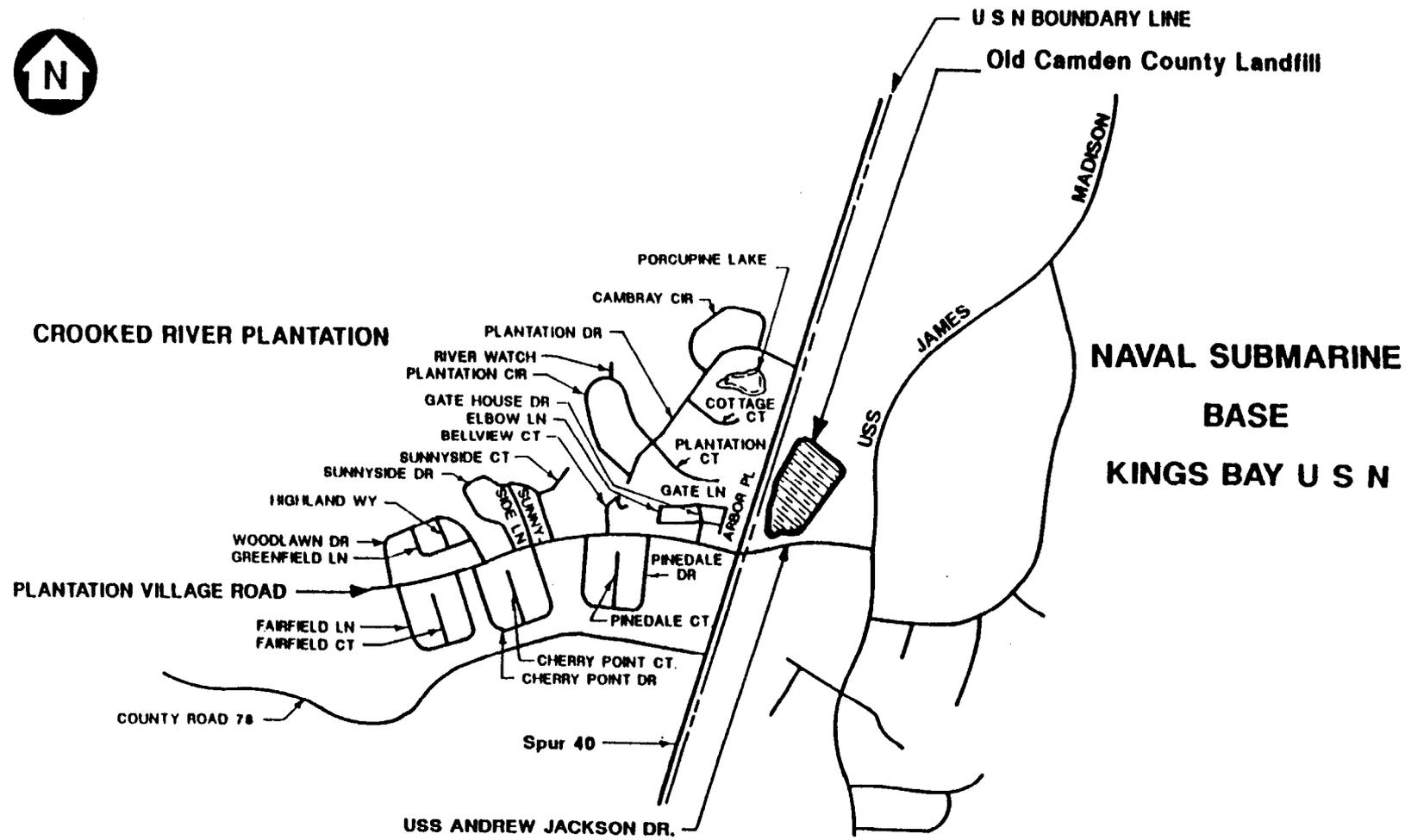
N42237.AR.000059  
NSB KINGS BAY  
5090.3a

PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION FACT SHEET NSB KINGS BAY GA  
9/3/1992  
NSB KINGS BAY

**Public Information Session**  
**Fact Sheet**

31547.000  
13.06.00.0001

- Introduction** Groundwater analysis conducted by Subase Kings Bay has identified an area of groundwater containing vinyl chloride, a known carcinogen. The contaminated groundwater "plume" is 475 feet wide and lies between 9 and 25 feet below ground surface in the vicinity of the Old Camden County Landfill. Groundwater testing has confirmed that the plume crosses Spur 40, however, additional testing will have to be conducted to determine how far the plume extends.
- Background** The groundwater analysis was performed as part of the Subase Kings Bay Installation Restoration Program (IRP). Such programs are being conducted at all bases to identify and clean up environmental conditions from past operations which do not meet today's standards. The Navy manages the IRP through Engineering Field Divisions of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command. Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command is the Engineering Field Division managing the IRP for Subase Kings Bay. ABB Environmental Services, Inc. is contracted by the Southern Division to conduct the investigations. Two episodes of sampling and an independent laboratory analysis have confirmed the presence of vinyl chloride. Federal and state regulatory officials, city and county officials, and private citizens of the surrounding area have been notified.
- What is Vinyl Chloride?** Vinyl chloride is a colorless gas which mixes with water but evaporates completely when exposed to the air. In its most common form, poly vinyl chloride is used to make PVC, a hard plastic. It is found in cigarette and cigar smoke and was once an ingredient in some cosmetics.
- While most vinyl chloride comes from the plastics industry, under environmental conditions typically found in landfills of this type, it can be formed by the natural breakdown of other materials such as solvents. It is more likely that the vinyl chloride found in the groundwater was formed from solvents disposed of in the Old Camden County Landfill which is on base property.
- Its Effects** Long-term ingestion or inhalation of high concentrations of vinyl chloride has been found to cause cancer. Although the plume is not the source of drinking water for the City of St. Marys or the base, private wells of any type in the area may be contaminated. For this reason, as a precaution, private wells should not be used for any purpose, especially:
- for drinking water for people or animals,
  - for bathing or swimming, (Though vinyl chloride is not absorbed through the skin, there is a chance for ingestion through these activities.)
  - for use of lawn sprinklers or hoses. ( Plants do not absorb vinyl chloride, however, spraying may release vinyl chloride into the air in unknown concentrations.)
- What Happens Next ?** A team of Navy and contractor personnel, regulatory representatives, and local officials are working together to determine the extent of the plume, assess the associated risks, and develop a cleanup plan. To do this, residents of Crooked River Plantation are being asked to identify all private wells in the area and give permission for their testing. In addition, further investigations will be conducted to confirm the source and extent of contamination. An additional public information session to talk about specific testing methods and equipment will be held prior to the private well testing.
- For More Information** The Navy, local officials, and regulatory representatives are committed to informing the public on an ongoing basis and to addressing this issue as quickly as possible. Questions and requests for mailings may be directed to the Public Affairs Office at Subase Kings Bay, telephone 673-4714.



APPROXIMATE SCALE IN MILES



# GLOSSARY

**Carcinogen.** Any substance that can cause or contribute to the production of cancer.

**Community Relations.** An effort to establish two-way communication with the public to create understanding of the Navy's Installation Restoration Program and related actions, to assure public input into decision-making processes related to affected communities, and to make certain that the Navy is aware of and responsive to public concerns.

**Contaminant.** Any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter that has an adverse affect on air, water, or soil.

**Groundwater.** The supply of fresh water found beneath the earth's surface, usually in aquifers, which is often used for supplying wells and springs.

**Installation Restoration Program.** The program used by all Department of Defense agencies to identify and quantify contaminants at past hazardous waste sites.

**Landfills.** Sanitary landfills are land disposal sites for non-hazardous solid wastes at which the waste is spread in layers, compacted to the smallest practical volume, and cover material applied at the end of each operating day. Secure chemical landfills are disposal sites for hazardous waste. They are selected and designed to minimize the chance of release of hazardous substances into the environment.

**Leaching.** The process by which soluble constituents are dissolved and carried down through the soil by a percolating fluid.

**Percolation.** The movement of water downward and radially through the sub-surface soil layers, usually continuing downward to the ground water.

**Plume.** A visible or measurable discharge of a contaminant from a given point of origin. Can be visible or thermal in water, or visible in the air, as, for example, a plume of smoke.

**Remedial Investigation.** An in-depth study designed to gather the data necessary to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a site; establish criteria for cleaning up the site; identify preliminary alternatives for remedial actions; and support the technical and cost analyses of the alternatives. The remedial investigation is usually done with the feasibility study in the Installation Restoration Program. Together, these two steps are usually referred to as the "RI/FS".

**Vinyl Chloride.** A chemical compound, used in producing some plastics, that is believed to be carcinogenic.

9-3-72  
Public meeting

# FURTHER QUESTIONS?

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS THAT WERE NOT BROUGHT UP AT THIS EVENING'S MEETING, PLEASE WRITE THEM DOWN AND DROP THEM IN THE BOX PROVIDED ON YOUR WAY OUT. BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS, AND SOMEONE WILL GET BACK TO YOU WITH AN ANSWER.

---

---

---

---

---

**NAME AND**

---

**ADDRESS**

---

---

**Telephone**

---