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NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION 9-2-1993 NSB KINGS BAY GA
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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION
CROOKED RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
7:00 P.M., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1993**

Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay and the city of St. Marys will hold the next public information session concerning the "plume" of contaminated ground water which appears to be emanating from the old County landfill located on SUBASE's western boundary.

The primary purpose of the September 2nd information session is to discuss the status of the on-going investigation and describe the planned Interim Measure pilot-scale remediation activities. Proposed upcoming work also includes installation of additional monitoring wells and groundwater extraction wells.

Please plan to attend the September 2nd public information session. Your participation continues to be key to the success of this effort.



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CAPTAIN, CEC, USN
PUBLIC WORKS OFFICER
SUBASE KINGS BAY**

Interim Measure Fact Sheet

Introduction

As part of the ongoing investigation into groundwater contamination originating from the old County landfill, located on Naval Submarine Base (SUBASE) Kings Bay, the Navy and the City of St. Marys will hold the fifth public information session on September 2, 1993 at the Crooked River Elementary School cafeteria. Upcoming events, including the Navy's pilot scale test of a groundwater extraction system, will be presented and discussed. This fact sheet is being forwarded to help familiarize you, prior to this session, with the regulatory process, progress to date and the objectives of planned work.

What has happened so far?

In January 1991, the Navy, under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the Department of Defense Installation Restoration Program, began a RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) which included investigation of the old County landfill. As part of this RFI, shallow monitoring wells were installed around the landfill and bi-monthly groundwater sampling was conducted. In June 1992, sampling results confirmed that the groundwater on SUBASE property, adjacent to the old County landfill, contained volatile organic compounds (VOCs), apparently related to solvents and solvent by-products. The area of subsurface groundwater containing these VOCs is referred to as a "plume". Further investigation conducted during August 1993 confirmed the plume had crossed Georgia Spur 40 and was slowly moving westward toward the Crooked River Plantation subdivision.

State and Federal regulatory agencies were notified of a release to the environment, and SUBASE Kings Bay and the City of St. Marys held the first public information session on September 3, 1992. Subsequent investigation confirmed that the plume extended beneath Crooked River Plantation subdivision. Although this plume does not affect public drinking water supplies, residents of the subdivision were asked to voluntarily stop using their irrigation wells. This was a precaution to minimize exposure to the groundwater and to help stabilize movement of the plume.

In May 1993, the Navy's team of environmental consultants presented findings from a screening risk evaluation. This was to help answer the immediate questions of exposure and potential for exposure to the contaminants in the groundwater plume. This evaluation found no adverse health effects were

expected from exposure to VOCs in the groundwater plume. Subdivision residents, at a public information session, were advised that their exposure could be minimized by not using the groundwater from subdivision irrigation wells for washing of cars, filling of swimming pools, or in children's water toys or pools. Minimizing use of subdivision irrigation wells for lawn watering was also suggested.

Most recently, the Navy and their consultants completed planning for the next phase of their investigation and planned initial remediation activities. These activities follow guidance created by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Where are we today?

Today the Navy is proceeding forward with the last phases of the RFI through use of an Interim Measure. This Interim Measure will initiate controls on the migration of the groundwater plume, and begin remedial activities. Remedial activities are planned to start this fall and continue through next year.

What do you mean by remedial and remediation?

Remediation (or remedial activities) are clean up actions initiated at contaminated sites. This means methods are used to reduce the amount of contaminants in the environment, either by reducing exposure to, or concentration of, the contaminants.

What is the planned Interim Measure action?

As part of the Interim Measure the Navy will start a pilot scale test of a groundwater extraction system. The extraction system will process the groundwater until it meets or is lower than the Maximum Concentration Level (MCL) allowed for drinking water prior to discharge into a wastewater treatment facility. This is accomplished by "stripping" the Volatile Organic Compounds from the water and discharging them through a filter system. In this way, the contaminants are removed from the groundwater, but not discharged directly into the air.

What can I do?

Residents of the Crooked River Plantation subdivision can help by continuing to voluntarily minimize their groundwater usage. Residents should also attend the upcoming public information session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 2, 1993. At this time, the Navy will present details of the pilot-scale study and will have their environmental consultants available to answer questions.

Additional Questions?

If you have questions prior to the public information session, please contact Bob Steller, Public Affairs Office, SUBASE Kings Bay, telephone: 673-4714.