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# ENVIROUPDATE

## KINGS BAY, GEORGIA

### Installation Restoration Program Newsletter

### March 1996

Volume 1, Number 8

*This newsletter is provided to the community on a quarterly basis or when significant developments occur in the environmental cleanup program. Copies of previous editions of EnviroUpdate can be obtained through the Public Affairs Office. For more information, contact Robert Steller, Public Affairs Office, (912) 673-4714.*

### **Clean Up Review Team (CURT)**

Throughout the Installation Restoration Program, the Navy has taken extra measures to ensure that the cleanup actions at SUBASE are cost-effective and efficient. In an additional effort to ensure cost-effectiveness, efficiency, and technical adequacy during environmental restoration, the Department of the Navy has implemented program wide reviews of ongoing cleanups for efficient use of conventional and innovative environmental technologies.

The review of the cleanup actions at several Navy bases will be conducted by an impartial group known as the Clean Up Review Team (CURT). The CURT is made up of environmental technology specialists from the Navy, Army, industry, and academia. The team will evaluate individual Navy facilities, including SUBASE, for optimal use of innovative technologies currently available. The general purpose of the CURT is to assess progress at naval facilities in regards to their environmental cleanup, identify progress, and provide recommendations and suggestions to improve the cleanup activities.

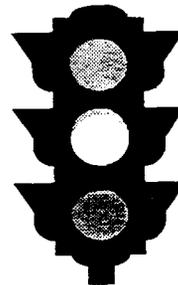
The most recent CURT meeting regarding SUBASE's Old Camden County Landfill was held in Atlanta, GA in February 1996. The CURT, including representatives from the Navy (Southern Division and SUBASE), ABB Environmental Services (ABB-ES), and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) attended the meeting to discuss Interim Measure upgrades to SUBASE's existing treatment system. Leading the team is Dr. Shahrokh Juhani, P.E., a civil and environmental engineering professor at Georgia Tech. His experience includes

groundwater flow and modelling techniques. The team's evaluation of the groundwater treatment system at SUBASE will be valuable to the overall cleanup.

The meeting identified key issues in our environmental program that need to be addressed and a plan of action for addressing them. Issues included developing criteria to evaluate the effectiveness of the treatment system and the need to further evaluate the existing data. As CURT continues to meet and evaluate our cleanup activities, we will keep you informed as to their recommendations and resulting impact on the cleanup program at SUBASE.

**SUBASE is on the  
World Wide Web (WWW)!**

Visit our new homepage on the  
WWW. Our internet address is  
[http://www.gnatnet.net/  
~kingsbay/](http://www.gnatnet.net/~kingsbay/)



"Go" inside  
for more  
information.

## Get Involved With SUBASE's RAB!

If you have not been to one of SUBASE's Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings yet, mark your calendar for the next RAB meeting on May 9th, 1996, at St. Marys Public Library at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will include a presentation of data from the Supplemental RCRA Facility Investigation (SRFI). Environmental samples were collected in the area of the landfill and Porcupine Lake during 1994 and 1995. The Final SRFI Report is expected to be available by Summer 1996.

The last RAB meeting, held January 18th, included an update of cleanup activities at the landfill, the field activities by the USGS, Interim Measure upgrade possibilities (see the IM article), and community questions.

**Treatment System Update:** We discussed with the RAB that the system is temporarily shutdown. This shutdown will allow the USGS and SUBASE to collect more data under normal groundwater flow conditions ("non-pumping") which will help in understanding the hydrology of the area. During this period, a pulse-pumping study and routine maintenance on the system will also be conducted. Although the system has been shutdown since December 1995, we expect it to be operating at its original capacity by Spring.

**A Note of Appreciation:** SUBASE would like to thank our community RAB members for their participation in our cleanup program. Working together over the last year has been very rewarding for our environmental team and extremely informative for our community members. A special thanks to John Linnehan who has recently resigned from the RAB. Moving to Jacksonville, John's efforts and environmental insights will be greatly missed.

We hope to see more of our neighbors at these quarterly meetings. Your support is important to SUBASE. For more information, contact Bob Steller at (912) 673-4714.

**Thank you, John Linnehan!**

As mentioned in previous editions of *EnviroUpdate*, SUBASE is addressing comments from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the USGS to plan additional actions to improve the current groundwater treatment system at the landfill. SUBASE is diligently working with these organizations to address short- and long-term cleanup activities that are most appropriate for the conditions at the site.

Phase I for the existing Interim Measure system was approved by GADNR and implemented by the Navy. The system currently consists of five recovery or pumping wells located to the west of the landfill. As of December 1995, more than 24 million gallons of contaminated groundwater have been removed from the aquifer, treated to reduce contaminants to acceptable levels, and discharged to the base's wastewater treatment facility.

Presently, upgrades to this system (Phase II) are in the planning stages. You might wonder why upgrades to the system are being considered since more than 24 million gallons of groundwater have been treated and the most affected parts of the aquifer are being "captured" or contained by the pumping (see *EnviroUpdate*, December 1995). The proposed Phase II upgrades are designed to extract contaminants from groundwater even more efficiently than what is currently being accomplished. The CURT, ABB-ES, and the USGS are proposing to extract larger quantities

## Get Connected with SUBASE

You can now access information about SUBASE on the World Wide Web (WWW). Our internet address is -

<http://www.gnatnet.net/~kingsbay/>

SUBASE's homepage is relatively new and takes you on a visit to the Navy's premier submarine base. Through photographs, graphics and text, you can learn about SUBASE's history, mission, homeported submarines, environmental activities, current news, upcoming events, and much more! You'll also meet the Commanding Officer, Captain Gary Williams and many of the dedicated men and women who support SUBASE's mission.

The homepage is an evolving project. More information is continuously being added and updated to make the information timely and accurate. As the homepage evolves, more and more information will be available on

## UPGRADES, PHASE II

contaminated groundwater from the most affected part of the aquifer, known as the "hot spot", by installing an additional recovery well. Targeting the hot spot and increasing the capacity of the system will make contaminant removal more efficient than it is today. A document summarizing the suggested upgrades was submitted to the GADNR during March 1996 for review. The Phase II upgrades include the following activities:

- Redevelopment of existing wells
- Development of a Performance Evaluation Plan
- Installation of recovery well(s)

Recovery wells have been operating for 2 years. The new wells will be developed to ensure optimal well efficiency and operation (see the Q&A section). In addition, a Performance Evaluation Plan will be developed to set forth criteria for evaluating the performance of the system. Based on data collected during the well development and groundwater modelling, additional well location(s) will be determined to increase the capacity of the treatment system.

For more detailed information on the Phase II upgrades is available in the Information Repository, by contacting the Public Affairs Office, or by attending the May 9th SAB meeting.

## On the World Wide Web!!

SUBASE's Installation Restoration Program activities. This newsletter, *EnviroUpdate*, will also be available online in the near future.

Up to date there have been more than 1,200 inquiries to SUBASE's homepage. The homepage is accessed by people from all over the world as well as our local neighbors. Take a look and learn more about what's happening at SUBASE and let us know what you think!



### *What progress has been made on setting the cleanup levels for the Old Camden County Landfill?*

The Navy is addressing many comments from GADNR and the USGS in an effort to characterize and understand the groundwater system in the area of the landfill. As this work continues, GADNR has indicated that setting cleanup goals for the soil and groundwater may be based on risk assessment results in the near future. This is encouraging news and will allow SUBASE's technical team to complete the risk assessments and determine realistic and attainable cleanup standards.

### *What does it mean to "redevelop" existing groundwater recovery wells?*

Well development is one important step during the construction and installation of a new groundwater well. After the hole is dug, a pipe is placed down the hole across the water table and into the aquifer. A portion of this pipe is screened with thin openings to allow the groundwater to move through the surrounding soil and filter materials into the well. Well development is a process to flush out any materials that may have built up in the screen or filter material during construction. This may be done in a number of ways. Water may be pumped from the well at a gradually increasing rate. In addition, water or air may be pumped into the formation under pressure and alternately pulled back into the well to flush out fine sands, and other construction materials.

Likewise, after a well has been operating for a while, sediment, biological and mineral buildup needs to be removed from the well screen and filter material in order to maximize well efficiency and performance. As an important maintenance step, the five existing recovery wells will be redeveloped. Based on data collected during the well redevelopment and groundwater modelling results, additional well location(s) will then be determined as part of the Phase II upgrades.

## **Questions & Answers**

### **Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay - Who To Call?**

For general questions or information about SUBASE and the environmental program, contact:



**Robert Steller**  
**Public Affairs Officer**  
**(912) 673-4714**



An Information Repository containing documents related to the environmental cleanup activities at SUBASE is also available to the public.

The Information Repository is located at:

**St. Marys Public Library**  
**100 Herb Bauer Drive**  
**St. Marys, Georgia 31558**  
**Telephone: (912) 882-4800**

**Become involved in the environmental program at SUBASE, attend a RAB meeting!**  
**These meetings are held quarterly and are open to the public.**  
**Mark your calendars for the next meeting scheduled for May 9th at 10:00 a.m.**

**Public Affairs Office**  
**Naval Submarine Base**  
**1063 USS Tennessee Avenue**  
**Kings Bay, Georgia 31547-2606**