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INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM NEWSLETTER NSB KINGS BAY GA

NSB KINGS BAY

IR Flyers

Installation Restoration Program Newsletter

This newsletter is the first in a series of newsletters which will be provided to the community on a quarterly basis or whenever significant developments in the program occur. Suggestions received during the community interviews indicated that sending information on the environmental programs at Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, through mailouts was very effective. We encourage your feedback on this approach to distributing information to you. For more information, contact Robert Steller, Public Affairs Office, (912) 673-4714.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

The Navy is hosting a public information session tonight on Tuesday, March 22, 1994 to provide the status of the environmental investigations and cleanup activities at the Old County Landfill site. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend, at their convenience, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Crooked River Elementary School.

The Commanding Officer, Captain O'Neil and his staff, along with environmental engineers, regulators and other specialists are available during this "open house" to discuss, on a one-to-one basis, the status of the Old County Landfill site and answer questions on the Naval Submarine Base's Installation Restoration Program. Informal discussion sessions with graphical displays include the following topics:

- Community Interviews Results
- Installation Restoration Program
- Regulatory Process
- Status of Investigations
- Human Health Screening Risk Evaluation
- Interim Cleanup Activities

If you are unable to attend the public information session, this newsletter provides information from the session. To find out more information

regarding the results of the public information session or the status of the environmental program at the installation, please contact Mr. Robert Steller, Public Affairs Officer, at (912) 673-4714.

STATUS OF INVESTIGATIONS

RCRA Facility Investigation

The Final Interim RCRA Facility Investigation Report for the Old County Landfill was completed in December 1993. This report presented the results of three phases of the RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI). The three phases have been ongoing since January 1992 and include:

- RFI field program and bimonthly groundwater sampling,
- Phase I Interim Investigation, and
- Interim Corrective Measure Screening Investigation

The community is encouraged to review this report for a complete status of the investigations to date. A copy is located at the Information Repository (see page 6) or contact the Public Affairs Office.

Question and Answer Column

The Question and Answer column will be a regular feature in the Installation Restoration Program Newsletter. In this issue the results of the community interviews are highlighted. Typical questions asked during the community interviews are presented below. We request the community to direct any questions regarding the environmental investigations and the Installation Restoration Program to Robert Steller at the Public Affairs Office, (912) 673-4714. Questions will be addressed in regular mailings of this Newsletter.

What is the Installation Restoration Program?

For several decades, the mission of the Navy has required the use, handling, storage, and disposal of toxic and hazardous materials. In the past, few regulations guided operations involving these materials and little was known about their long-term effects on human health and the environment.

Since 1975 the Department of Defense has given priority to properly managing its hazardous materials. The Installation Restoration Program was established to identify and address contamination resulting from past practices, which do not meet today's environmental standards.

Under the Installation Restoration Program, environmental investigation and cleanups follow a step-by-step approach as required by law. In general, the steps are to:

- identify potential sites or contaminated areas,
- determine the type and extent of contamination through detailed investigations,
- evaluate cleanup actions or alternatives, and
- design and construct the selected cleanup action.

These steps are conducted in accordance with two Federal environmental laws, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). At Submarine Naval Base the environmental cleanup is following the RCRA regulations (the RCRA Corrective Action Process is shown on page 5).

Why is the surface water in the neighborhood ditches rust colored and is the Navy investigating this?

Yes, the Navy is investigating the rust colored water in the neighborhood ditches. Investigations indicate that rust color results from algae and iron in the water. This situation is quite common and not harmful. The investigation of the rust colored water is not related to the investigations in the landfill.

After the groundwater is cleaned up, will there be residual contamination in the soils?

Presently, the Navy knows that the groundwater is affected in the area of the landfill and in a west-northwest direction under the Crooked River Plantation Subdivision. The supplemental investigations described on page 2, are designed to determine the level of contamination, if any, in surface soils, subsurface soils, sediments, surface water, and air. The results of these investigations will be included in the RFI Report expected to be completed in late 1995. Corrective measures for any contamination found in the soils, sediments, surface water and air will be evaluated, along with the measures for cleaning up the groundwater, in the overall Corrective Action Plan for the site.

What is the location of the plume?

The location of the plume has not changed since the last public information session in September 1993. Results of the groundwater data collected to date are included in the Interim RCRA Facility Investigation Report (December 1993) which is available for review at the Information Repository or contact the Public Affairs Office. Presently, data from groundwater monitoring events are being evaluated and interpreted. As new information is available, results will be

INSTALLATION RESTORATION (IR) PROGRAM

Before federal environmental cleanup laws were passed by Congress, the Department of Defense developed a proactive program to address the environmental conditions created by releases of hazardous substances, or contaminants, from past spills and disposal practices. The Installation Restoration (IR) Program is an environmental program of investigation and cleanup being conducted at military installations nationwide.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA) and the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (HSWA) provide a regulatory framework for the proper management of solid and hazardous wastes. This federal law established a tracking system for hazardous wastes from its generation through its ultimate disposal. It also provides for a permitting system for

facilities that treat, store, and dispose of hazardous waste to ensure proper operation.

The 1984 amendments greatly expanded the scope of RCRA to require cleanups, or corrective actions, at facilities that are seeking or subject to a RCRA permit, whenever hazardous substances are released into the environment. The RCRA corrective action process identifies solid waste management units, determines the type and extent of contamination, and identifies and evaluated appropriate solutions, or corrective measures to clean up the site.

STRUCTURE OF THE IR PROGRAM AT NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE, KINGS BAY

Under the IR Program, the Navy facilities conduct environmental cleanup activities through a proactive, step-by-step approach, from initial site identification through selection of cleanup actions. In accordance with RCRA regulations, the cleanup process follows the steps outlined below.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Corrective Action Process

