

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 31, 2012

TO: Mr. Robert Wilson, California Department of Public Health - EMB

FROM: William McGinnis, PE, Lead Remedial Project Manager, Alameda Team
Naval Facilities Engineering Southwest
Base Realignment and Closure
Program Management Office West
1455 Frazee Road, Suite 900
San Diego, California 92108-4310

SUBJECT: Final Scoping Survey Conclusions, Former Smelter Area, Alameda Point, Alameda, CA

The Former Smelter Area (FSA) is a 40,000-square-foot open area between Building 66 and Building 399 at the former Naval Air Station Alameda (now known as Alameda Point), California. Much of the area identified as the FSA in early site drawings is now occupied by Buildings 398 and 399 and heating/cooling/air conditioning machinery. A concrete pad west of Building 399 is the only remaining visible structure related to the smelter.

There is no documentation to indicate that radiologically contaminated metals were melted down in the smelter at Alameda but historically this has happened at other military bases. The Historical Radiological Assessment (HRA) Volume II (Weston Solutions, Inc. [Weston] 2007) for Alameda Point rated the radiological contamination potential at the smelter as “unlikely” for contamination but recommended that a scoping survey be performed to determine if it was impacted by radionuclides. As a precaution, the Navy conducted the scoping survey in 2010.

The Navy performed a scoping survey of the accessible portions of the FSA. The scoping survey included various radiological surveys and sampling of soil and storm drain sediment. The results of the scoping survey indicate that there is no evidence of residual radioactivity from historical Navy activities at the smelter in the exposed soil or on the concrete pad. All measurements were obtained in accordance with the approved work plan (ChaduxTt 2010). Quality assurance checks of instruments were performed throughout the survey process in accordance with the approved work plan and only validated data were used to support the conclusion of this scoping survey report.

In summary, the results of the scoping survey did not identify radioactivity in any accessible areas in the FSA that can be associated with the Navy’s activities and the radioactivity measured at the FSA is indistinguishable from background radiation. Therefore, the Former Smelter Area is considered non-impacted and no further actions are necessary.

References:

- ChaduxTt. 2012. Revised Final Scoping Survey Report Former Smelter Area, *Former Naval Air Station Alameda, Alameda, California*. August 31.
- Weston Solutions, Inc. 2007. *Final Historical Radiological Assessment, Alameda Naval Air Station, Alameda, California, Use of general Radioactive Materials, 1941-2005*. Two Volumes. June.