

Non-Time Critical Removal Action for IR Program Site 19



Fact Sheet

Weapons Support Facility, Seal Beach, Seal Beach, California

May 1998



INTRODUCTION

The Department of the Navy (Navy), after evaluating comments received during a public comment period (held February to March 1998), will conduct a cleanup of soils contaminated with a pesticide (dieldrin), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) (Aroclor-1254), and five metals (antimony, arsenic, beryllium, copper, and lead) at the Weapons Support Facility, Seal Beach (WPNSUPPFAC, Seal Beach). This cleanup will be conducted under the Installation Restoration (IR) Program. The purpose of the IR Program is to identify, assess, characterize, and clean up or control contamination from past hazardous waste disposal operations and hazardous material spills at Navy installations. This program incorporates federal and state laws and regulations governing environmental investigation and cleanup, e.g. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA); Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act; and the National Contingency Plan.

The California Environmental Protection Agency Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region are providing regulatory oversight for all IR Program activities.

The Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

(SWDIV), is administering the IR Program.

The WPNSUPPFAC, Seal Beach is an operating base and not currently scheduled for closure.

SITE BACKGROUND

The WPNSUPPFAC, Seal Beach is located within the City of Seal Beach, approximately 30 miles south of Los Angeles. Site 19 is located in the southwestern part of the facility, approximately 3,000 feet southwest of the Main Gate (100 feet west of Building 241), and 350 feet from Seal Beach Boulevard.

Site 19 consists of two contaminated areas: a disposal pit (50 feet by 75 feet); and a sandblast grit area (55 feet by 46 feet), located just to the north of the disposal pit. Site 19 is an unpaved area surrounded by paved areas and buildings.

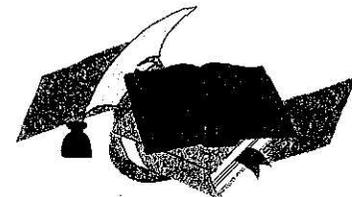
During the early 1970's, wastes generated from Building 241 were reportedly collected and placed in the disposal pit at least once a week. Building 241 had been used since the early 1960's to maintain and overhaul missile containers. Maintenance activities included sandblasting, welding, parts replacement and painting. The reported wastes generated in Building 241 included paint, lacquer thinner, solvents, mineral oil (contained within 5-gallon and quart cans), damaged rubber cushions, metal banding, wood, rags, and two automobiles. In the mid 1970's, the pit was closed and covered with approximately 6 feet of soil. In 1989, slurry from the air handling systems of the sandblasting grit chamber was flushed out onto Site 19

through a hose in the area northeast of the disposal pit. The contaminants of concern in soil include a pesticide (dieldrin), PCBs (Aroclor-1254), and five metals (antimony, arsenic, beryllium, copper, and lead).

PRE-NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

DTSC is currently evaluating the risk to the environment and public health from this proposal to excavate and remove contaminated soils. Once the evaluation is complete, it will be circulated for public review and comment.

For more information, please contact Mr. Rafat Abbasi, P.E., DTSC Project Manager, at (714) 484-5449. Notification of the comment period will be made through newspaper advertisement and direct mail.



PREVIOUS SITE INVESTIGATIONS

Between 1985 and 1997, a series of investigations were conducted at Site 19. Based on risk evaluations, "no further action" was recommended for groundwater. There is no significant threat to human health or ecological receptors from groundwater at Site 19.

Investigations did confirm that metals were present in soil at concentrations above their background values; organic compounds were present in soil at concentrations above the detection limits. Risk evaluations were performed to assess the potential impact of these metals and organic compounds on human health and ecological receptors at Site 19.

The results indicate that if homes were built on Site 19, concentrations of certain metals and organic compounds may cause carcinogenic and/or systemic (noncarcinogenic) effects in the residents. The chemicals of concern in the Site 19 soils, based on human health risk criteria, are a pesticide (dieldrin), PCBs (Aroclor-1254), and five metals (antimony, arsenic, beryllium, copper, and lead) in the disposal pit; the chemicals of concern in the sandblast grit area are a pesticide (dieldrin), PCBs (Aroclor-1254), and three metals (antimony, arsenic, and lead). Therefore, the Navy decided to conduct a removal action. This decision was made after consultation with the regulatory agencies.

Results from ecological risk evaluations show that although ecological risk may be present at Site 19, the potential risk is likely minimal due to the active industrial setting and small area. As used today, the site is not considered a favorable habitat for wildlife. As a result, the cleanup of Site 19 will be based solely on the protection of human health.



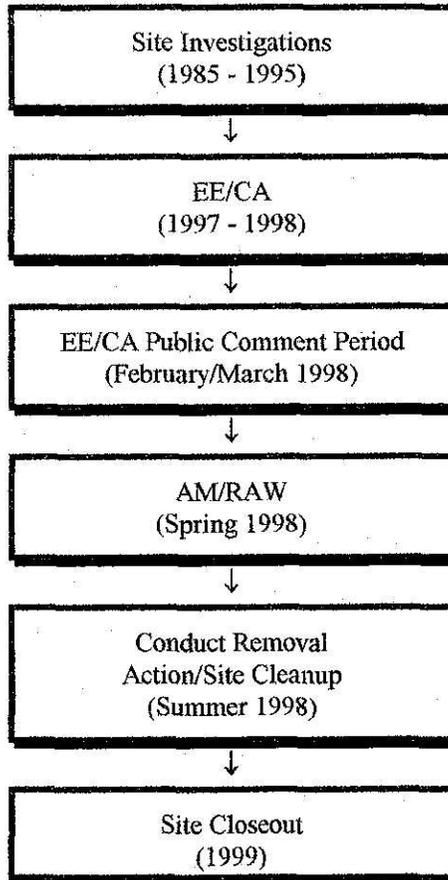
REMOVAL ACTIONS

There are various types of removal actions outlined in the laws and statutes. Since the conditions at Site 19 do not present an immediate threat to human health and the environment, a non-time critical removal action was

selected. This type of removal is documented through an Engineering Evaluation/ Cost Analysis (EE/CA).

The EE/CA provides information on the source, nature, and extent of contamination, and risks present at the site. It also identifies the basic objective of the removal action and analyzes the effectiveness, implementability, and cost of various alternatives that may be used to satisfy these objectives. The draft EE/CA for this removal action was circulated for a 30-day public comment period in February and March 1998; the EE/CA will be finalized in May 1998. A draft Action Memorandum/Removal Action Work Plan (AM/RAW) has been prepared to document the Navy's decision on the recommended alternative.

NON-TIME CRITICAL REMOVAL ACTION PROCESS



IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF REMOVAL ACTION ALTERNATIVES

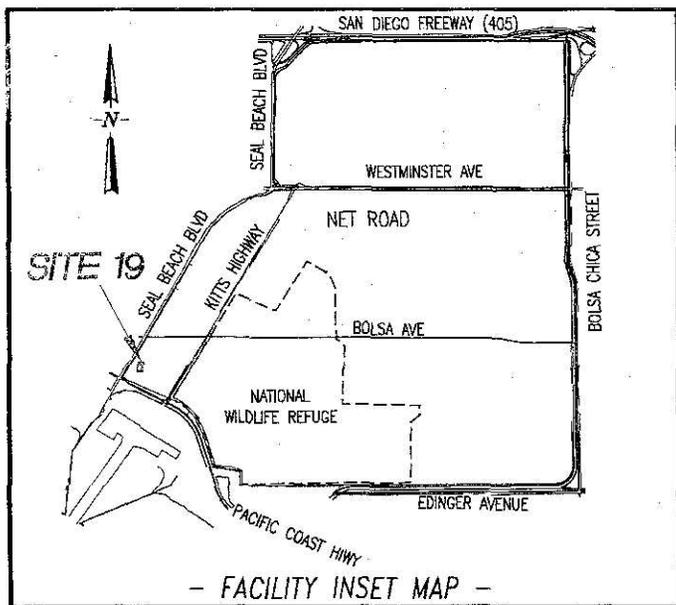
The EE/CA for Site 19 identified and evaluated nine (9) removal action alternatives, representing a broad range of treatment and disposal options which were selected based on site characteristics and the chemicals of concern:

- Alternative 1 - Excavation and Off-Site Disposal;
- Alternative 2 - Excavation, On-Site Stabilization/Solidification, and Use as:
 - ♦ Option 1 - Pavement Sub-Base, or
 - ♦ Option 2 - Foundation Layer for Landfill Cover;
- Alternative 3 - Excavation, On-Site Stabilization/Solidification, and Backfill In Place;
- Alternative 4 - Excavation, On-Site Stabilization/Solidification, and Off-Site Disposal;
- Alternative 5 -Excavation, On-Site Treatment Using Soil Washing, and Backfill In-Place;
- Alternative 6 - Excavation, On-Site Treatment Using Soil Washing, and Off-Site Disposal;
- Alternative 7 - *In-Situ* Stabilization/Solidification;
- Alternative 8 - Containment (Capping); and
- Alternative 9 - No Action.

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE

Of the nine (9) alternatives evaluated in the EE/CA, the Navy recommended Alternative 1 because it best meets the removal action objectives and regulatory requirements.

Map details deleted as per Navy Internet security regulations.



SITE MAP - IR SITE 19
WEAPONS SUPPORT FACILITY SEAL BEACH

Alternative 1 includes soil characterization, excavating all of the disposal pit refuse and contaminated soil, confirmation sampling, soil classification for disposal, loading and hauling the material to a permitted off-site disposal facility, and backfilling the area with inert soil from the excavation and clean imported soil.

ACTION MEMORANDUM/ REMOVAL ACTION WORK PLAN

The Navy's proposed decision to perform excavation and off-site disposal at Site 19 is documented in an AM/RAW. The AM/RAW is the primary decision document that substantiates the need for a removal action, identifies the proposed action, and explains the rationale for the particular type of removal action selected.

To satisfy California Health and Safety Code requirements, the Navy incorporated the RAW into the AM to substantiate the need for a removal action, identify removal activities, and explain why excavation and off-site disposal is the best alternative.

INFORMATION REPOSITORIES and ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

Two Information Repositories have been established for WPNSUPPFAC, Seal Beach in accordance with CERCLA:

- 1) Seal Beach Public Library,
Mary Wilson Branch,
707 Electric Avenue,
Seal Beach, CA
(562) 431-3584
- 2) WPNSUPPFAC, Seal Beach,
Bldg 110
For Access Contact:
Mr. Rob Robinson
(562) 626-6069

These Information Repositories are open to the public and include key project documents and background information on the nature of site problems, environmental investigations, planned response actions and public involvement activities.

The CERCLA Administrative Record (AR), also accessible to the public, is located at SWDIV, 1220 Pacific Highway, in San Diego. For access contact: Ms. Chris Potter, AR Coordinator, (619) 532-1144.

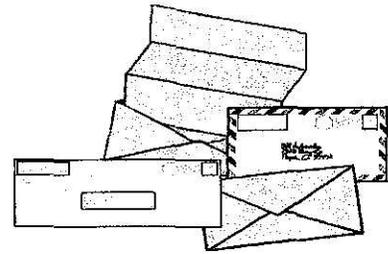


COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

A community-based Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) was formed at WPNSUPPFAC, Seal Beach in response to President Clinton's Executive Order calling for greater public involvement in the environmental investigation and cleanup of military bases. RAB members review and comment on environmental documents (such as the EE/CA and AM/RAW for Site 19), attend meetings, and act as a liaison between the facility's environmental program and the community.

The RAB for the WPNSUPPFAC, Seal Beach was established in January 1995, and typically meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 PM. The public is invited to attend these meetings.

For more information about the RAB, contact Mr. Mario Voce, Community Co-Chair at (562) 431-4760.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

The following individuals may be contacted for further information:

- Mr. Rob Robinson
WPNSUPPFAC, Seal Beach
Environmental Engineer
(562) 626-6069
- Mr. Dave Baillie
WPNSUPPFAC, Seal Beach
Environmental Director
and RAB Navy Co-Chair
(562) 626-6068
- Mr. Andrew Dick, SWDIV
Remedial Project Manager
619) 532-1153
- Mr. Rafat Abbasi, P.E., DTSC
Project Manager
(714) 484-5449
- Ms. Marsha Mingay, DTSC
Public Participation Specialist
(714) 484-5416

Place
Stamp
Here

Weapons Support Facility, Seal Beach
Commanding Officer
Attn: Rob Robinson, Code: 043
800 Seal Beach Boulevard
Seal Beach, CA 90740-5000



Printed on Recycled Paper

