REMOVAL ACTION
AT INSTALLATION RESTORATION SITES 5 AND 10
ALAMEDA POINT, ALAMEDA, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 2007

SITE BACKGROUND

Installation Restoration (IR) Sites 5 and 10 consist of Buildings 5 and 400, respectively, located in the central portion of the former Naval Air Station at Alameda Point. These buildings were used for missile rework operations, aircraft maintenance, and other specialty operations. Each building also operated an instrument shop that maintained aircraft instruments that utilized radioluminescent paint.

The radioluminescent paint contained radium-226 that was mixed with fluorescent zinc sulfide to make paint that would glow in the dark. This paint was then applied to aircraft instruments and switches to make them visible in darkened conditions. Wastes from this operation were identified as having been discharged into the sewer and storm drain system. Radiological characterization activities have verified the presence of low-level radium-226 in the storm drain lines that discharged from the instrument shops within Buildings 5 and 400.

Building 5 is currently vacant. Building 400 is leased to several tenants, including a used car export company, art studies, and a woodworking shop.

REMOVAL ACTION OBJECTIVE

The Navy has planned a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Time-Critical Removal Action to dispose of radioactive contamination that may be present in or around the storm drain lines near Buildings 5 and 400. The primary objective of this removal action is to protect human health and the environment by physically removing low-level radium-226 impacted drain lines and soils, thus preventing potential migration of contaminated material within or outside of the storm drain and sewer systems.

The removal action is being carried out by an approved Action Memorandum and Time-Critical Removal Action Work Plan with oversight from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency, and the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board.

REMOVAL ACTION

To achieve the removal action objectives, the Navy will remove potentially contaminated storm drain lines and associated soil as indicated on Figure 1.

The removal action will consist of excavating trenches to access and remove the potentially contaminated drain lines and surrounding soils. Once the drain lines are removed from the trench excavations, the in-place trench soils will be tested for remaining contamination, which will also be removed if above the action level. A new storm drain system will be installed "in kind", trenches will be backfilled with clean import material, and the surface will be restored. All excavated material will be surveyed and tested for contamination, then disposed of in accordance with all applicable regulations in an off-site licensed facility.

Excavation locations will be delineated with signs, lights, temporary railings, and barricades. Excavation activities will be phased in segments along the length of the drain lines to minimize disruption during the course of the project. Open excavations will be closed at the end of each work day with trench plates.

Although minimal delays may occur, convenient access to roadways will be maintained during construction activities. Dust abatement measures will be applied as needed to the on-site roads used by construction vehicles for prevention of dust nuisance.

Potential risk from this work to nearby tenants is minimal and will be constantly monitored by designated Health & Safety professionals during operations.

IR SITES 5 AND 10 REMOVAL ACTION SCHEDULE

Mobilization and pre-excavation setup began in August 2007 and are ongoing, while excavation activities are anticipated to begin in Early November.

Backfilling and site restoration are estimated to be complete by April 2008.

QUESTIONS

For more information about this action, please see:

Information Repository

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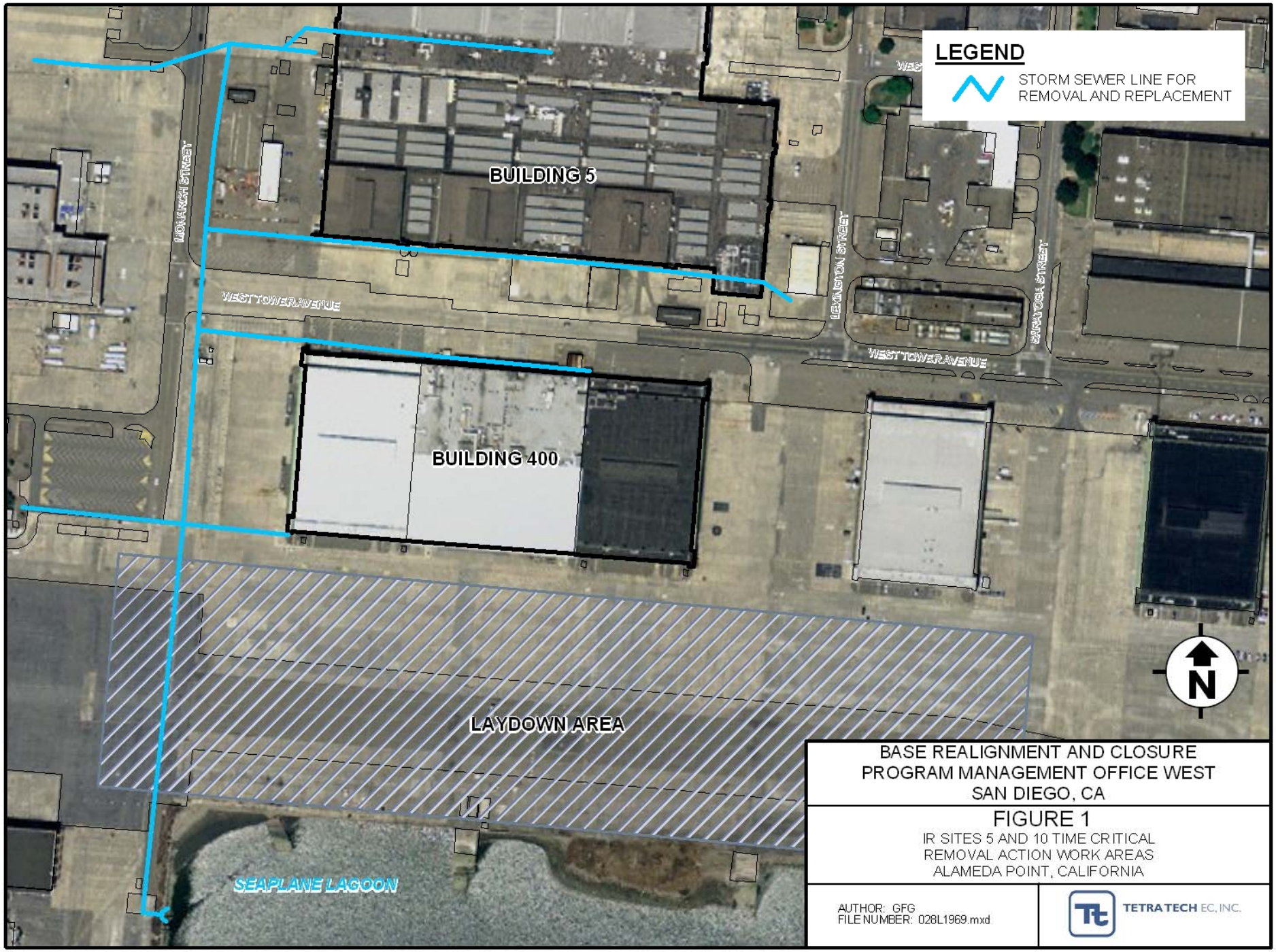

BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE
PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE WEST
SAN DIEGO, CA

FIGURE 1

IR SITES 5 AND 10 TIME CRITICAL
REMOVAL ACTION WORK AREAS
ALAMEDA POINT, CALIFORNIA

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