

**- PUBLIC NOTICE -**  
**FORMER MARINE CORPS AIR STATION EL TORO**  
**INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM (IRP)**

**Cleanup of Contaminated Soil Successful at IRP Site 24**  
**VOC Source Area, No Further Action Proposed**

The U.S. Marine Corps invites the public to comment on a Proposed Plan to take No Further Action for the soil at IRP Site 24, the Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Source Area. Soil at Site 24 has been successfully cleaned up and is no longer a source of contamination to the regional groundwater. Chemicals classified as VOCs, mainly consisting of industrial solvents, were used for degreasing parts, paint stripping, and aircraft washing at Site 24 at [the former Marine Corps Air Station \(MCAS\)](#). Past chemical releases contaminated the soil and migrated downward into the groundwater, resulting in a plume of contaminated groundwater that extends about [three](#) miles to the west of the station. With soil cleanup complete at Site 24, soil is no longer a source for contaminating groundwater. Cleanup of the VOC groundwater plume is being addressed separately from the soil.

The Proposed Plan briefly summarizes the soil investigation and cleanup conducted at Site 24 and the No Further Action proposal. Cleanup was performed according to the Interim Record of Decision (ROD) for Site 24 that documented the remedy selected to remove VOCs from soil and established cleanup goals for soil. The Interim ROD was concurred upon in 1997 by all regulatory agencies that are signatory to the MCAS El Toro Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Californian Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the Cal/EPA's Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board. These agencies, along with the Navy, make up the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team. Cleanup was accomplished using soil vapor extraction (SVE) technology that effectively removed VOCs from the soil without requiring excavation. VOCs were removed when a vacuum was applied to a network of vapor extraction wells installed above the groundwater table; contaminants from the soil were pulled along with the vapors or soil gas as it was extracted to the surface. At the surface, soil vapor was passed through a granular activated carbon filter system. VOCs in the vapor were trapped on the filters and clean air was dispersed to the atmosphere. The activated carbon was regenerated at an off-station facility and reused.

Technical details and specific results are presented in a document titled, "Draft Final Site Closure Report, Vadose Zone Remediation, IRP Site 24, Volatile Organics Compound Source Area, June 2002." Pursuant to the MCAS El Toro FFA, the closure report is considered a final document. The MCAS El Toro BRAC Cleanup Team has evaluated technical information and tests results pertaining to soil cleanup and concurs with the Marine Corps' recommendation for No Further Action for soil at Site 24.

**30-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD**

**July 14 through August 12, 2005**

The public is encouraged to comment on the Proposed Plan for Site 24 during the 30-day public comment period. Comments may be submitted orally at the July 27, 2005 public meeting (see below), or by regular mail, e-mail, or fax. **Written comments should be postmarked no later than August 12, 2005 and mailed to:**

**Mr. F. Andrew Piszkin  
BRAC Environmental Coordinator  
MCAS El Toro, 7040 Trabuco Road, Irvine, CA 92618**

**Comments may also be faxed to Mr. Piszkin at (619) 532-0780  
or sent via e-mail to [content.arnold@navy.mil](mailto:content.arnold@navy.mil) no later than August 12, 2005.**

The Proposed Plan and associated documents are available for public review and comment at the MCAS El Toro Administrative Record and at the MCAS El Toro Information Repository. To obtain a copy of the Proposed Plan or arrange a time to review documents at MCAS El Toro, contact Ms. Marge Flesch at (949) 726-5398. The Information Repository is located at: Heritage Park Regional Library, 14361 Yale Avenue, Irvine, California, (949) 551-7151 (call for current hours).

## **PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**Wednesday, July 27, 2005**

**Irvine City Hall  
One Civic Center Plaza, Harvard at Alton Parkway  
Conference and Training Center**

***Site 24 Proposed Plan for No Further Action for Soil  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.***

This meeting provides the public with the opportunity to learn more about the Marine Corps' Proposed Plan for No Further Action for soil at Site 24 and to provide oral or written comments on the plan.

**6:30 – 6:45      *Meet Marine Corps and Regulatory Agency Representatives*  
6:45 – 7:15      *Formal Presentation*  
7:15 – 7:30      *Public Comments and Questions***

▲ ▲ ▲

***MCAS El Toro Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) - 76<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
7:45 - 9:00 p.m.***

The RAB is composed of concerned citizens and government representatives involved in the environmental cleanup program at MCAS El Toro. The RAB has been meeting regularly since 1994. All RAB meetings are open to the public. [At this RAB meeting, the new BRAC Environmental Coordinator for Former MCAS El Toro will be introduced to the public.](#)

For further information about these meetings, please contact Mr. F. Andrew Piszkin at (619) 532-0784, Ms. Content Arnold, Lead Remedial Project Manager at (619) 532-0790, or Ms. Jill Votaw BRAC [Program Management Office \(PMO\)](#) Public Affairs Officer at (619) 532-0941.