# ALAMEDA POINT FOCUS

Issue 2

NAVFAC Naval Facilities Engineering Command

Spring 2004

This newsletter has been developed to provide interested community members with information about the U.S. Navy's environmental activities at Alameda Point.

Environmental activities began at Alameda Point in the early 1980s and continue today. The Navy anticipates that cleanup for the remainder of Alameda Point will cost about $181 million and will be completed by 2013. State and federal regulatory agencies provide oversight and approval of all work conducted.

Your input is important for the program's success! Please give us a call if you have questions, want more information or would like to have us make a brief presentation about plans for Alameda Point at your next community group event.

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*You may also leave a message on our local community relations line at (510) 759-5952.*

## Cleanup Options Being Evaluated for Site 25 in the Northeastern Area

Two draft feasibility studies for Site 25, which is located in the northeastern area of Alameda Point and is currently occupied by the Coast Guard, are available for public review and comment. One feasibility study addresses soil at Site 25, and the other documents groundwater issues related to Site 25 and the neighboring Alameda Annex. The studies evaluate methods to clean up polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, commonly called PAHs, benzene, and metals.

*Navy environmental consultants line soil excavations areas in the North Housing area.*

Site 25 covers about 43 acres of land in the northeastern area of Alameda Point and consists of Estuary Park and the North Housing area (Coast Guard housing). Some soil within this area contains PAHs. Historically, this area was used by the Navy for military housing and the Navy believes that PAHs were present in the original fill material used to create this area.

A remedial investigation report for Site 25 was completed in 2002. This report addressed all areas of soil not addressed in the 2001/2002 removal action (see box on page 3). Soil and groundwater samples were collected, and sample results indicate some areas of soil outside of the removal action areas contain PAHs, benzene and metals. Additionally, groundwater underneath the site contains benzene.

Upon regulatory acceptance of the remedial investigation report, the Navy prepared a feasibility study to evaluate various options for addressing site contamination. The Navy incorporated data collected during the 2001/2002 removal action into the feasibility study.

The soil feasibility study identifies various methods to address soil including excavation to various depths and institutional controls such as deed restrictions.

The groundwater feasibility study evaluates options to address

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# 2003...A Busy Year For Environmental Cleanup

The Navy made significant progress in the investigation and cleanup of Alameda Point this past year. The Navy spent about $55 million in 2003 and accomplished the following:

Completed a removal action of PAH-contaminated soil in the West Housing Area

Completed work plans for chemical oxidation and soil heating removal actions at Sites 5, 9 and 16

Removed old water towers and antennas that contained lead based paints

Completed remedial investigations for Sites 14, 15 and 26

Submitted draft feasibility studies for Sites 14 and 26

Completed the chemical oxidation pilot tests at Sites 9, 11/21 and 16

Completed soil heating pilot tests at Sites 5-1 and 4-1

Completed Operable Unit 5 remedial investigation and draft feasibility study for soil

Completed remedial investigation and feasibility study for groundwater at Operable Unit 5 and Alameda Annex

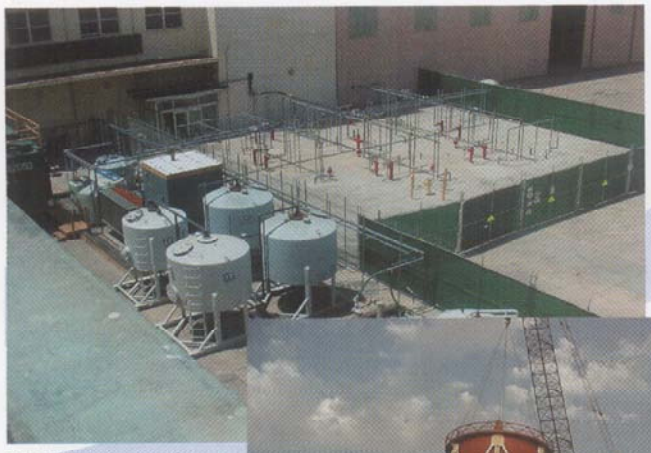
In the petroleum program, the following quantities of fuel were removed:

220 pounds at the Building 397 jet fuel spill

1,470 pounds at the Parcel 37 aircraft fuel storage area

1,750 pounds at the Site 7 gas station

39,500 pounds at the Building 530 aircraft defueling area



*Pilot Scale System for Six Phase Soil Heating System at Site 5.*

*West Housing areas were restored to their original condition upon completion of removal action.*

*Removal of the north water tower which contained lead based paint.*

*Navy environmental consultants remove PAH-contaminated soil in West Housing Area.*

# Cleanup

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groundwater at Site 25 and the adjacent Alameda Annex, as follows:

- No action (this alternative is used as a comparison against other alternatives)
- Monitoring of groundwater to document the natural breakdown and degradation of chemicals that occurs over time coupled with institutional controls –
- Inserting air into groundwater to enhance natural breakdown and degradations of chemicals, monitoring of groundwater and institutional controls.

Comments from the public on the feasibility studies are currently being evaluated. The Navy will consider all public comments before finalizing plans to address soil and groundwater. Upon final approval of the studies, the Navy will prepare a Proposed Plan that outlines a preferred method to clean up Site 25. The Proposed Plan will be available for public review and comment in 2005.

## 2001 / 2002 Soil Removal

**In August 2002, the Navy completed a large-scale soil removal action in the Estuary Park and the North Housing area. Removal actions are taken to reduce potential health threats while long-term solutions are being evaluated. The Navy removed the top 2 feet of soil over an area of about 847,000 square feet. The excavated areas were then covered with clean fill and new sod.**

# Transitions

### GOOD-BYE TO...

Mike McClelland, former BRAC Environmental Coordinator for Alameda Point, retired in December 2004. Mike worked for the Navy for 35 years and is looking forward to building his dream home in Washington and retiring there with his wife. We wish him well!

Steve Edde, Navy Environmental Liaison, retired in July 2003.

*Thomas Macchiarella (left) has replaced Mike McClelland as the BRAC Environmental Coordinator for Alameda Point.*

Steve was employed by the Navy for 32 years, working first as an industrial engineer in aircraft maintenance at Alameda Point, second in environmental cleanup activities at Alameda Point, and finally to his last position as the Navy's local point-of-contact for technical and community relations inquiries. Steve is now working as a consultant at an environmental engineering firm and finds his new position exciting and fulfilling.

Andrew Dick, former Lead Remedial Project Manager, and Rick Weissenborn, Remedial Project Manager for Alameda Point, have taken positions at other Navy bases. We wish them the best of luck.

### AND HELLO TO...

Thomas Macchiarella has replaced Mike McClelland in his role as the BRAC Environmental Coordinator for Alameda Point. Thomas will be responsible for coordinating all aspects of environmental cleanup and base closure. He recently had the same role at the Long Beach Naval Complex and a Navy housing facility in Novato, California. Please join us in welcoming him.

Greg Lorton has replaced Andrew Dick as Lead Remedial Project Manager for Alameda Point. He will be responsible for overseeing all investigation and cleanup work at Alameda Point. Greg has worked on environmental projects at Alameda Point for the past 4 years and is very familiar with the technical issues at the former base and with the community.

Darren Newton has taken the role of Remedial Project Manager for Alameda Point and is responsible for overseeing investigation and cleanup work at a variety of sites. Darren has 14 years of engineering experience most recently working for Bechtel on the Miramar and El Centro bases.

*Jean and Jim Sweeney RAB Chair and Co-Chair.*

Claudia Domingo has also taken the role of Remedial Project Manager for Alameda Point. Claudia has 10 years of experience and recently worked as a project manager for investigation and cleanup work at Edwards Air Force Base.

The Navy welcomes Jean and Jim Sweeney as the new Community Co-Chair and Vice-Co-Chair, respectively, for the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). Jean and Jim are 32 year residents of Alameda and both have been active RAB members several years. Jean also serves on the Alameda Annex

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# Transitions

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RAB. Jean replaces Bert Morgan as the past RAB Community Co-Chair.

Michael Schmitz, an Alameda resident, has recently joined the RAB. Michael is an attorney with a planning background and has experience in toxic pollution regulation, economic development, redevelopment and land use. Welcome to our newest RAB member.

# Information Repositories

The Navy maintains two information repositories for Alameda Point that contain project documents and other reference materials related to the investigation and cleanup program. You are encouraged to review the documents to gain a more complete understanding of the environmental work. The repositories are updated as new information becomes available.

**Alameda Point**
950 West Mall Square, Building 1,
Room 141 Alameda, CA
(510) 749-5952
Hours:
Monday – Friday
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Alameda Library
2200 A Central Avenue
Alameda, CA
(510) 747-7777

Hours:
Mon/Wed 9:30 am -9:00 pm
Tues/Thurs/Fri/Sat 9:30 am 5:30 pm
Sun: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

# Community Relations Plan for Alameda Point is Done

The Navy has completed the new community relations plan for Alameda Point. The plan outlines how the public can be involved in the Superfund cleanup decision-making process, explains how the Navy will communicate with interested community members, and documents interest in environmental activities at Alameda Point.

The community relations plan is available at the information repositories and select portions can be found at the Navy's website at www.efdsw.navfac.navy.mil/environmental/alamedapoint.htm. Check it out!

# For More Information

The Navy welcomes your input. If you have questions or concerns or want more information please contact:

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You may also leave a message at our local community relations line at (510) 759-5952

# Upcoming RAB meetings

The RAB consists of representatives of the community who advise the Navy, as well as state and federal regulators, on environmental cleanup issues and strategies for Alameda Point. You are invited to attend one of the monthly RAB meetings to learn more about cleanup activities at Alameda Point. The RAB meetings are held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the City of Alameda offices, 950 West Mall Square, Building 1, Room 140. See you there!

- Thursday, June 3
- Thursday, July 1
- Thursday, August 5

# Web Site

For more information about the Navy's cleanup program at Alameda Point, or to see a map of the sites, visit our website at:

http://www.efdsw.navfac.navy.mil/environmental/alamedapoint.htm

NAVFAC
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