Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant-Northrop Grumman Groundwater Contaminant Plume

Bethpage, New York

Questions & Answers

January 2019

1. What is the status of recent remedial activities at the Northrop Grumman Bethpage Facility and the U.S. Navy NWIRP Site?

   Northrop Grumman Activities

   a. Northrop Grumman continues to operate the on-site groundwater containment system (ONCT). This system prevents off-site migration of site contaminants by withdrawing 5.5 million gallons of contaminated water per day from five groundwater extraction wells. Operation of this system has produced an area of clean water downgradient of the ONCT system and the system has removed nearly 200,000 pounds of VOC contamination from the aquifer since operation began in 1998.
   b. Northrop Grumman continues to operate Bethpage Community Park on-site groundwater containment system (BCP ONCT). This system prevents off-site migration of site contaminants by withdrawing 0.3 million gallons of contaminated water per day from four groundwater extraction wells. Operation of this system has produced an area of clean water downgradient of the BCP ONCT system and the system has removed nearly 2,200 pounds of VOC contamination from the aquifer since operation began in 2009.
   c. Northrop Grumman continues to seek access to property for completing the RW-21 Area groundwater extraction and treatment system. The RW-21 Area is an off-site area where high concentrations of site contaminants exist in groundwater. Property access is needed for installing underground conveyance piping, managing treated water with existing recharge basins, and constructing the air stripping treatment plant.
   d. Northrop Grumman is preparing to begin drilling a series of in-situ thermal remediation wells to address VOC contamination that remains in soil in the area of the Former Grumman Settling Ponds (former ballfield area). The in-situ thermal remedy will begin in mid-2019.

   U.S. Navy Activities

   e. The U.S. Navy continues to operate an off-site groundwater containment system in the GM-38 Area. The system relies on two groundwater extraction wells, an air stripping treatment plant, and the return of treated water to the aquifer system to prevent further off-site migration of an area where high concentrations site contaminants exist in groundwater. In total, of the system has removed approximately 10,000 pounds of VOC contamination from the aquifer.

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f. The U.S. Navy continues to seek access to property for completing the RE-108 Area groundwater extraction and treatment system. The RE-108 Area is an off-site area where high concentrations of site contaminants exist in groundwater. At the request of the NYSDEC and EPA and to allow the Navy to begin addressing the RE-108 Area more rapidly than the original schedule for the full RE-108 groundwater recovery system (operational in 2022/2023), the RE-108 Area was divided into a Phase I and Phase II. The U.S. Navy expects the Phase I RE-108 groundwater extraction and treatment system to be operating in 2019.
g. The U.S. Navy is preparing for an on-site remedial action to remove PCB contaminated soil per a 2019 Record of Decision for Site 1 (Former Drum Marshaling Area). This involves the excavation and off-site disposal of PCB contaminated soil. This remedial action will begin by mid-2019.

2. What is the status of NYSDEC's Detailed Engineering Analysis/Feasibility Study?

a. The USGS Modeling Phase I and Phase II Groundwater Flow Modeling was completed in November 2018.
b. The NYSDEC is currently reviewing a draft Feasibility Study (FS) that was submitted on January 11, 2019.
c. A draft Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) has been prepared and is currently being updated based on the recently submitted draft FS.
d. The NYSDEC expects to finalize the FS and PRAP, start a 30-day public comment period, and hold a public meeting during the comment period in the near future, which will be followed by issuance of the Record of Decision.

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