FACT SHEET
Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (HPNS)
Radiological Data Review

January 2017

This fact sheet summarizes the plan for radiological data review, evaluation, and community engagement at Hunters Point Naval Shipyard ("the Shipyard").

Please come to the community meeting about this topic February 8, 2016, etc.

Public safety is the highest priority as the Navy and its team conduct investigations and cleanup activities at HPNS. Remediation of radioactive material must be completed appropriately and the results reviewed by the Navy as well as State and Federal agencies and public stakeholders. HPNS parcels will be transferred from the Navy to the City of San Francisco only after any remedial action necessary to protect human health and the environment has been taken.

The Navy is committed to keeping the community engaged in the environmental cleanup process at the Shipyard and strongly encourages interested members of the community to participate. The Navy will keep public stakeholders informed of the investigation progress using a series of fact sheets, community meetings, and ongoing communication via the internet, media, and points of contact.

What are the Radiological Data Issues?

The Navy's oversight of contractors conducting cleanup work at the Shipyard caught Tetra Tech EC, a Navy contractor, misrepresenting soil samples. Tetra Tech EC claimed that the soil samples had been taken after remediation (cleanup), when they were in fact from an area that was known to not be affected by Navy activities.

Upon discovery of the misrepresentation, the Navy notified the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) who oversee Tetra Tech EC's radiological licenses. An internal investigation was initiated, the replacement data was collected with rigorous oversight, and corrective actions were taken, including new cleanup. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State Department of Toxic Substances control also reviewed these efforts.

After the Navy and the NRC conducted theseearlier investigations, former workers at HPNS have made allegations about Tetra Tech EC activities, which include the following:

- Potentially contaminated soil samples were swapped for clean soil samples;
- Potentially contaminated soil was dumped into open trenches in other areas around HPNS;
- Falsified data reports were prepared and submitted to the government; and
- Computer data regarding radiation levels was tampered with to indicate lower levels of radiation.

All of these allegations are being thoroughly investigated by the Navy. Results will be made available to the public when the investigation is completed.

The integrity of environmental data is vital to ensuring that the cleanup at the Shipyard is completed successfully and chemicals remaining do not pose a threat to human health. The Navy is conducting a complete review of all of Tetra Tech EC's radiological cleanup work to ensure that the property is in fact safe for human health and the environment.

What has Been Done So Far?

As a result of the misrepresentation by Tetra Tech EC, the Navy initiated comprehensive review of radiological data from soil samples.

- More than 70,000 results were reviewed;
- More than 130 building and land areas were resampled with independent in-person oversight;
- Additional soil excavations were completed to clean up areas where misrepresentation occurred;
- New surveys were performed (static gamma measurements, systematic soil samples) with independent in-person oversight; and
- After the above new cleanup work, the final data independently confirmed radiological contamination was cleaned up appropriately.

The Navy has postponed transfer of property from the Shipyard to the City of San Francisco until the Navy can confirm the radiological contamination was appropriately

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cleaned up. Confirming radiological data will require additional, in-depth evaluation beyond the 70,000 sampling results already reviewed at the Shipyard and will require new independent sampling.

Who's Helping?

The Navy assembled a "Tiger Team" – a group of technical experts selected for their knowledge and experience -- to further evaluate the integrity of radiological data. The Tiger Team includes representatives from the Navy, EPA, State of California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), CDPH, and the City of San Francisco.

A team of nationally recognized experts, completely independent of Tetra Tech EC, has been contracted to support the Tiger Team and perform the radiological data evaluation and confirmation investigation. This team includes organizations with extensive radiological experience and expertise in health physics (radioactivity), environmental sampling, analysis of samples, measurement of radioactivity, and statistical analysis of environmental data (Cabrera Services, Perma-Fix Environmental Services, SC&A Environmental Services and Consulting, and CH2M).

What Happens Next?
Data Evaluation Objectives and Approach

The next step is to evaluate the existing radiological data and identify areas of concern. Once areas of concern have been identified, multiple

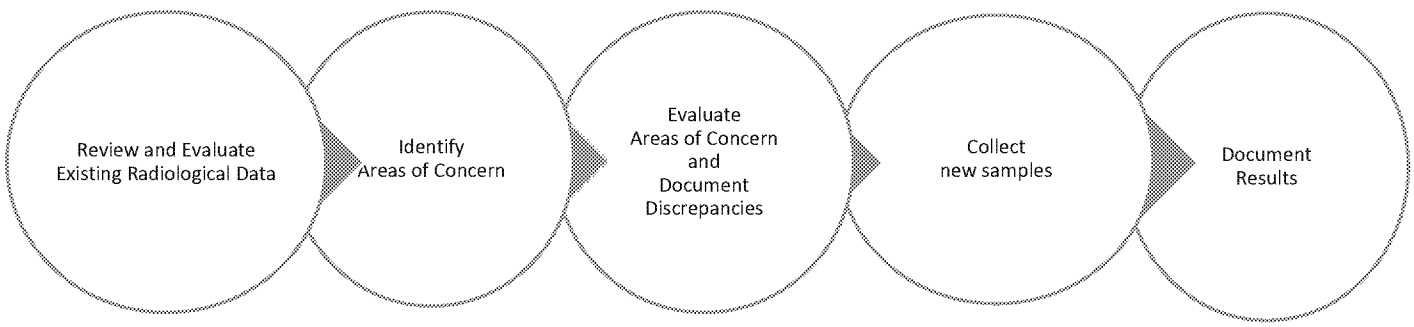
forms of evidence will be collected to demonstrate whether or not human health risk from radioactivity at HPNS is within regulatory limits.

Due to the large amount of data and reports from the radiological cleanup, the soil evaluation will be divided into two phases.

Phase 1: Identify areas of concern. Nationally recognized experts will start by examining existing soil data that was used to determine the protectiveness of HPNS radiological cleanup and will identify areas of concern. The Tiger Team, with support from the team of nationally recognized experts, will review allegations made by former workers and run various statistical tests on the data as one of several approaches to identify any potential additional signs of falsification of data . The results of the statistical evaluation will help identify additional areas of concern and the number and type of additional investigations and/or additional cleanup required to support safe transfer of property. Below are examples of this type of evaluation:

- Focusing investigations in areas where health risks were greatest prior to remediation activities;
- Evaluating documentation prepared in the field by following the paper trail to identify or confirm suspect records;
- Evaluating radiological data collected from (1) areas near sites with suspect data or from (2) areas where surveys were performed just before or just after surveys that generated suspect data

Phase 2: Conduct detailed evaluation of areas of concern and collect new soil samples. A detailed evaluation of the areas of concern identified in Phase 1 will be conducted. Any discrepancies with the activities performed during cleanup and the resulting data will be documented. Collecting new samples at the site to compare with previously reported radiological results.



Phase 3: Evaluating other types of data in addition to soil sample data, such as building survey data.

How Will Results Be Made Public?

Results of both phases of the data evaluation and confirmation sampling will be documented in a detailed confirmation report. The report will be available to the public at the two locations described in the box at right. In addition, stakeholders and the local community will be kept informed by news releases, a fact sheet, website updates, and community meetings.

Please come to the community meeting February 8, 2016, etc.

Where Can I Get More Information?

Program Information:

For information on cleanup at HPNS contact:

Derek Robinson

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To be added to the HPNS mailing list or for additional information, email or call the HPNS cleanup team:

[HYPERLINK "mailto:info@sfhpns.com"] or HPNS Info Line: (415) 295-4742

Reports Are Available for Review:

City of San Francisco Main Library

5th Floor Government Information Center
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 557-4400

Hunters Point Naval Shipyard Site Trailer

(near HPNS security entrance)
690 Hudson Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94124

Hunters Point Naval Shipyard Navy Website

[HYPERLINK "http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/brac_bases/california/former_shipyard_hunters_point.html"]

USEPA website:

DTSC Envirostor website:

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