



Meeting Summary

Hunters Point Naval Shipyard Community Meeting

June 27, 2012

MEETING TIME/DATE: Wednesday, June 27, 2012, 6:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION:: Bayview Hunters Point YMCA
1601 Lane Street
San Francisco, CA 94124

MEETING TOPIC: 2012 Environmental Cleanup Activities

I. Welcome/Introductions

Matt Robinson/Circlepoint (Community Involvement Manager) introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (HPNS) community meeting. Mr. Robinson introduced Keith Forman/U.S. Department of the Navy (Navy) (Base Realignment and Closure [BRAC] Environmental Coordinator), Melanie Kito/Navy (Lead Remedial Project Manager), and Lara Urizar/Navy (Remedial Project Manager). Mr. Robinson then introduced the regulatory agency team members, including Craig Cooper/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) (Program Manager), Ryan Miya/California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) (Project Manager), Ross Steenson/San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) (Project Manager), and Tina Low/Water Board (Project Manager).

II. Meeting Format and Ground Rules

Mr. Robinson described the meeting format and ground rules. He stated the purpose of the meeting was to provide an update of the overall cleanup status at HPNS, summarize cleanup activities taking place this summer and fall, and provide an overview of cleanup activities scheduled for early next year.

Participants were asked to refrain from asking questions during the presentation. Mr. Robinson noted that an opportunity to ask questions would be provided at the end of the presentation. Following questions on the presentation, participants would have an opportunity to visit with members of the Navy and regulatory agencies at the Open House tables. After the Open House, Mr. Robinson stated the teams would report back to the group on the questions participants asked. He added that there would be time at the end of the meeting to answer any additional questions.

Mr. Robinson noted that handout materials were available at the sign-in table to provide more detailed information, including HPNS Quarterly Updates, the HPNS 2012 Calendar of Events, a fact sheet providing the 2012 Cleanup Activities Update, and a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) handout.

III. 2012 Environmental Cleanup Activities

Mr. Forman provided an overview of each of the parcel locations on HPNS and history of how they were created. He noted that Parcel G was once the location for the proposed 49ers stadium and that was why it is shaped like a square. Mr. Forman then referred to an exhibit map and described the location of the parcels in relation to the rest of the shipyard. He noted that the shipyard includes 934 acres of waterfront property, 486 acres on land and 448 acres underwater in the San Francisco Bay. He indicated that HPNS was divided into parcels to expedite the investigation and cleanup process. Members of the Navy project team were present to discuss the activities at Parcels B through G and UC-1 and 2 because each parcel is in a different stage of the cleanup process.

Mr. Forman noted that Parcel A cleanup is complete and that it was transferred to the City in 2004. He began describing this year's work on Parcel B and noted that Parcel B will be a priority for the remainder of the year. The Navy will finish cleaning up the shoreline, conducting radiological screenings, and installing a durable cover, which has already been completed on Installation Restoration (IR) Sites 7 and 18. Periodic inspections and maintenance are currently underway at IR Sites 7 and 18 to maintain the integrity of the remedy while the remainder of Parcel B is being cleaned up.

Mr. Forman went on to explain that Parcel C was the heart of the shipyard when it was active and contains the largest cluster of buildings. Most of the contamination at HPNS exists in this parcel. Cleanup will begin in 2013 for soil and groundwater at Parcel C.

Parcel D-2 is anticipated to be transferred to City in late 2012. Mr. Forman noted that radiological work continues at Parcel D-1, and low levels of radiation were detected in sanitary sewer and storm drains and in some buildings. These low levels of radiological contamination are being actively removed by the Navy. He noted that the Parcel D-1 cleanup for non-radiological waste will begin in 2013.

Mr. Forman stated that Parcel E studies continue on groundwater and soil. Currently, the Navy is finalizing cleanup alternatives, which will be evaluated with the regulators and presented at community meetings in order to narrow down the potential cleanup solutions.

Mr. Forman explained that Parcel E-2 contains contaminated soil and debris, which will be removed. The Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) Hot Spot cleanup is almost complete and cleanup at the Experimental Ship Shielding Range site has recently begun. At Parcel E-2, the Draft Record of Decision (ROD) was submitted in March 2012. The Navy received over 75 pages of comments and the Navy is required to respond to every comment as well as improve the Draft ROD before releasing the Draft Final ROD. Mr. Forman explained that the Navy has also cleaned up several areas on Parcel G. In 2012 and into 2013 the Navy expects to complete cleanup of contaminated soil on this parcel. The Navy will install a protective cap or cover on the parcel in 2013 at the end of the cleanup process.

Mr. Forman then explained that Parcels UC-1 and UC-2 contain the utility corridors that had deeply buried sanitary sewer lines, which were up to 27 feet below the ground surface at some points. Cleanup began in late May 2012 and sewer and storm drain lines were removed. In

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addition, the installation of a soil cover is currently underway. The Navy understands that these parcels are important for the City's needs and has made it a priority to promptly complete the cleanup for both of these sites. Construction is expected to be completed by August 2012.

Mr. Forman explained that radiation and contaminated sediment evaluations are ongoing for Parcel F. The Navy has collected several rounds of sediment sampling data and is going to conduct a final round of sampling. Some PCBs, mercury, lead, and copper have been found in the historically collected sediment samples. After the studies are complete the Navy will work with the regulators to determine the next steps for the cleanup.

Ms. Urizar described the Parcel B cleanup in further detail. She noted that cleanup of IR Sites 7 and 18 has been completed. Parcel B was used for ship repair and maintenance activities. Cleanup activities to date have included remedial actions at IR Sites 7 and 18 (western portion of Parcel B) where debris from the shoreline was removed and disposed of and approximately 1,000 feet of shoreline was anchored with large rocks (rip rap). Approximately 13 acres was covered with 2 to 3 feet of clean soil and planted with wildflowers. Jaron Browne asked what contaminants were in the soil beneath the soil cap. Ms. Urizar responded that almost all the contaminants from IR Site 7 and 18 were excavated and removed. The cap was placed over the site to protect human health and the environment from any contaminants that might still remain in place.

Periodic inspections and site maintenance activities are ongoing at IR Sites 7 and 18 and the Navy will continue to maintain the surface vegetation. Specifically, engineers will inspect the soil cover, rock revetment, and fence every 3 months to make sure the remedies in place are performing as designed. Vegetation will be inspected regularly and poor growth areas improved, as needed. In addition, vegetation will be cut down using environmentally friendly goats that will graze the area during the July to November timeframe.

Ms. Urizar explained upcoming cleanup activities for the remainder of Parcel B, which includes placing large rocks (rip rap) over approximately 1,500 feet of shoreline, installing soil and asphalt covers over the parcel, and cleaning up subsurface groundwater and soil. Cleanup is anticipated to begin in November 2012 and end in August 2013.

Ms. Kito introduced herself and further described cleanup activities at Parcel UC-1 and UC-2. The utility corridors are located along Spear Avenue, Fisher Avenue, and Robinson Street. Cleanup activities to date include removal of all sanitary sewer and storm drain lines. The Navy is also monitoring groundwater in the area and repaving the asphalt surface.

Upcoming cleanup activities are expected to be complete in August 2012. Activities include installation of 2 feet of soil cover on existing hill slopes, planting of slopes with native vegetation, and restoration of asphalt in roadways. Post-cleanup work will include inspections and monitoring to begin following the end of construction in August 2012. Ms. Kito noted that, similar to the post-cleanup activities for IR Sites 7 and 18, engineers will inspect the soil and asphalt covers at Parcels UC-1 and UC-2 every 3 months to ensure remedies are performing as designed. Regular inspections of the vegetation will also be performed and areas with poor vegetative growth will be repaired as needed.

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Ms. Urizar continued describing the cleanup activities on Parcel E-2, specifically the former Experimental Ship Shielding Range site. On this site the Navy conducted radiological research and tested ship armoring material. The Navy mobilized to the site in May 2012 and performed a biological survey on May 29, 2012 to ensure wildlife would not be impacted by their work. She stated the Navy had completed utility and land surveys and installed a perimeter fence on June 6, 2012.

On June 7, 2012 the Navy commenced initial radiological surveys, removed surface debris from the excavation area, and performed radiological surface scanning. Ms. Urizar presented a map that showed where the radiological survey work was located. She noted that radiation did not extend into San Francisco Bay instead it was contained at the site. She then showed a picture of a radiological technician conducting a walkover survey in the area prior to the start of excavation. The technician used a GPS unit and a data logger to record the walked areas to ensure all areas were surveyed. To date, no radiation has been found at the Parcel E-2 Experimental Ship Shielding Range site.

Ms. Urizar stated that from June through August 2012 the Navy will excavate and remove the Experimental Ship Shielding Range and related features. In addition, the Navy will perform radiological screening of excavated soil, conduct a final radiological survey of the excavation footprint, dispose of wastes, and perform restoration and cleanup of the site. The final report will be available January 2013.

Ms. Kito described upcoming cleanup activities in 2013. She noted that some of the work has been contracted, and other portions of the work will be contracted later this year. The Navy still needs to contract the rest of the Parcel C radiological work, including sanitary sewer and storm drain investigations. The radiological removal at the buildings will be contracted under a different contract.

Ms. Kito presented a map of the HPNS cleanup field work that displayed all activities anticipated for 2013. Specifically, on Parcel G the Navy will develop and submit a work plan for cleanup activities and management of truck traffic (September 2012). Field work beginning in January 2013 will entail repairing cracks and voids within existing structures/buildings. The Navy will conduct proactive air monitoring and dust control during all onsite cleanup activities.

Ms. Kito explained that Parcel C cleanup activities include radiological removals in soil starting in April 2013 and from buildings beginning in October 2012. Removal actions will occur from October 2012 through May 2013. Cleanup activity at Parcel D-1 includes removal of radiological materials, which requires excavation of soil and testing and analysis. Ongoing work will occur through October 2012 on the Gun Mole and south piers.

Ms. Kito noted that the work on Parcel E will be limited next year. The Navy needs to use Parcel E for construction storage and soil lay-down areas for the radiological screening work. For Parcel E-2, the Navy is still in the ROD stage. Ms. Urizar added that they will be doing some methane gas work on Parcel E-2 and this work will be awarded within the coming months.

Mr. Robinson noted that a lot of information is available if the community wants to read about any of the HPNS cleanup projects. He then identified the locations of public information

repositories where community members can review documents about the Navy's cleanup work. He presented a slide with the addresses of the information repositories.

Audience Questions and Responses

Question Michael Hamman: Regarding the cleanup of Parcels C and D, what building do you intend to destroy during cleanup activities?

Ms. Kito: We do not know what buildings we will need to be demolished. The Navy must investigate the buildings first. Smaller buildings that are being investigated for radiological impact may be demolished, but at this time the Navy does not have a list.

Question Michael Hamman: When will the list be available?

Ms. Kito: I do not envision any building being demolished in Parcel D, but possibly one building on Parcel C. Maybe next summer we will know, but it is not clear until the investigations are complete.

Mr. Forman: The Navy prefers to clean up and not demolish the buildings.

Question Michael Hamman: What happened to the submarine piers?

Ms. Kito: The piers were removed because they were falling apart and presented navigational hazards.

Question Michael Hamman: What is the scope of the radiological impact to the sediments in the San Francisco Bay? When there were low tides you could see the debris on the sea floor. Will you remove some of the sea floor debris around the base or will you leave it?

Ms. Kito: When the Navy conducts sediment sampling in San Francisco Bay and finds a sampling location with an elevated result that needs to be removed, then debris from the sediment surface above that location will be removed in the process. If sediment underneath debris is clean, then we do not remove it.

Question Sudeep Rao: Cleanup on Parcels UC-1 and UC-2 involves removing storm sewer corridors. Where will the storm water go while they are removed?

Mr. Forman: There are no active sewer systems on the site. Surface water runoff has been rerouted to swales to compensate for taking out the storm drains.

Question Sudeep Rao: What is the Parcel F cleanup plan?

Mr. Forman: At this point the Navy is still gathering data. No decision has been made on cleanup activities.

Question Jaron Browne: IR Sites 7 and 18 have a cover that is lightweight. The public has concerns about what was removed and what remains that requires a cover? I want to understand the process for maintaining the cover after the Parcel is transferred.

Mr. Forman: On the IR Sites 7 and 18 portion of Parcel B we are discussing with the City when they want to transfer the property, either now or when all of the parcel work is complete. The original ROD was completed in 1997 for this parcel. The surface was excavated 10 feet and up

to 15 feet in some areas. The Navy removed so much soil that we were excavating original soil and sediment that has naturally occurring levels of metals. The remaining material was covered with a liner and clean fill was placed on top. This also required the Navy to contour the area to match with the rip rap work. Extensive radiological surveys have already been done, and there was also an independent survey conducted on all the radiological data gathered. There is ongoing maintenance of the planted vegetation.

Question Jaron Browne: There is something below the surface that requires a cover?

Mr. Forman: The soil surface cover is an ultraconservative approach to completing cleanup actions at a site. There may be a park or open space that exists on this site in the future.

Question Esselene Stancil: What will happen if climate change creates weather that floods the area?

Mr. Forman: There is not a lot of contamination located in this area. The City and regulatory agencies are aware of sea level rise concerns and take that into account when designing the final remedies for each of the sites on HPNS. The rip rap wall was built taking sea level rise into account. If extraordinary sea level rise occurs, that will be dealt with, as needed. Similar standards will be taken into account on other portions of the base.

IV. Open House Tables

Mr. Robinson informed the participants that all attendees were encouraged to visit the Open House Tables and talk with Navy and regulatory agency representatives to get information or ask questions about specific interests or concerns. Community comments from all Open House tables were summarized and reported back to the group later in the meeting.

V. Summary of Community Comments from Open House Tables

Mr. Robinson asked the team to provide a summary of comments, first from the regulators table and then from the Navy.

Regulatory Agencies:

Mr. Miya stated that he discussed with Mr. McCarthy about the removal of contaminants at IR Sites 7 and 18 and how to find old documents in the information repositories. He noted that if the community would like the radiological scan data collected by the California Department of Public Health concurrently with the Navy's radiological work, please come to him and he will send them a copy of the data summary report.

Mr. Cooper said he spoke with people about IR Sites 7 and 18, and their concerns that the past use history did not show there were specific releases or contaminants. There was confusion on why so much work was needed at the site to make it safe for human health and environment. There were also concerns about the radiation releases at the site, but he noted there has never been any radiological activities discovered associated with this site. Mr. Forman confirmed this is true and added there were numerous studies done in the 1990s and last decade. The Navy only found pockets of granite material and abrasive blast material, which is to be expected in this area.

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Mr. Cooper added that the regulators review the Navy's reports and also provide oversight and inspections of Navy's work at HPNS. He can provide interested community members with a copy of the summary report of USEPA's independent checks and inspections of the Navy's work. Regulators frequently go onsite to make sure the Navy is following appropriate work plans.

He added that the Navy is not involved in the Yosemite Slough project, but the USEPA is working on the site and the community can talk to him about that cleanup as well.

Navy:

Ms. Kito stated that one question was asked from a community member who works as a trucker. She wondered why she had not been contacted to do work for the low level radiological waste contract. Ms. Kito explained that the Navy does not own the contracts with the trucking companies, these contracts are held by the Navy's consultants, but their consultants must use local truckers for their work. Ms. Kito passed along the woman's contact information for the Navy's consultants who are currently working on the low level radiological waste cleanup.

Mr. Forman reported that of the 100 townhomes in Mariner's Village, 60 are owner occupied. He indicated that he wants to give an update to that neighborhood community on the status of cleanup activities at HPNS. The Navy already does this at Morgan Heights.

Mr. Robinson invited the community members to join the guided bus tour on July 28, 2012 to see what is going on at HPNS. He indicated there was a sign-up sheet at the front table. On the tour, participants can get on base and will hear about cleanup work. Thirty seats are available for each one-hour tour at 10 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. He added the base has changed from last year's tour so there is more to learn about and see on the tour.

Martha Walters introduced herself as the Director of Environmental Services at Arc Ecology, who has been overseeing cleanup at HPNS for the last 20 -25 years. She announced there is an independent review being conducted of the ROD prepared for Parcel E-2. Two meetings will be held for the community. One meeting on Tuesday July 10, 2012 at the Bayview Opera House will focus on community concerns and three technical experts will be there to hear their concerns. The second meeting will be on Wednesday August 8, 2012 at the same location, and the community can hear the results of the experts' technical findings and next steps.

Question Sudeep Rao: The community events calendar noted that the Navy will be at the Sunday Streets July 27 event. Is that correct?

Mr. Robinson responded that he will be at Sunday Streets at a booth to help answer questions and also the public can obtain information about the HPNS cleanup program or sign up for tours.

The next meeting will be on August 22, 2012 at the Bayview Opera House.

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VI. Meeting Adjournment and Review of Action Items

No action items were noted at the conclusion of the meeting.