



CARSWELL/PLANT 4 RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

Fact Sheet #22
February 12, 2004

NAS FORT WORTH JOINT RESERVE BASE INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM

This is the 22nd in a series of fact sheets focusing on the Installation Restoration Program (IRP) at the Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base (NAS Fort Worth JRB). The NAS Fort Worth JRB, formerly Carswell Air Force Base (AFB), is in the process of planning and conducting activities for the identification, remediation, and closure of contaminated sites at the base.

The IRP is the Department of Defense's (DoD) primary mechanism for environmental response actions on U.S. Air Force installations. IRP activities are governed by provisions of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and other applicable federal and state regulations. These activities are being conducted through the combined efforts of the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence (AFCEE) and the Air Force Real Property Agency (AFRPA). Under provisions of RCRA, the Air Force identified 68 solid waste management units (SWMU) and 19 areas of concern (AOC) at NAS Fort Worth JRB for further study and clean up, if necessary.

CARSWELL ON-BASE

RCRA FACILITY INVESTIGATION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNIT 49

The first round of soil and groundwater sampling activities at SWMU 49, a former aircraft washing area used by the Air Force between 1955 and the 1990s, was conducted in January 2002. Soil samples were collected from four locations surrounding the former aircraft washing area. One monitoring well was installed and two rounds of groundwater sampling were conducted. Based on the results of these sampling efforts, SWMU 49 required additional sampling that was conducted in January 2003. Three additional monitoring wells were installed and sampled. These sampling data were evaluated to determine if this site required additional sampling or if it could be submitted for closure. Based on the sampling results, the RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) report recommend closure of SWMU 49 under Risk Reduction Standard (RRS) 2. The Final RFI report was submitted to the regulators for review in September 2003. In a letter dated January 13, 2004, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), conditionally approved closure of SWMU 49. Conditional closure required the addition of specific contaminants in the deed certification. A public notice will be published in the Star Telegram later this month.

LIMITED RCRA FACILITY INVESTIGATION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNITS 54 AND 55

The Final Work Plans to conduct a limited RFI were completed in September 2000 for the Storm Water Interceptors (SWMU 54) and the East Gate Oil/Water Separator (SWMU 55). Soil and sediment sampling was conducted at SWMUs 54 and 55 to determine if these units have released hazardous constituents to the environment. The first round of sampling was conducted in December 2000 with subsequent sampling in June and December 2001 and September 2003. Sampling results indicated that contaminated soil and sediment existed at both SWMUs 54 and 55. Additional delineation sampling will be conducted next month.

RCRA FACILITY INVESTIGATION OF LANDFILL 1

The RFI continues at former Landfill 1, also referred to as SWMU 28. The results of the RFI will determine if a source of potential contamination exists, and if the source has impacted the soil, groundwater, surface water, or sediments at or near Landfill 1. Based on data obtained to date, Landfill 1 required additional sampling necessary to delineate contamination in soil and identify soil hot spots that should be removed. This additional sampling and soil removal was conducted in September 2003. The draft RFI report will be prepared and submitted to AFCEE for review in April 2004.

AREA OF CONCERN 1

AOC 1 consists of the former base gas and service station located at the intersection of Military Parkway and Dawson Drive. In accordance with the approved Corrective Action Plan, a groundwater remediation system was installed at AOC 1 to address groundwater contaminated by a previous fuel release from the service station. Initial start-up of the remediation system occurred on June 10, 2003. At the close of 2003, the system had treated approximately 1.1 million gallons of contaminated groundwater. Approximately 3.2 pounds of benzene and 27 pounds of total petroleum hydrocarbons have been removed between June and December 2003. Two additional groundwater recovery wells were installed to enhance the rate of groundwater treatment. The new wells began operating last month. The results from the October 2003 groundwater monitoring event indicate that contaminant concentrations in groundwater are decreasing. The wells were sampled again last month and will be sampled again in April 2004.

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK PROGRAM

Release Determination Reports for underground storage tanks (USTs) at Buildings 1040, 1191, 4115, 4136, 1658, and 1750 were submitted to TCEQ in June 2003. The Plan A Site Assessments and Release Determination Reports all recommend no further action and site closure. Approval of the Release Determination Reports for USTs at Buildings 1040, 1750, and 4136 was received from TCEQ last month. No further action is required at these sites.

MONITORING WELL DECOMMISSIONING

The Air Force previously installed a significant number of monitoring wells as part of IRP investigations. As the IRP is winding down, the Air Force has begun decommissioning monitoring wells that are no longer necessary. The first round of well decommissioning occurred in October 2003 with 97 wells being decommissioned. The second round occurred in January 2004 with 103 wells being decommissioned. All wells were decommissioned in accordance with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation Standards for Capping and Plugging of Wells.

CARSWELL OFF-BASE

SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM RFI

Results from Phase II soil and groundwater sampling in March 2000 verified that most sections of the Sanitary Sewer could be recommended for closure. However, a Phase III RFI was required to complete confirmation and/or delineation of some contaminants at specific locations along the sanitary sewer lines. The Phase III RFI began on February 14, 2001, and the sampling and analysis results indicate specific locations will require hot spot removals. AFCEE has completed the programming action to conduct the hot spot removal action and received funding. The removal action is scheduled to commence in early 2004.

OFF-SITE WEAPONS STORAGE AREA

All field work has been completed at the Weapons Storage Area (WSA), and areas of previous excavation have been filled and graded. The Draft Final Closure Report for Removal of Hazardous/Non-Hazardous Wastes was submitted to State and Federal regulators in September 2000 and approval for closure under RRS 2 was received on February 5, 2001. The deed certification also has been completed for the entire WSA site. Final closure of three USTs was approved by TCEQ in 2002. The Finding of Suitability for Transfer/Supplemental Environmental Baseline Survey (FOST/SEBS) for the WSA was reviewed by the regulatory agencies and the U.S. Air Force. However, the AFRPA decided in August 2002 to convert the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Area of the WSA from an agricultural safety clearance certification to a residential safety clearance certification. This conversion will require approval by the DoD Explosive Safety Board and a revision to the FOST. Upon approval, the entire WSA can be transferred as a residential area. Programming is complete and the AFRPA funded this requirement in December 2003. The contract was awarded in December 2003, and work commenced last month. The conversion to residential certification requires 7 months to accomplish after funding is received. This conversion process is anticipated to commence in January 2004.

Shallow depth radiological surveys were conducted in May and August 2003 on specific WSA igloos and the surrounding areas using different equipment. The purpose of the surveys were to determine if any low level radiation hazards existed from possible shallow depth burials of munitions maintenance workers' clothes, work rags, paper wrappings, gloves, or respirators used to clean radiological weapon parts in the 1950 and 1960 time frames. The burials were accomplished in accordance with former classified Atomic Energy Commission directives. The information on possible burial sites was obtained from classified documents, and the information regarding the burials was recently disclosed this year. No health hazards were found as a result of the surveys, and no health problems have been determined. A deeper survey down to a depth of 10 feet will be conducted in March 2004 to determine if materials have been buried at deeper depths. If materials are discovered at deeper depths, this survey will be used for the purpose of delineating the burials and removing the findings for proper disposal.

12 ACRE AREA IN HAWK'S CREEK GOLF COURSE

A three phased investigation was conducted on a 12-acre area of the former Carswell Golf Course, currently Hawk's Creek Golf Course. The 12-acre area is located at the intersection of Roue 183 and Roaring Springs Road, at the entrance of the golf course. The investigation was conducted in response to development of this area for construction of a town home complex. Results from the investigation indicated that no TCE was

present in groundwater; however, fuel-related contamination was identified. An assessment of the potential risk resulting from this contamination was conducted and concluded that neither the soil or groundwater contamination posed an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. The investigation findings have been coordinated and reviewed by TCEQ and EPA. The property was subleased for development of the town home complex last month.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Area of Concern (AOC) – an area identified as a potential environmental concern.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) – Also known as "Superfund," this law was enacted in 1980 and requires the identification, investigation, and clean up of contaminated sites.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) – a law enacted to identify active hazardous waste generating facilities, investigate past site contamination, and initiate cleanup and pollution prevention measures.

RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) – an investigation of soil and groundwater contamination resulting from a release of contaminants from a storage unit regulated under RCRA.

Risk Reduction Standard (RRS) – a risk-based cleanup standard for soil and groundwater defined by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) – a defined area used for storage or disposal of hazardous wastes.

Underground Storage Tank (UST) – a tank installed beneath the ground surface used for storing liquids such as gasoline, aviation fuels, and waste oils.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information, please see our web site at <http://www.afcee.brooks.af.mil/er/carswell/nasfw/rab/rab.htm> or contact the following individuals:

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