

MINUTES
WEAPONS SUPPORT FACILITY (WPNSUPPFAC) SEAL BEACH
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)
AND COMMUNITY MEETING
SITE TOUR
JUNE 10, 1998

Participants:

Albright, Dean
Dick, Andrew/SWDIV
Gaig, Anjail
Hertfelder, Dana
Lee, Larry
Leeb, John
Lieber, Kurt
Menzel, Barry
Moore, Richard
Robert, Wendy/CH2M HILL
Robinson, Rob/WPNSUPPFAC, Seal Beach
Schilling, Bob/Bechtel National, Inc. (BNI)
Sebring, Fred
Smith, Gregg
Tamashiro, Pei-Fen/WPNSUPPFAC, Seal Beach
Voce, Mario
Washburn, Jackson
Wilhite, Lindi
Wong, Bryant/CH2M HILL

WELCOME

At 6:30 p.m., R. Robinson welcomed the participants to WPNSUPPFAC, Seal Beach Sites tour. He introduced B. Wong from CH2M HILL who would be conducting the tour and giving a brief overview of the sites. Greg Smith, WPNSUPPFAC, Seal Beach, Public Affairs Officer and Bob Schilling from BNI were also introduced.

B. Wong covered the itinerary for the evening. The sites would be visited in the following order:

- Site 70 - Research, Testing, and Evaluation Area
- Site 1 - Former Wastewater Settling Pond
- Site 5 - Clean Fill Disposal Area
- Site 8 - Battery Shop Drainage Area
- Site 40 - Concrete Pit/Gravel Area
- Site 19 - Building 241 Disposal Pit

Encl (1)

- Site 6 - Explosives Burning Ground
- Site 7 - Station Landfill
- Site 4 - Oil on Roads
- Site 22 - Oil Island

B. Wong reminded all participants that the sites being visited have had contamination detected and requested everyone to stay with the group; the tour would be conducted outside the contaminated areas.

Site maps showing the locations of Sites 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 19, 22, 40, and 70 were provided as handouts to the participants of the site tour. Questions and answers made during the site tour are summarized below:

SITE TOUR

Site 70 - Research, Testing and Evaluation (RT&E) Area (A handout was provided by Bob Schilling/BNI)

Question: Is the groundwater flowing in the direction as originally thought?

Answer: The groundwater appears to flow to the southeast. The direction also appears to change seasonally. This may explain why the chlorinated solvent plume is wider than expected.

Question: Are there any industrial pipes in this area (the area where we are standing, next to the BNI field trailer)?

Answer: No, not in this area. Most of the industrial pipelines of interest are located to the east adjacent to the tank farm.

Question: Where is the highest area of contamination?

Answer: The highest concentration was detected at about 20 to 30 feet below ground surface, approximately 240 parts per million of trichloroethene, just south of the tank farm.

Site 1 - Wastewater Settling Pond

Question: Does that pipeline (which crosses above Site 1) go to other buildings?

Answer: That is an abandoned steam line. This building (Building 72) adjacent to Site 1 used to generate steam for Building 90. Building 72 is no longer in service.

Question: Were any soil samples collected from outside the triangular pond area?

Answer: Yes, samples were collected outside the triangular pond area.

Question: Was contamination found?

Answer: Yes, soil contamination was found outside the pond as it appears wastewater seeped through the ballast that supports the railroad tracks. This was confirmed by historical aerial photographs that show ponding outside the triangular area and railroad tracks. As you can see, the contaminated area outside the triangular area is cordoned off by the Navy.

Question: Will the soil outside the triangular area also be cleaned up?

Answer: Yes, it is included in the cleanup plans.

Question: Was contamination found in the National Wildlife Refuge?

Answer: No groundwater or soil contamination from Site 1 was found in the Wildlife Refuge area.

Site 5 - Clean Fill Disposal

Question: How big is this site?

Answer: Site 5 is the raised area, and is about a couple of acres in size. (Note: Site 5 is actually about 5 acres.)

Site 8 - Battery Shop Drainage

Question: Is this where the retaining wall was put in?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Is the excavated area within the stakes?

Answer: Yes, the stakes delineate the extent of the removal action.

Question: How much ice plant was removed?

Answer: Approximately 220 tons of ice plant were removed.

Site 40 - Concrete Pit/Gravel Area

No questions were asked.

Site 19 - Building 241 Disposal Pit

Question: When was usage of this area stopped?

Answer: Usage of this area was stopped in about 1975.

Question: During the sampling phase, were any VOCs (volatile organic compounds) such as methane found.

Answer: During subsurface sampling, the air is monitored for health and safety purposes and no substantial emissions were detected. The Remedial Investigation of this site included an effort to test for landfill gases. The laboratory initially reported unusually high concentrations of VOCs that did not match the other data collected at the site. The laboratory re-checked its data and concluded that it made an error in reporting its results.

Question: How deep did you core to?

Answer: At this site, we sampled to groundwater which is located approximately at 10 feet below ground surface.

Site 6 - Explosive Burning Ground

Question: What type of explosives were burned here?

Answer: The types of explosives that were burned at Site 6 included black powder, smokeless powder, and Explosive D. The explosive powder was burned, not the ordnance (ammunition).

Question: What is the direction of the groundwater?

Answer: Past studies indicate that the groundwater flows away from the Wildlife Refuge. However, the direction may vary seasonally.

Question: Are there any tidal influences here?

Answer: Tidal influence depends on the distance from the surface waters. The closer you are to the surface waters, the greater the tidal influence on the groundwater. Where we are standing, the tidal fluctuation of groundwater would be greatly dampened, and, therefore, the tidal influence is minimal. But in much of Site 6, there would be measurable tidal fluctuations.

Site 7 - Station Landfill

Question: Was there any oil found in trenches?

Answer: No, the majority of wastes that we observed in the trenches were municipal type refuse, such as bottles, newspaper, construction debris, and scrap metal.

Question: Has there been testing on the west end of the site?

Answer: Supplemental sampling is scheduled to take place in that area next month. The only testing that has taken place in that area were geophysical surveys.

Site 4 - Oil on Roads

Question: Is the lead from the waste oil which was applied to the road?

Answer: Yes, that is the probable source.

Question: Are there toxic metals in macadam?

Answer: Macadam is a type of "poor-man's" asphalt made by

combining waste oil and gravel. The gravel should not contain toxic levels of metals. Depending on the source of the waste oil, there may be varying levels of metals in the oil.

Question: Were hydrocarbon levels high?

Answer: We did not specifically test for petroleum hydrocarbons at this site. We discovered that the lead was part of the Site 4 disposal operations while we were conducting the remedial investigation at Site 7.

Question: Did testing include the full suite of metals?

Answer: Our mobile lab was set up to test primarily for lead.

Site 22 - Oil Island

(A handout was provided by Jackson Washburn/Breitburn Energy Corporation)

Question: How many more years will the wells be able to produce oil?

Answer: It is estimated that there is another 25 years of oil production.

Question: Will the wells to utilized for all 25 years?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Are the lagoons lined?

Answer: No, but they have been coated by the past storage of drilling muds. These muds are clayey and restricts the flow of water. This is the same material we use in lining the production wells.

Question: Do you get a lot of birds in the area?

Answer: We have some in this area. We are working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to remove the foliage to discourage the birds.

ADJOURNMENT

The site tour was concluded at 8:30 p.m. R. Robinson thanked the attendees for their interest