



Davisville Review



ISSUE NO. 1

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Prepared for the R.I. Resource Conservation and Development Council by Environmental Design, Inc., with Cooperation of the R.I. Department of Environmental Management, Environmental Protection Agency, Towns of North Kingston and East Greenwich, U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife, R.I. Economic Development Corporation and Save the Bay.

RI Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc. Initiates Technical Assistance Grant

The Rhode Island Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council, Inc. is a non-profit corporation sponsored partly by US Dept. of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service, RI Conservation Districts, RI Department of Environmental Management, RI Dept. of Administration/Division of Planning & the RI Association of Conservation Commissions with federal, local and private support. Its mission is to provide technical, educational, and financial assistance to communities, state agencies, and non-profits for natural resource management, community planning, and economic development issues and projects. The RC&D was awarded an Environmental Protection Agency Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) for review of ongoing Superfund cleanup activities at the Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) located in Davisville, RI. The TAG allows concerned

citizens in affected communities to retain technical specialists to interpret findings of the environmental restoration activities. This process is designed to assist the public in clarifying its understanding of potential impacts, keep local citizens informed, and encourage constructive input into the review process of proposed remedial actions. The initial site assessment began at the NCBC in 1984, with placement on the National Priorities List in 1989. This designation denotes hazardous waste site(s) warranting attention under Superfund. Sites are evaluated according to type, quantity, toxicity, proximity to, and the number of people potentially exposed to various exposure pathways. The extent, importance, and susceptibility of groundwater supplies to contamination is also of concern. In 1992, a Federal Facilities Agreement was formulated by the

Department of the Navy, US Environmental Protection Agency, and the RI Department of Environmental Management establishing a timetable for site restoration. Prior to the development of the Base Realignment and Closure Cleanup Plan a Comprehensive Base Reuse Plan and environmental impact statement were prepared to evaluate the appropriate reuse of NCBC. Appropriate land use was selected for each of the study zones as a result of the reuse plan investigations. Proposed uses in the various zones include industrial office space, general industry, light industry, open space/conservation, public beach and waterfront commercial. Ultimately a cleanup plan was adopted to provide a safe, effective, timely and cost efficient restoration of the site suitable for the intended use of individual parcels. There were 16 IR (Installation Restoration) sites identified through the course of extensive investigations. IR sites refer to areas of potential contamination (see Figure 1). In addition to the IR sites, Compliance Program activities were initiated to address other contamination regulated under specific regulatory programs. Finally, the Basewide Ground-Water Study was added in 1994.

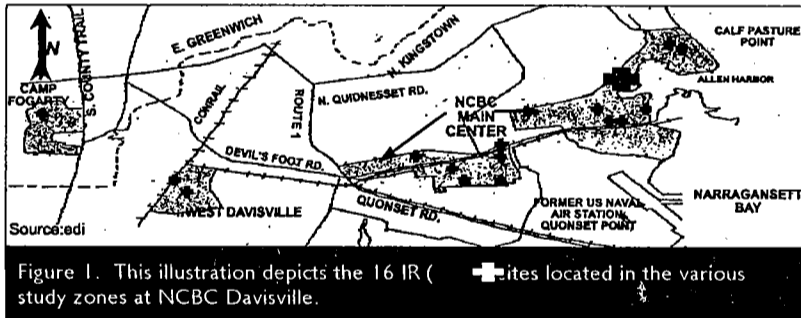


Figure 1. This illustration depicts the 16 IR (IR = Installation Restoration) sites located in the various study zones at NCBC Davisville.

The Superfund Process and Project Reviews

Once the Superfund site is identified, the responsible party (Department of the Navy) must undertake the necessary studies to characterize the contamination and complete subsequent cleanup actions if required. In order to provide long term remedies Remedial Investigations are conducted. Extensive field study to select the cleanup strategy best suited for each unique site is undertaken. The Feasibility Study analyzes those needs and compares alternative cleanup scenarios on the basis of cost and effectiveness. Findings may include no further action at the site. During the upcoming year several feasibility studies will be completed for various sites at NCBC

Davisville, as well as the groundwater evaluation. Removal action and/or remedial close-out reports are anticipated for Site Nos. 13, 12 and 14. Development of a work plan to address Compliance Program activities identified in the Environmental Baseline Survey will be completed to allow commencement of fieldwork. There will also be public comment periods conducted in association with various technical documents submitted for review prior to any cleanup plan implementation.

You Have a Voice

We encourage you to become involved in this review process through submission of comments, attendance at bimonthly meetings conducted by the Department of the Navy, and attendance at public meetings and workshops. This newsletter will keep you informed of project developments and upcoming events. As this publication is being developed for the community, we are asking for recommendations on an appropriate title. Please call or send us your suggestions along with other comments on this project.

Funding provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

For More Information Contact:

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT DAVISVILLE?



Help us keep you informed and provide answers to those frequently asked questions.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- ◆ 25 JUNE 1997 - The RI Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc. and its Technical Assistance Grant consultants will conduct a PUBLIC WORKSHOP at the North Kingstown Free Library from 5:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. (check for schedule of events).
- ◆ 10 JULY 1997 - NCBC Davisville SITE TOUR 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., refreshments afterwards (call to register). RAB meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. at Bldg. 404.

Information call the RIRC&D at 949.4418

LOCATIONS WHERE DOCUMENTS CAN BE REVIEWED:

NORTH KINGSTOWN FREE LIBRARY
100 Boone Street
North Kingstown, RI 02852

HOURS:
Monday through Thurs., 9:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Friday & Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

CARETAKER SITE OFFICE
NCBC Davisville
Davisville Road, Building 404, 1st Floor
North Kingstown, RI 02852

HOURS:
Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. by appointment
CONTACT: Mr. Walter Davis @ 401.294.6108 or fax 401.294.2207

Name & address: _____

Comments: _____

Check to be added to mail list.