



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (HPNS)



GENERAL SITE CLEANUP

Is the cleanup at Hunters Point Naval Shipyard complete?

Cleanup at HPNS is ongoing, based on a phased schedule by parcel. In December 2004, the Navy transferred the first 75 acres of HPNS (known as Parcel A) for redevelopment to the City of San Francisco, followed by Parcels D-2, UC-1, and UC-2 in 2015. The remaining parcels will be transferred to the City of San Francisco once environmental cleanup is complete and transfer of the property is approved. The current plan is to have all cleanup complete by 2024; however, additional environmental samples are being taken that may affect the Navy's current schedule.

What is the process for cleaning up radiological contamination?

The Navy follows an established procedure for cleaning up radiological contamination under CERCLA. The primary steps include investigation, remediation, and confirmation.

How is the public protected from dust caused by earth moving operations at the Shipyard?

Dust suppression measures are defined in the Navy's work plans, which are reviewed and approved by regulatory agencies. These measures include regular watering of surface soil to reduce dust, tire washing, covering of trucks transporting soil to landfills, and regular air quality monitoring both upwind and downwind from the location of earth moving operations.

How does the cleanup affect the health and safety of current and future Bayview residents?

The health and safety of community members is the Navy's priority during and after the environmental cleanup at HPNS. Compliance with federal, state, and local guidelines and regulatory requirements is required. The Navy meets conservative cleanup levels for sites, providing a high level of health protectiveness.

Should I be concerned about exposure to contaminated groundwater?

Radiological contamination has not been found in groundwater at HPNS; however, other contaminants have been identified and are being treated, as needed. Residents, tenants, workers, and the general public are not likely to come in contact with HPNS groundwater, as groundwater from HPNS is not used. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission pumps drinkable water to the site and surrounding area for drinking, showering, and other uses.

How is the cleanup being overseen, by whom, and what are the safeguards in place?

The Navy is leading the cleanup of HPNS. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board ensure the Navy's compliance with federal site cleanup requirements. Federal law ensures that the cleanup protects human health and the environment.

Is the Navy taking the future possibility of sea level rise into consideration?

Yes, all Navy remedies at HPNS, including those proposed for the landfill, are designed to withstand potential sea level rise. The landfill remedy includes revetments (below and above-ground walls that prevent water and soil movement) and elevations to account for sea level rise.

Is the Navy taking the effects of an earthquake into consideration?

Yes, regulations require an evaluation of short- and long-term protectiveness for any solution proposed, including protectiveness during and after an earthquake. Geotechnical testing is performed at HPNS where contamination is being left in place and site conditions dictate. Final cleanup solutions are designed and constructed to withstand earthquakes.

How will the durable covers be maintained and monitored?

Once the final durable covers have been installed, the Navy will monitor and maintain them indefinitely, including: regular inspections of pavement conditions, cracks in building foundations, settlement, accumulation of surface water, the condition of survey benchmarks, and signs of vandalism. To ensure that the solution remains protective, Five Year Reviews will be conducted indefinitely.

Reference fact sheets may be found on the Navy's website at www.bracpmo.navy.mil/hpns

Annual Update of Cleanup Achievements (2019)

Dust Control During Cleanup (April 2016)

Parcel E-2 Landfill Fact Sheet (August 2017)

Radiological Cleanup Process (April 2015)

Installation of Durable Covers (March 2015)