



PUBLIC NOTICE FOURTH CERCLA FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

Installation Restoration Program Sites 1, 2, 3, 5, 16, 17, 18, and 24 and Anomaly Area 3
Former Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, Irvine, California



December 2023

The United States Department of the Navy (Navy), in coordination with United States Environmental Protection Agency Region, California Regional Water Quality Control Board Santa Ana Region, and California Department of Toxic Substances Control, is currently conducting a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Five-Year Review (FYR) for Installation Restoration Program (IRP) Sites 1, 2, 3, 5, 16, 17, 18, and 24 and Anomaly Area 3 at Former Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) El Toro, Irvine, California. Former MCAS El Toro is located approximately 8 miles southeast of Santa Ana and 12 miles northeast of Laguna Beach. The Navy is conducting the FYR in accordance with the requirements of CERCLA Section 121(c) to determine whether the remedies being implemented in accordance with the Final Records of Decision continue to remain protective of human health and the environment.

IRP Sites 1 and 2 Groundwater

- **Remedy:** conduct in-situ bioremediation and monitoring to address perchlorate in groundwater (GW); implement monitored natural attenuation (MNA) to address volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in groundwater; and implement institutional controls (ICs).
- **Current activities:** conduct annual GW monitoring and enforce ICs.

IRP Sites 2 and 17 Landfills

- **Remedy:** consolidate and cap waste to prevent contact with and migration of subsurface contamination; monitor landfill gas (LFG) and GW; and implement ICs.
- **Current activities:** conduct long-term LFG and GW monitoring; perform cover inspections and maintenance; and enforce ICs.

IRP Sites 3 and 5 Landfills

- **Remedy:** consolidate and cap waste to prevent contact with and migration of subsurface contamination; monitor LFG and GW; and implement ICs.
- **Current activities:** conduct long-term LFG and GW monitoring; perform cover inspections and maintenance; and enforce ICs.

IRP Site 16

- **Remedy:** implement MNA of VOC-impacted GW and ICs.
- **Current activities:** conduct GW monitoring and enforce ICs.

IRP Sites 18 and 24

- **Remedy:** extract and treat VOC-impacted GW; prevent VOC-impacted GW migration; monitor GW quality; and implement ICs.



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- **Current activities:** operate and maintain two GW treatment systems; conduct GW monitoring; and enforce ICs. Groundwater capture and vapor intrusion evaluations are currently underway that may result in remedy changes to address future protectiveness.

Anomaly Area 3 Landfill

- **Remedy:** cap waste to prevent contact with and migration of subsurface contamination; provide stormwater control; monitor LFG and GW; and implement ICs.
- **Current activities:** conduct long-term LFG and GW monitoring; perform cover inspections and maintenance; and enforce ICs.

Emerging Chemicals of Concern

- The Navy has identified the presence of certain per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in groundwater at IRP Sites 1, 2, 16, 18, and 24. Although PFAS are not currently listed as CERCLA hazardous substances, the Navy has initiated the CERCLA process for these emerging chemicals of concern pursuant to United States Department of Defense guidance. A basewide Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection was finalized in November 2021 and additional investigations were completed in September 2022 and May 2023. The Navy is planning on conducting further investigation of PFAS impacts to GW and soil at IRP Sites 1, 2, 16, 18, and 24.

The Navy plans to issue a Draft Fourth CERCLA FYR Report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Toxic Substances Control, and California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region for review in March 2024. After addressing their comments, the Navy will issue a Final Fourth CERCLA FYR Report by 30 September 2024. Another public notice will be issued at that time to announce the completion of the FYR Report. Questions or comments regarding the preparation of the Fourth CERCLA FYR Report or other Navy environmental activities at Former MCAS El Toro may be directed to:

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**PUBLIC NOTICE
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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Information regarding Former MCAS El Toro and the remediation efforts at these IRP sites is available at the following website and locations:

<https://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/BRAC-Bases/California/Former-Marine-Corps-Air-Station-El-Toro/>

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