

Moffett Community Housing UPDATE

May Air Sampling



No. 7

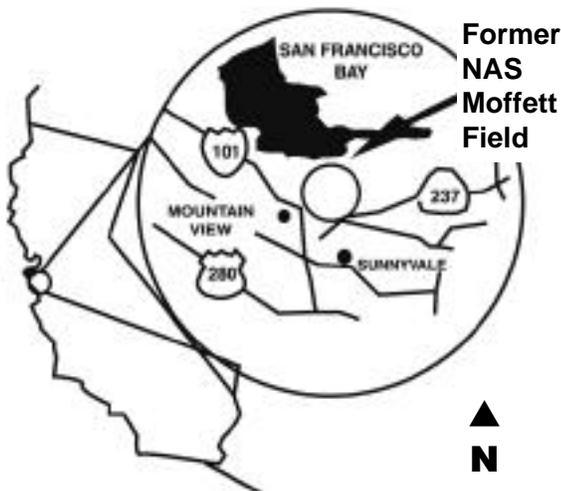
Moffett Field, California

May 2004

Introduction

The U.S. Navy is investigating the groundwater and air quality at Moffett Community Housing in Mountain View, California. The housing area includes Orion Park and Wescoat Housing (see map on page 3). In November 2003, the Navy collected

The study results found that there are no immediate or short-term health risks to you or your family from TCE found in the groundwater under Moffett Community Housing or from VOCs in the air.



air samples in the housing area and the results showed that there are no immediate or short-term health risks to the residents. This update presents information on air sampling planned for May 2004. The data from the air sampling will be studied to assess possible seasonal changes in indoor and outdoor air quality and to evaluate the potential long-term health risks to Moffett Community Housing residents.

Background

The Navy initiated investigations at Moffett Community Housing because chemicals known as volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were found in the groundwater. The groundwater under Moffett Community Housing is not used for drinking, irrigation or other household purposes. For this reason, the VOCs in the groundwater do not pose a health risk through ingestion, bathing or other contact. The water used in the housing areas comes from the Hetch Hetchy reservoir in the Sierra Nevada, and is treated to meet all state and federal drinking water standards.

Because VOCs evaporate easily, there is a possibility that they could be moving from the groundwater through the soil, as a

gas, into the air above. There are also other potential sources of VOCs in the air, besides groundwater. For example, VOCs can be found in homes where household products like spray cleaners and adhesives are commonly used.

Air sampling conducted by the Navy in 2002 and again in November 2003 found VOCs, including a chemical called TCE (trichloroethylene), in the indoor and outdoor air at Moffett Community Housing. Both the 2002 and 2003 studies also found that there were no immediate or short-term health risks to the residents or their families from TCE in the air or groundwater at Moffett Community Housing.

Upcoming Air Sampling

The Navy will be conducting an additional round of air sampling in May 2004 to supplement data collected during the November 2003 sampling event. Samples will be collected at most of the same locations that were sampled in November 2003. In addition, the May 2004 air sampling procedures will be the same as those used for the November 2003 air sampling.

As in the past, air samples will be taken indoors as well as outdoors at playgrounds and other common areas.

The air samples will be tested for levels of TCE and its by-products. These samples are being collected to evaluate variations in site conditions between seasons and to assess potential long-term health risks to the residents. Long-term health risks are based on 30 years of continual (24-hours a day, seven days a week) exposure.

As in the past, air samples will be taken indoors as well as outdoors at playgrounds and other common areas. Residents will be informed with a notice on their front doors prior to any sampling near their units. Samples will be collected in small metal canisters, each with a valve and sampling tube on top. Sampling activity will present no risk to the residents.

When Will the Results Be Available?

A draft report on the 2003-2004 air sampling will be submitted to the regulatory agencies for review in July. A fact sheet summarizing the report will be distributed to the residents and surrounding communities by fall of 2004. The final report will describe what additional measures, if any, are needed to prevent long-term health risks at Moffett Community Housing.

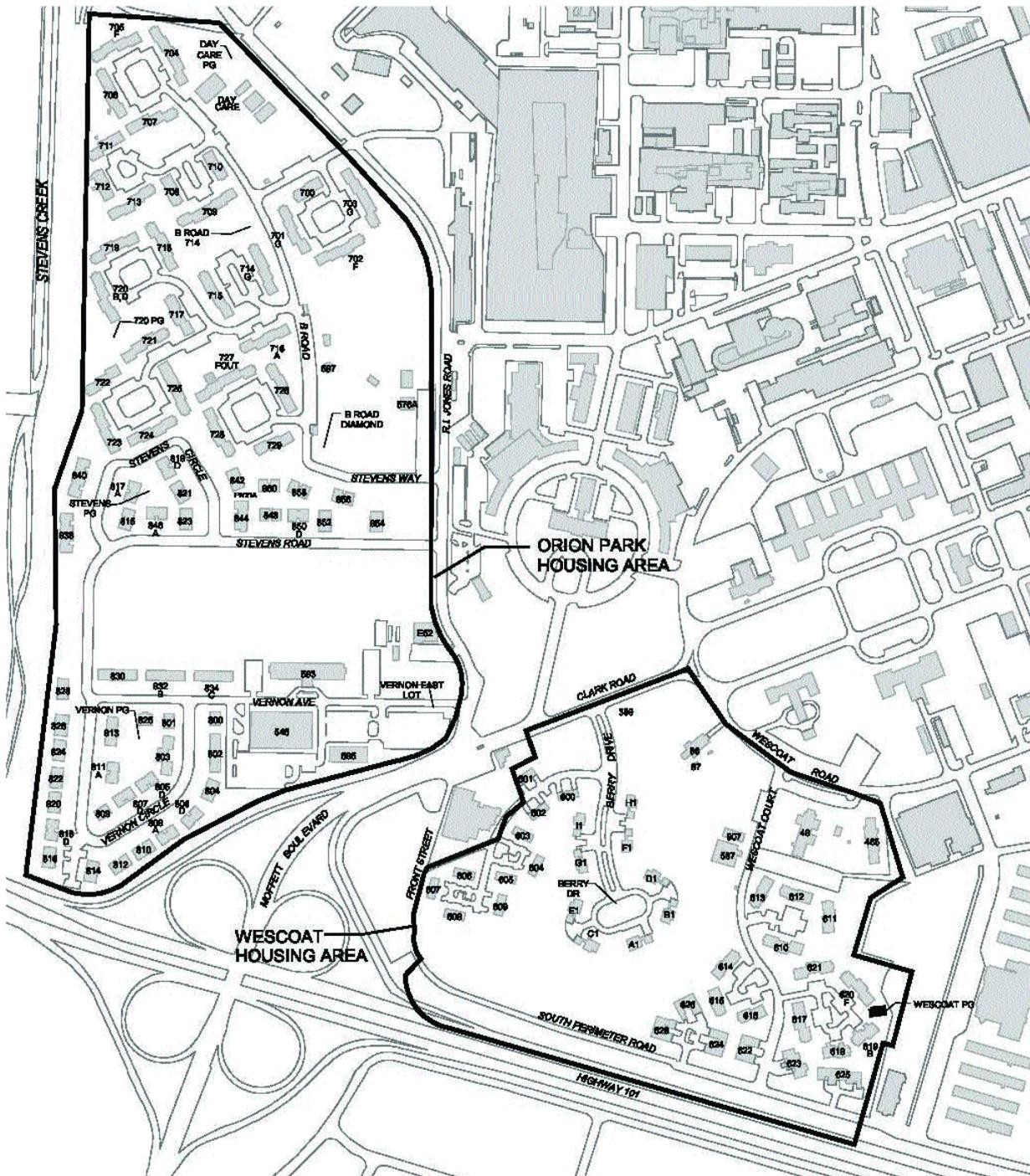


Small metal canisters will collect air samples.

What Will Residents See?

You may see technicians wearing orange safety vests assisting with the sampling activity. They will be entering units to be sampled, preparing units for sampling, and dropping off and collecting sampling canisters at both indoor and outdoor locations. The canisters used outdoors will be attached to folding A-frame traffic barricades to alert residents of their presence. A sign will be posted on each barricade explaining the purpose of the canister. Please do not disturb the canisters.

If residents have concerns about unidentified individuals in the housing area, they can contact the Moffett Housing Project Office to confirm that the individuals are part of the air sampling team.



500 0 500 Feet

**Orion Park and
Wescoat Housing Areas**

Project Points of Contact

Involving and informing the public is an important part of this project. The Navy's project team is very interested in developing and maintaining open communication with the residents at Moffett Community Housing and surrounding communities. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the following project team members:

Ms. Andrea Espinoza

Ms. Andrea Espinoza
BRAC Environmental Coordinator,
former NAS Moffett Field
Southwest Division,
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
1220 Pacific Highway
San Diego, CA 92132-5190
Phone: 619-532-0911;
Fax: 619-532-0995
E-mail: andrea.espinoza@navy.mil

Mr. Moses Thomas Jr.

Director, Housing Management
Army Housing Authority
Building #48
P.O. Box 40
Community Housing Center
Moffett Field, CA 94035
Phone: 650-603-8142;
Fax: 650-603-8138
E-mail:
Moses.Thomas@spd02.usace.army.mil

All plans and reports related to the Navy's groundwater and air quality studies at Moffett Community Housing are available daily for your review at the Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin Street, Mountain View, California.

PROJECT WEB SITE: www.efds.w.navy.mil/environmental/moffett.htm

First Class Presorted
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #475
Escondido, CA

Former NAS Moffett Field
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Southwest Division
1230 Columbia Street, Suite 1100
San Diego, CA 92101

