Naval Support Facility (MD-060) Thurmont, Maryland Frederick County

Site Description

The Naval Support Facility (NSF) is located in Catoctin Mountain National Park and occupies approximately 140 acres. The primary mission of the NSF is to operate and maintain the Presidential mountain retreat. The majority of buildings at NSF are cabins or administrative facilities. Buildings that serve other purposes include a small garage, electrical shop, carpenter shop, pest control shop, mechanical/utilities shop, and a galley.

Site History

No active or abandoned disposal sites exist at NSF. The only recorded release was a polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) spill in 1978, caused by a forklift breaking a spigot on a transformer containing PCBs. The spill was responded to immediately. Contaminated soil was removed and placed into 55-gallon drums; approximately 50 drums of contaminated soil were removed. As of 1988, NSF had a well-defined and funded PCB transformer removal program, and design was underway for removal of all known PCB transformers. The electrical shop was responsible for maintenance of the facility transformers.

The garage generates the largest amount of potential waste material. In 1988, approximately 500 gallons per year of used motor oil was being picked up for recycling from the garage. No chlorinated solvents or other contaminants were reported as detected in the used oil by the recycling contractor. Used batteries were sent to the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO).

In 1979, banned or unwanted pesticides were turned over to DRMO or sent to other Naval facilities, and by 1988, all pest control activities were contracted out. Petroleum products are stored in aboveground or underground tanks. Precision leak tests were scheduled for the tanks in the Fall of 1988, although product inventories did not show leakage to be problem.

Environmental Investigations

A Preliminary Assessment (PA) was submitted to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency in March 1988. The PA consisted of a records search at Chesapeake Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, a site visit, and interviews with long-term employees. The PA did not identify any hazardous waste disposal sites or any known threat to the environment from hazardous material use, storage, or disposal.

Contact

John Fairbank Maryland Department of the Environment (410) 537-3440

Division Chief Federal/NPL Superfund Division