



FACTSHEET

UST or UST System:

Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility
JBPHH, Hawaii
UST Facility ID No. 9-102271

Owner of the UST or UST System:

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii
850 Ticonderoga Street
JBPHH, Hawaii 96860--

Operator of the UST or UST System:

NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor
1942 Gaffney Street, Suite 100
JBPHH, HI 96860

On November 20, 2021, a fire suppression drain line valve broke and released a fuel (JP-5) and water mixture into the lower access tunnel (Adit 3) at Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility (Facility). The DOH Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response (HEER) Office was immediately notified on November 20, 2021 at 1130 pm of the spill (HEER # 20211120-2330). The Navy secured the source of the release and began removal and disposal of the fuel and water mixture.

On November 28, 2021, the Navy received initial reports of odors of fuel and chemicals in some areas serviced by its Joint Base Pearl Harbor – Hickam Public Water System (PWS No. 360) drinking water distribution system. The Navy began collecting and testing the drinking and groundwater - for contaminants the next day on November 29, 2021. The HEER Incident case number is 20211128-1848.

The Navy has multiple efforts underway in response to the release:

1. Drinking Water Distribution System Recovery

An Interagency Drinking Water System Team (IDWST) consisting of the U.S. Navy, the DOH, the U.S. Army and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established to restore safe drinking water to affected Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) housing communities. The Interagency team approach ensures that the agencies are coordinated in actions to restore safe drinking water to Navy water distribution system users (PWS No 360).

On December 14, 2021, the IDWST completed a Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Drinking Water Sampling Plan. The sampling plan outlines the steps to determine if the drinking water within the affected areas complies with the State of Hawaii and EPA Drinking Water Standards.

Steps include:

- Collecting shaft water samples from the Waiawa Shaft, Aiea-Halawa Shaft, and Red Hill Shaft to define contamination, if any, in the source waters.
- Identifying contaminated locations in the drinking water distribution system to prioritize flushing.
- Following approval of a flushing plan, collecting water samples from locations where water distribution system and home/building flushing has been tentatively completed for confirmation of successful flushing.
- Collecting drinking water samples from the water distribution system and a representative number of homes/buildings.
- Collecting and analyzing drinking water results at various intervals throughout the two year period after residents have returned home.

2. Aquifer Recovery

On December 5, 2021, the DOH Safe Drinking Water Branch (SDWB) authorized Navy divers to enter the well and development tunnel to visually inspect for evidence of contamination, and once the operation was safely completed on December 7, 2021, the divers confirmed evidence of contamination presence throughout the initial 350-foot section of the tunnel they were able to access. DOH then authorized the Navy divers to deploy a skimming pump and absorbent materials to recover floating contamination off the surface of the well. Those recovery actions are ongoing.

Due to releases of fuel from the Facility, the groundwater in the area of Red Hill Shaft beneath the Facility was contaminated.

On January 29, 2022, the U.S. Navy began full-scale operation of pumping and granular activated carbon (GAC) filtration of groundwater from the Red Hill Shaft. Each day, the Navy is pumping up to 5 million gallons of groundwater from the Red Hill Shaft. This is intended to create a capture zone within the aquifer to counter the potential for spread of groundwater contamination. This is a vital step forward in the process for containing and removing contamination within the well as part of the Red Hill Shaft Recovery and Monitoring Plan.

<https://www.cpf.navy.mil/Portals/52/Downloads/JBPHH-Water-Updates/2022-01-26-red-hill-shaft-recovery-and-monitoring-plan.pdf>

3. Site Characterization

A Preliminary Site Characterization Plan was developed to characterize the nature and extent of petroleum hydrocarbon that is impacting U.S. Navy Well 2254-01 (also known as Red Hill Shaft).

Areas of concern that are being characterized include:

Areas underground within the Facility tunnels including:

- U.S. Navy Well 2254-01 water development tunnel
- U.S. Navy Well 2254-01 pump station
- impacted areas of the Adit 3 tunnel
- impacted areas of the Pearl Harbor tunnel (Adit 1 tunnel)

Areas external to Facility tunnels including:

- sump drain underground holding tank
- sump drain underground leach tank

-Person(s) authorized by the UST owner and operator to represent each entity performing any assessment/mitigation/remediation activities.

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