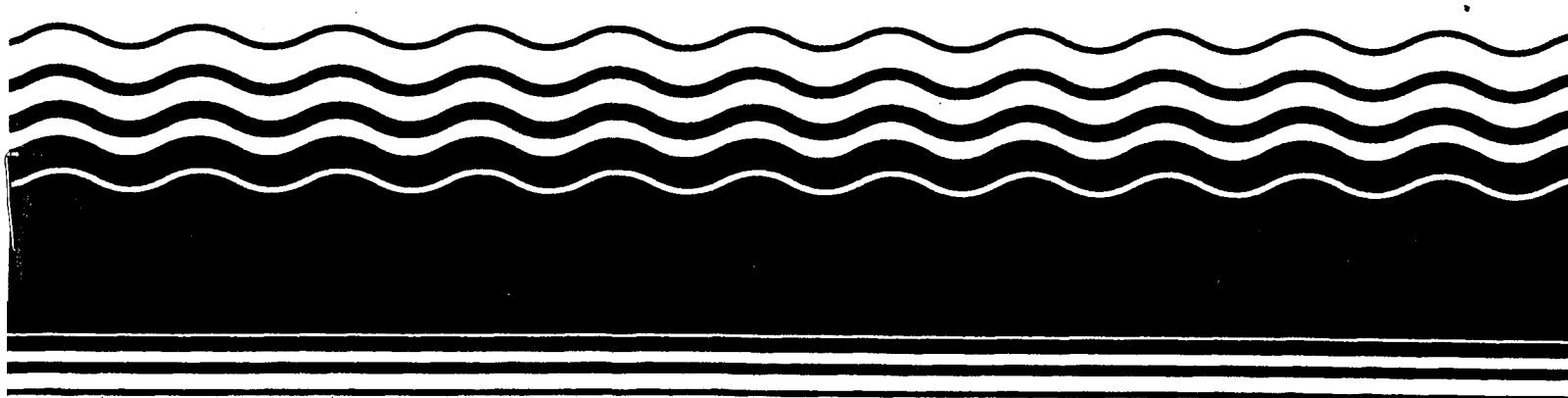


**PB96-963806  
EPA/ROD/R02-96/273  
October 1996**

**EPA Superfund  
Record of Decision:**

**Federal Aviation Administration  
Technical Center (Area 29 - Fire Training  
Area and Area K - Storage Area Near Area 29),  
Atlantic County, NJ  
9/20/1996**



**RECORD OF DECISION**

**AREA 29 - FIRE TRAINING AREA  
AND  
AREA K - STORAGE AREA  
NEAR AREA 29**

**FAA TECHNICAL CENTER  
ATLANTIC CITY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
NEW JERSEY**

## **B. Initial Investigations**

In 1983, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) commissioned Roy F. Weston (Weston) to conduct an assessment of potential pollution sources that could impact the then-proposed Atlantic City well field. The assessment included a review of all data on possible contaminant sources in the area, limited field investigation of these sources, and soil and ground water sampling at the five areas considered most threatening to ground water supplies in the area. The entire FAA Technical Center was included in the Weston Study, and the five areas identified by Weston were all located on the FAA Technical Center property. Weston's report led the FAA to initiate the present EI/FS, and the five areas identified by Weston have been investigated further, along with additional areas identified by the FAA.

## **C. Environmental Investigation/Feasibility Study**

Area 29 is one of the areas of concern identified by the Weston Study. Weston's investigation of Area 29 included the installation and sampling of three ground water monitoring wells (29-MW1S to 29-MW3S). One of these wells, 29-MW2S located southeast of the concrete burn pad and the two underground storage tanks, was contaminated with several volatile organic compounds (VOCs) (benzene, 1,1-dichloroethane, ethyl benzene, toluene, and xylenes) and two semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) (naphthalene and phenol).

The FAA's Environmental Investigation (EI) of Area 29 was conducted in two phases between December 1986 and December 1988. Due to its proximity of Area 29, Area K was included in the scope of Area 29 investigations.

### **Area 29**

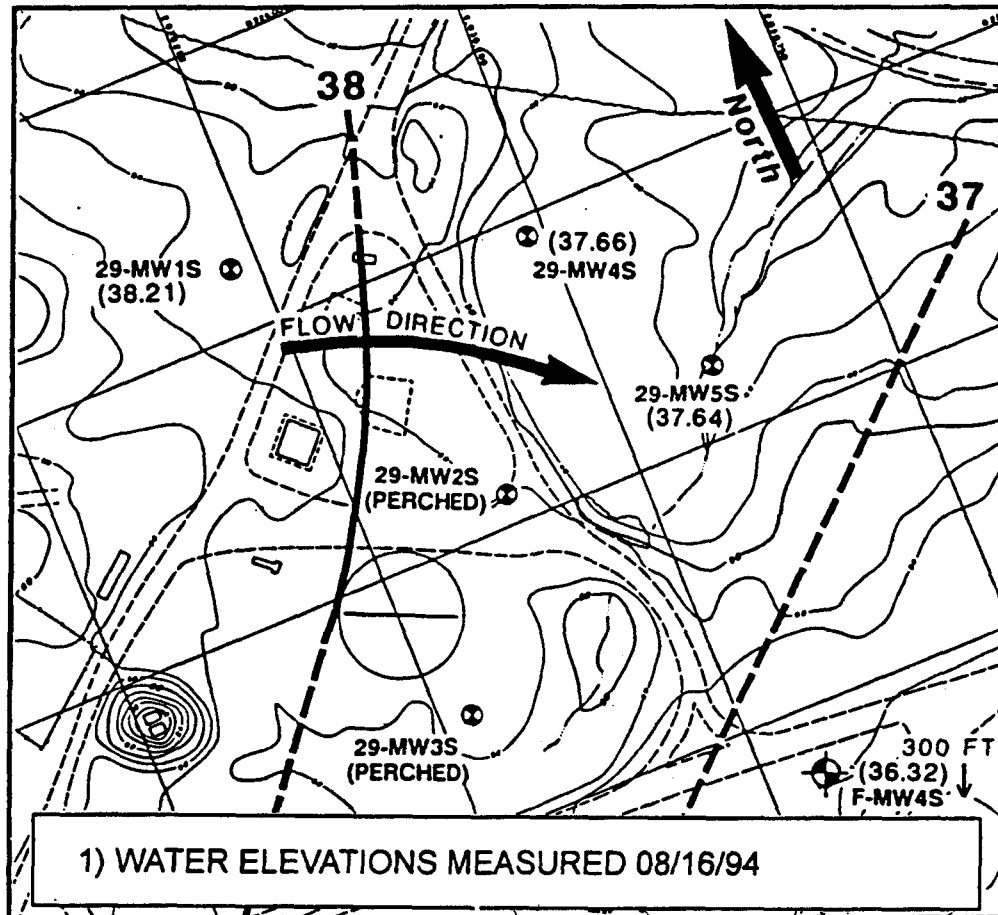
The EI was conducted to determine if past activities at Areas 29 and K had impacted soils and ground water. Following the two phases of the EI, ground water sampling was conducted in December 1991 and quarterly ground water sampling has been performed since May 1993.

Phase I. Site investigation activities conducted during the Phase I EI included a soil gas survey, geophysical survey, surface soil sampling, subsurface soil sampling, ground water sampling, air monitoring, and a hydrogeological investigation. Each of these Phase I EI components is discussed in the Phase I EI/FS Report (TRC, March, 1989) and briefly below. Figure 3 provides the Phase I EI sampling locations.

- A soil gas survey was conducted on a 100-foot grid of the area to identify potentially contaminated soils or contaminant plumes through the presence of elevated levels of VOCs within the soil's pore space. Elevated organic vapor concentrations (greater than 1,000 parts per million (ppm)) were identified in the area surrounding the circular test burn area.
- A geophysical survey (EM-31 and EM-34) and resistivity profiling to detect buried metal objects were also conducted during the Phase I investigations. No anomalies indicative of buried waste or contaminant plumes were identified.



- Sixteen (16) surface soil samples (29-SS1 to 29-SS16) were collected including one background sample collected from the western side of the site. Seven of the surface soil samples were analyzed for priority pollutants plus 40 (PP+40), while the remaining nine were analyzed for total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH). The presence of TPH was detected in surface soils over a large portion of the site, with the highest concentrations present adjacent to the circular burn area. Only one of the seven surface soil samples analyzed for PP+40 (29-SS3 within the circular burn area) exhibited VOCs. Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were also detected in 29-SS3 and in 29-SS10 located next to the concrete burn pad.
- Four 10-foot deep soil borings were drilled and eight subsurface soil samples (two from each boring) were collected to assess the vertical extent of contamination and site geology. One sample from each boring was analyzed for PP+40, while the other sample was analyzed for TPH. The presence of TPH was detected in three of the four borings, but at concentrations less than those identified in surface soils. Low concentrations of VOCs in one boring location (29-B2, east of the circular burn area) and SVOCs in all four boring locations were also identified. PCBs were detected in one of the samples from 29-B4, located near the concrete burn pad.
- Two shallow monitoring wells were also installed during the Phase I EI. The two Phase I EI monitoring wells as well as the three monitoring wells installed by Weston were sampled to assess ground water quality. All five wells were sampled for PP+40. With the exception of phenol in all five wells, the detection of VOCs and SVOCs was limited to 29-MW2S. This limited VOC presence in ground water was consistent with the results obtained by Weston prior to the Phase I EI.
- Air monitoring for particulates, inorganics, VOCs, SVOCs, and PCBs was conducted during the drilling of borings 29-B1, 29-B2, and 29-B3. Four inorganics and one VOC (toluene) were detected, but at concentrations well below the applicable occupational guidelines.
- The Phase I EI also indicated that a clay layer of variable thickness exists at a depth of 10 to 14 feet over the western and central portions of the site, including the areas beneath the circular burn area and the concrete burn pad. Where the soil in the unsaturated zone is locally saturated because it overlies a low-permeability clay unit above the water table, the water within this zone is referred to as perched ground water. At Area 29, a zone of perched ground water was identified above the clay layer. While ground water flow in the regional true water table was determined to be towards the east-southeast (Figure 4), the flow of perched ground water was estimated to be much more variable due to localized changes in the slope of the clay layer. Although ground water outside the perched zone did not appear impacted, the potential for lateral or vertical movement of dissolved chemical constituents from the perched zone into the true water table was identified.



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**FIGURE 4.**  
**PRESUMED GROUND WATER FLOW  
DIRECTION IN THE TRUE WATER TABLE**

Date: 1/96

Drawing No. 01040-0010-00220

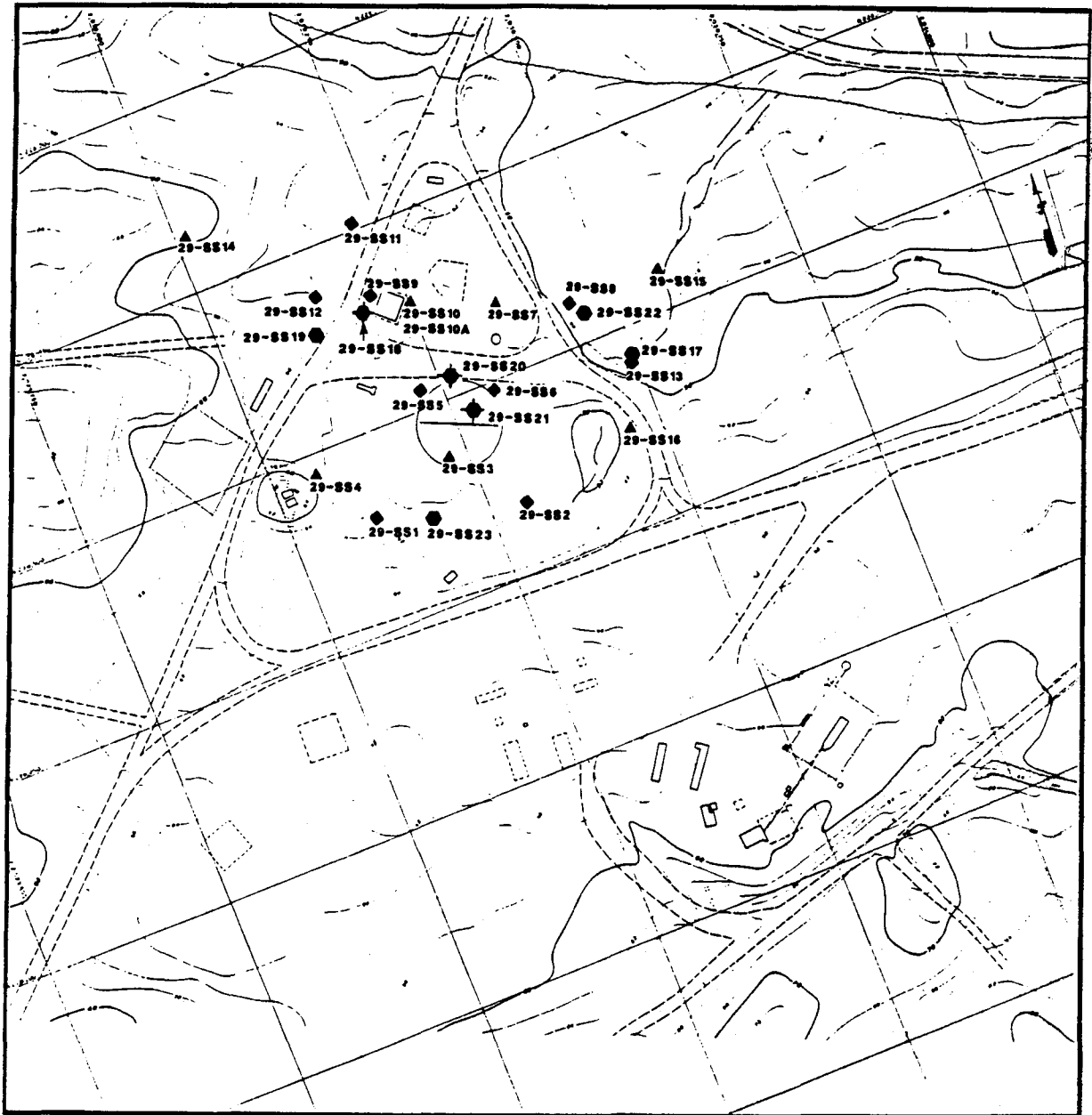
Phase II. Following the Phase I EI, a Phase II investigation was conducted to further define the lateral extent of PCB contamination in surface soils and to investigate the potential presence of soil contamination beneath the two underground runoff collection tanks removed during the Phase II EI. Each of these components of the Phase II EI is discussed in the Phase II EI/FS Report (TRC, January, 1990) and briefly below. Figure 5 provides the Phase II sampling locations.

- Seven surface soil samples (29-SS17 to 29-SS23) were collected within the area of known petroleum contamination and analyzed for PCBs. Three of these samples (within or near the circular burn area and concrete burn pad) were also analyzed for dioxins and furans. PCBs were detected in all but one of the seven surface soil samples, with one of the three surface soil samples analyzed for dioxins and furans exhibiting octachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (OCDD). No furans were detected in the three surface soil samples analyzed for these constituents.
- Four subsurface soils samples were collected at the base of each of the underground runoff containment tanks removed during Phase II activities. All eight samples were analyzed for TPH, four for PCBs, and two for Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) waste characteristics. TPH was detected beneath the 5,000-gallon tank, while both TPH and PCBs were identified beneath the 10,000-gallon tank. None of the subsurface soil samples met any of the RCRA waste characteristics.

Quarterly Ground Water Sampling. Ground water monitoring has been conducted at Area 29 subsequent to the Phase I EI (i.e., in December 1991 with quarterly monitoring beginning in May 1993). During each sampling round, ground water samples were collected from each of the five monitoring wells and analyzed for VOCs. Results of this sampling indicate that the VOCs identified at 29-MW2S may occasionally migrate within the perched zone (e.g., to 29-MW3S). While dissolved VOCs have been detected in samples collected from the true water table, their detection has been sporadic and at trace to low levels. Specifically, VOCs were detected for the first time in 29-MW1S in May 1993 (1,2-dichloroethane at 0.001 ppm) and in 29-MW4S and 29-MW5S in August 1993 (at 0.0006 to 0.004 ppm). Furthermore, none of the detections since August 1993, except for the 0.002 ppm detection of chloroform at 29-MW4S in October 1995, have been above Practical Quantitation Levels (PQLs).

### **III. HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

A newspaper notification of the availability of the Proposed Plan for Areas 29 and K was published in the Atlantic City Press on Thursday, April 11, 1996. The notice invited the public to comment on the EI/FS and Proposed Plan. The public comment period was held from April 11 through May 10, 1996. The Proposed Plan and EI/FS Reports were placed in the administrative record maintained at the Atlantic County Library.



0 400  
SCALE FEET

#### LEGEND

- ◆ SURFACE SOIL SAMPLE-PETROLEUM HYDROCARBON ANALYSIS (PHASE I)
- ▲ SURFACE SOIL SAMPLE-PRIORITY POLLUTANTS (PHASE I)
- PCB ONLY
- ◆ PCB, DIOXIN, FURANS

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#### FIGURE 5. PHASE II SURFACE SOIL SAMPLING LOCATIONS

Date: 1/96

Drawing No. 01040-0010-00220

A public meeting was held on May 2, 1996 at the Atlantic County Library. At the meeting, representatives from the FAA, the FAA's environmental consultant (TRC Environmental Corporation), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) were available to answer questions about Areas 29 and K. The attendance list from the meeting is attached (see Appendix B). No comments on the Proposed Plan were received during the public comment period, as noted in the Responsiveness Summary, which follows this Decision Summary.

This decision document presents the selected remedial action alternative for Areas 29 and K of the FAA Technical Center in Atlantic County, New Jersey, chosen in accordance with CERCLA, as amended by SARA and, to the extent practicable, the NCP. The decision for Areas 29 and K is based on the administrative record.

#### **IV. SCOPE AND ROLE OF RESPONSE ACTION**

The selected remedy described herein is an Excavation/Removal Action for selected site soils and demolition debris and an Extraction/Treatment Action for on-site perched ground water. In summary, the remedy provides for the excavation and off site disposal of PCB-contaminated soils, TPH-contaminated soils, and demolition debris from the circular burn area and concrete burn pad, and for the extraction, on-site treatment of ground water, and nearby reinjection to the subsurface. It should be noted that Areas 29 and K represent only two of more than 20 areas of potential environmental concern identified at the FAA Technical Center. This document addresses only Areas 29 and K, and is not intended to address the entire FAA Technical Center property. The other areas of concern at the FAA Technical Center will be subject to separate response action decisions.

#### **V. SUMMARY OF SITE CHARACTERISTICS**

The EI identified the presence of contaminants in soils and ground water at Areas 29 and K which appears to be mainly attributable to the storage or burning of aviation gasoline and fuels, some potentially containing PCBs.

Surface soils exhibited the presence of PCBs at concentrations ranging from non-detectable to 30 ppm and TPH at concentrations ranging from 6 to 6,200 ppm. Of three surface soil samples analyzed for dioxins and furans, one sample (29-SS18, collected adjacent to the concrete burn pad) exhibited 0.0034 ppm of octachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (OCDD). Other constituents detected in surface soils which were not detected in associated blank samples include the following:

|                                              |                                  |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Methylene chloride                           | Non-detectable (ND) to 0.043 ppm |
| Phenol                                       | 0.058 to 1.7 ppm                 |
| SVOC Tentatively Identified Compounds (TICs) | 8.2 to 100.6 ppm                 |
| Cadmium                                      | ND to 1.8 ppm                    |
| Chromium                                     | 2.7 to 15 ppm                    |
| Copper                                       | ND to 30.9 ppm                   |
| Lead                                         | 3.9 to 33 ppm                    |

|         |                |
|---------|----------------|
| Mercury | ND to 0.22 ppm |
| Silver  | ND to 3.3 ppm  |
| Zinc    | 20 to 75 ppm   |

Sample 29-SS3, collected within the circular burn area, also exhibited benzene at 0.063 ppm, ethyl benzene at 0.5 ppm, isophorone at 1.3 ppm and naphthalene at 0.46 ppm.

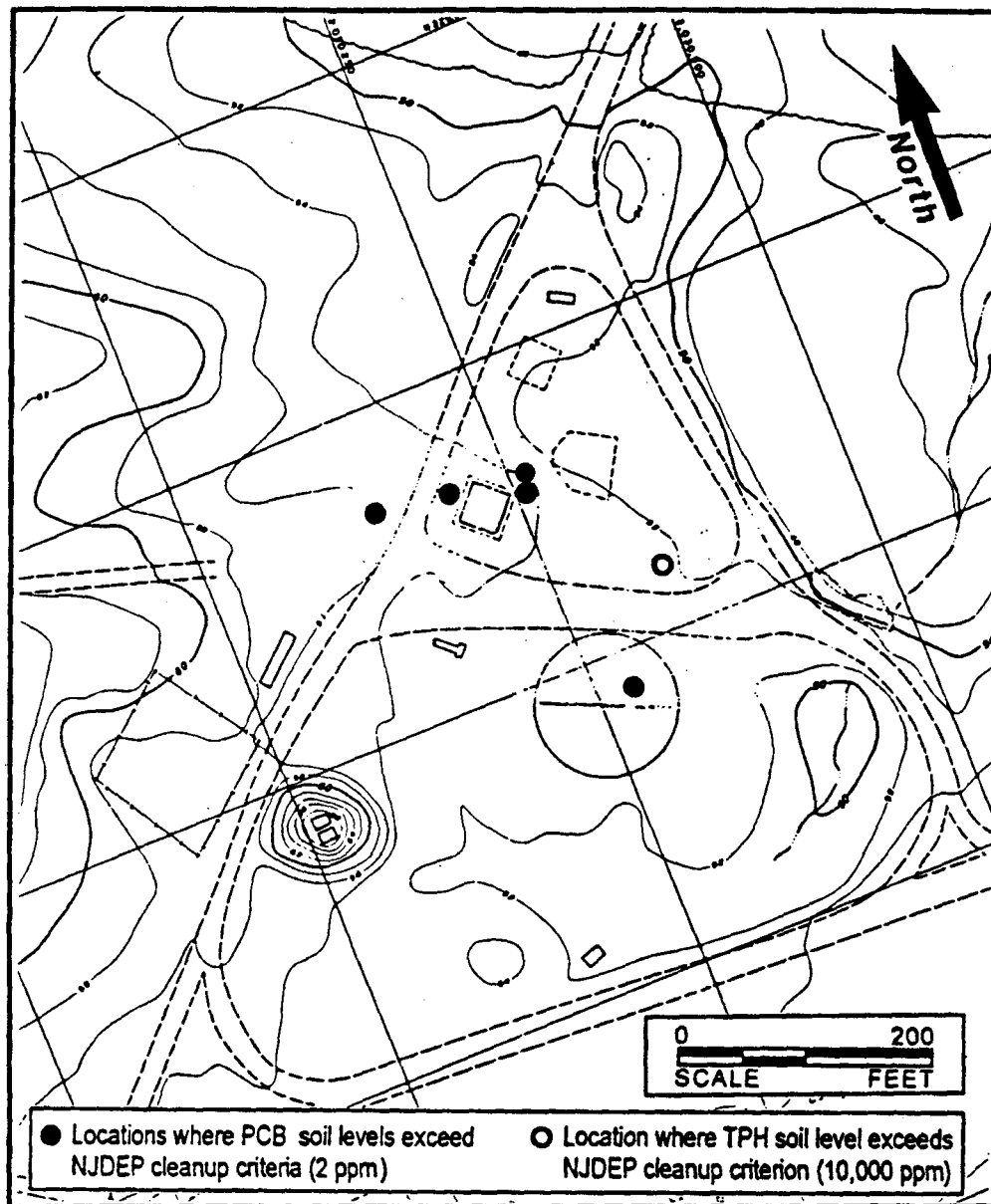
PCBs were the only constituents detected in surface soils at levels exceeding non-residential New Jersey soil cleanup criteria. The non-residential soil cleanup criteria for PCBs is 2 ppm.

Subsurface soils exhibited TPH at levels of 2 to 14,000 ppm, with the greatest concentrations detected at the base of the excavated 10,000-gallon underground storage tank. Other constituents detected in subsurface soils which were not detected in the associated blank samples include the following:

|               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| Benzene       | ND to 0.034 ppm  |
| Ethyl benzene | ND to 0.19 ppm   |
| Phenol        | ND to 0.14 ppm   |
| SVOC TICs     | 2.5 to 68 ppm    |
| PCBs          | ND to 24 ppm     |
| Antimony      | ND to 12 ppm     |
| Chromium      | 2.9 to 5.6 ppm   |
| Lead          | 2.1 to 5.3 ppm   |
| Mercury       | ND to 0.0002 ppm |
| Zinc          | 6.8 to 11.9 ppm  |

PCBs and TPH were the only constituents detected in subsurface soils at levels exceeding non-residential New Jersey soil cleanup criteria. The non-residential soil cleanup criteria for PCBs is 2 ppm, while the cleanup criteria for total organic compounds is 10,000 ppm and is exceeded by the maximum detected TPH level of 14,000 ppm.

Based on the identification of PCBs in surface soils and subsurface soils at levels exceeding New Jersey soil cleanup criteria, three areas of soils containing elevated PCBs levels were identified: within the circular burn area, adjacent to the concrete burn pad, and in the former drum storage area (Area K). A total of 350 cubic yards of contaminated soil was estimated to exceed NJDEP cleanup criteria for PCBs. Based on the identification of TPH at a level of 14,000 ppm, which exceeds the New Jersey soil cleanup criteria of 10,000 ppm for total organic compounds, in one of four subsurface soil samples collected at the base of the former 10,000 gallon underground storage tank, a total volume of 50 cubic yards of contaminated subsurface soil was estimated to exceed the NJDEP soil cleanup criteria for total organic compounds. The general locations of these guidance criteria exceedances are indicated in Figure 6.



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**FIGURE 6.  
SOIL CONTAMINATION AREAS**

Date: 1/96

Drawing No. 01040-0010-00220

In ground water, priority pollutant VOCs and SVOCs were initially detected in only the perched ground water sample collected from well 29-MW2S (with the exception of bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate which was also detected in wells 29-MW1S and 29-MW3S). Inorganics detected in ground water samples include cadmium (ND to 0.006 ppm), chromium (ND to 0.029 ppm), mercury (ND to 0.00031 ppm), lead (ND to 0.0086 ppm) and zinc (0.023 to 0.049 ppm). During some of the quarterly ground water sampling rounds, VOCs were also detected in well 29-MW3S, which is also located in the perched zone. VOCs which were detected in ground water at levels exceeding state or federal Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) or New Jersey Ground Water Quality Standards (i.e., PQLs) in the perched zone include ethylbenzene (detected at 0.95 ppm), methylene chloride (0.056 ppm), toluene (1.9 ppm), 1,1,1-trichloroethane (0.1 ppm), and xylene (2.8 ppm). During the August 1993 quarterly sampling round, VOCs were detected for the first time in 29-MW4S, which is screened in the true water table. The detected concentrations ranged from 0.0009 ppm (toluene and 1,1-dichloroethene) to 0.004 ppm (1,1,1-trichloroethane). The subsequent detection of VOCs in the true water table has been sporadic. 1,1,1-Trichloroethane (at a maximum concentration of 0.004 ppm), chloroform (0.002 ppm) and tetrachloroethane (0.003 ppm) have been detected during only one of ten quarterly sampling rounds and in only one well at levels exceeding MCLs or Ground Water Quality Standards (i.e., PQLs). Based on these results, the primary area of ground water impact is located within the perched water table zone, as indicated in Figure 7.

## **VI. SUMMARY OF SITE RISKS**

A baseline risk assessment was conducted based on the results of the Phase I EI for Areas 29 and K to estimate the potential risks associated with current site conditions under current and potential future land uses. The baseline risk assessment estimates the potential human health and ecological risks which could result from the contamination at the site if no remedial action was taken. A summary of the Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) and Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) is presented below. A more complete description can be found in the Phase I EI/FS Report (TRC, March, 1989) at pages 11-45 through 11-68. The Area 29 Feasibility Study (FS) (TRC, July, 1989) provides a discussion of the potential impacts of the Phase II EI data on the human health and ecological risks estimated in the Phase I HHRA and ERA, respectively. This latter discussion is also summarized as part of this Decision Summary.

### **A. Human Health Risk Assessment**

The HHRA consisted of a four-step process to assess the potential site-related human health risks under both current and potential future exposure scenarios. The four-step process included hazard identification, exposure assessment, toxicity assessment, and risk characterization and is summarized below.

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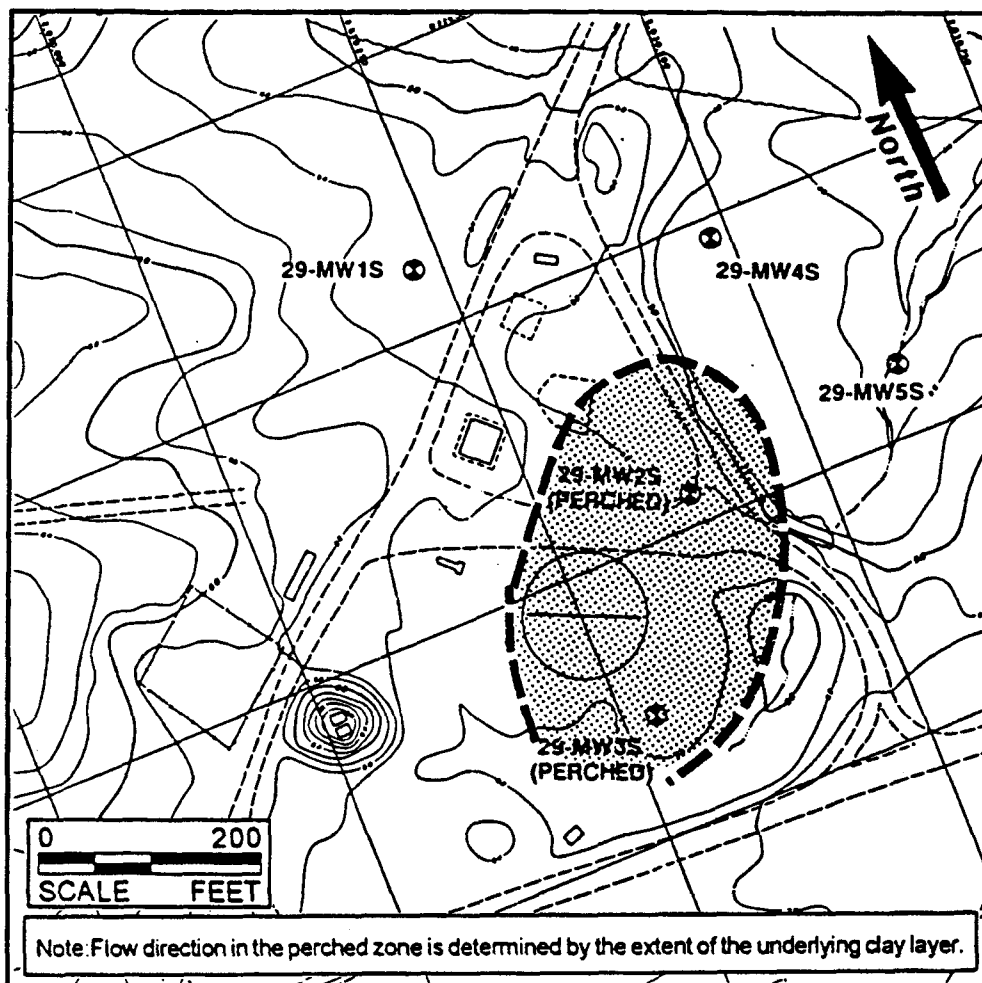
### **DECLARATION FOR THE RECORD OF DECISION**

### **DECISION SUMMARY FOR THE RECORD OF DECISION**

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### **RESPONSIVENESS SUMMARY FOR THE RECORD OF DECISION**

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**FIGURE 7.**  
**APPROXIMATE EXTENT OF PERCHED**  
**GROUND WATER CONTAMINATION**

Date: 1/96

Drawing No. 01040-0010-00220

## Hazard Identification

The hazard identification involved the selection of the constituents of concern (COCs), the detected constituents which have inherent toxic/carcinogenic effects that are likely to pose the greatest concern with respect to the protection of human health. The COCs for Area 29 were chosen based upon the relative toxicity of the detected constituents, the measured concentrations in the site media, and the physical/chemical properties related to the environmental mobility and persistence of each constituent. The COCs selected in the Area 29 HHRA by media included:

- Benzene and PCBs in surface soil,
- PCBs in subsurface soil, and
- Benzene, 1,1-dichloroethane, toluene, and bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate in ground water.

## Exposure Assessment

The exposure assessment identified the potential pathways and routes for COCs to reach potential receptors and estimated the constituent concentrations at the points of exposure as well as characterized the extent of the potential exposures. Constituent release mechanisms from the environmental media, based on relevant hydrologic and hydrogeologic information (fate and transport, and other pertinent site-specific information) are also presented in the HHRA.

The entire FAA Technical Center is restricted by a fence and security and only government employees have access to the facility, thereby precluding persons under the age of 18. At Area 29, the current receptor population was characterized as limited to government employees due to the size and security of the FAA Technical Center. Under this current government employee scenario, workers were assumed exposed through ingestion of and dermal contact with COCs in surface soils. Currently, the site is not actively used. However, incidental exposure could occur as a result of activities such as atypical work assignments which could require the presence of a person at the site. Exposures to subsurface soils and ground water were not evaluated under this scenario since there is no current use of ground water at Area 29 and no excavations or building projects which would uncover subsurface soils are taking place.

Since the use of Area 29 is not anticipated to change in the foreseeable future, adult government employees were also identified as the future receptor population. Consequently, the potential exposures to surface soils evaluated under the current scenario are also applicable to future government workers at the site (and thus were not reevaluated under the future scenario). Under the future government worker scenario, exposures to subsurface soils, as a result of future excavation and/or construction, and ground water, assuming the installation of an on-site well, were quantified. Future workers were assumed exposed to COCs in subsurface soil through ingestion and dermal contact, and to COCs in ground water through ingestion.

The assumptions used in the HHRA regarding the magnitude, frequency, and duration of exposures to the COCs in surface soils, subsurface soils, and ground water are provided in Table 1.

Two exposure point concentrations (EPCs) were identified for each COC; namely, the arithmetic average concentration and the maximum detected concentration. The average and

**TABLE 1**  
**EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT INPUT PARAMETERS**  
**USED IN THE PHASE I AND II HHRA's**  
**AREA 29 - FIRE TRAINING AREA AND**  
**AREA K - STORAGE AREA NEAR AREA 29**  
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|                                                    | Most<br>Probable<br>Case | Realistic<br>Worst<br>Case |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <u>General</u>                                     |                          |                            |
| Exposure Point Concentration<br>(mg/kg; mg/l): (a) | Average                  | Maximum                    |
| Body Weight, Adult (kg):                           | 70                       | 70                         |
| <u>Current FAA Worker (Surface Soils)</u>          |                          |                            |
| <i>Ingestion</i>                                   |                          |                            |
| Ingestion rate (kg/d):                             | NC                       | 0.0002                     |
| Oral absorption (--):                              |                          |                            |
| Benzene & PCBs                                     | NC                       | 0.5 & 1.0                  |
| Exposure Frequency (d/yr):                         | NC                       | 2                          |
| Exposure Duration (yr):                            | NC                       | 20                         |
| <i>Dermal Contact</i>                              |                          |                            |
| Dermal Contact Rate (kg/d):                        | 0.01                     | 0.01                       |
| Dermal absorption (--):                            |                          |                            |
| Benzene                                            | 0.1 & 0.5                | 0.1 & 0.5                  |
| PCBs                                               | 0.02 & 0.04              | 0.02 & 0.04                |
| Exposure Frequency (d/yr):                         | 12                       | 24                         |
| Exposure Duration (yr):                            | 10                       | 20                         |
| <u>Future Construction (Subsurface Soils)</u>      |                          |                            |
| <i>Ingestion</i>                                   |                          |                            |
| Ingestion rate (kg/d):                             | NC                       | 0.0002                     |
| Oral absorption (--): (b)                          | NC                       | 0.5 & 1.0                  |
| Exposure Frequency (d/yr):                         | NC                       | 20                         |
| Exposure Duration (yr):                            | NC                       | 2                          |
| <i>Dermal Contact</i>                              |                          |                            |
| Dermal Contact Rate (kg/d):                        | 0.01                     | 0.01                       |
| Dermal absorption (--): (b)                        | 0.02 & 0.04              | 0.02 & 0.04                |
| Exposure Frequency (d/yr):                         | 120                      | 240                        |
| Exposure Duration (yr):                            | 1                        | 2                          |
| <u>Future Commercial/Industrial (Ground Water)</u> |                          |                            |
| <i>Ingestion</i>                                   |                          |                            |
| Ingestion rate (l/d):                              | 1                        | 2                          |
| Oral absorption (--): (c)                          | 0.5 & 1.0                | 0.5 & 1.0                  |
| Exposure Frequency (d/yr):                         | 250                      | 250                        |
| Exposure Duration (yr):                            | 10                       | 20                         |

NC = Not calculated since the realistic worst case risk estimate was below the 1E-06 to 1E-04 cancer risk range or 1.0 non-cancer hazard index

(a) Chemical-specific

(b) For PCBs

(c) For benzene, 1,1-dichloroethane, toluene, and bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate

maximum concentrations (and corresponding exposure assumptions) were used to characterize the "most probable" and "realistic worst case" exposures to the identified COCs, respectively.

### Toxicity Assessment

The toxicity assessment summarizes the types of adverse health effects associated with exposures to each COC and the relationship between magnitude of exposure (dose) and severity of toxic effect (response). The dose-response values used in the HHRA were obtained from a combination of EPA's Superfund Public Health Evaluation Manual (EPA, 1986), EPA's Office of Research and Development Health Effects Assessments (HEAs) (EPA, 1986), EPA's Environmental Criteria and Assessment Office (EPA, 1985), EPA's Carcinogenic Assessment Group (EPA, 1984), and EPA's Office of Drinking Water (EPA, 1985). The toxicity values used in the HHRA are summarized in Table 2.

For potential carcinogens, risks are estimated as probabilities. Constituent-specific cancer potency factors (CPFs) are estimates of the constituent's carcinogenic potency based upon studies, most often in laboratory animals but occasionally in humans, which test the relationship between the magnitude of exposure and the prevalence of tumors in the exposed population. The CPFs used in the HHRA are presented as the expected cancer risk for a chronic exposure to 1 mg/kg/day of the specific constituent (i.e., risk per unit dose or  $(\text{mg/kg/day})^{-1}$ ), and are estimates of the 95% upper confidence limit (UCL) on the slope of the dose-response curve.

Determining the potential for chronic non-cancer (systemic) effects was based on the use of constituent-specific reference doses (RfDs) or acceptable chronic intake (AIC) values. Chronic RfDs are estimates of the daily, chronic exposure to the population that is likely to be without appreciable risk of deleterious effect. RfD values incorporate numerous safety and/or modifying factors which serve as a conservative downward adjustment of the numerical value. The Area 29 HHRA also incorporated AIC values in the event these values were more health protective (i.e., lower) than the RfDs. For assessing the potential for acute non-cancer effects, the HHRA applied values based on 1-day health advisories (HAs).

### Risk Characterization

The risk characterization combines the estimates of exposure with the dose-response (or toxicity) values to derive estimates of the potential cancer risks and the potential for adverse non-cancer health effects. For each exposure pathway and land use evaluated, most probable and reasonable worst case risk estimates were generated for each COC corresponding to exposure to the average and maximum detected concentrations, respectively.

Excess lifetime cancer risks were determined for each COC by multiplying the COC-specific exposure dose by the COC-specific CPF, described above. The resulting cancer risk estimates are expressed in scientific notation as a probability (e.g.  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  for one in a million) and indicate (using this example), that an average individual is likely to have a one in a million chance of developing cancer over a 70 year lifetime. Current EPA practice considers carcinogenic risks to be additive when assessing exposure to a mixture of constituents. That is, the COC-specific cancer risks were summed to estimate pathway-specific cancer risks.

**TABLE 2**  
**TOXICITY VALUES USED IN THE PHASE I AND II HHRAs**  
**FAA AREAS 29 AND K**  
 AREA 29 - FIRE TRAINING AREA AND  
 AREA K - STORAGE AREA NEAR AREA 29  
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| Constituent                | Non-Cancer             |                      | Cancer<br>Potency<br>Factor (b)<br>(mg/kg/d)-1 |
|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------|
|                            | Acute (a)<br>(mg/kg/d) | Chronic<br>(mg/kg/d) |                                                |
| Benzene                    | 0.023                  | 7.0E-04 (c)          | 0.052                                          |
| Dichloroethane, 1,1-       | 0.1                    | 0.009 (c)            | 0.58                                           |
| Toluene                    | 1.8                    | 0.3 (d)              | NA                                             |
| Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate | NA                     | 0.02 (d)             | 6.8E-04 (e)                                    |
| PCBs                       | 0.013                  | 3.0E-04 (c)          | 4.34                                           |

- (a) 1-Day child health advisories (EPA Office of Drinking Water, 1985)  
converted to adult
- (b) EPA, Office of Research and Development, Health Effects  
Assessments (1986)
- (c) Reference dose (EPA, Environmental Criteria and Assessment  
Office, 1985)
- (d) Chronic acceptable intake (EPA, Superfund Public Health Evaluation  
Manual, 1986)
- (e) EPA Carcinogenic Assessment Group (1984)

Hazard indices (HIs) were also calculated for each pathway as a measure of the potential for non-carcinogenic health effects. The HI is the sum of the constituent-specific hazard quotients (HQs) which are calculated by dividing the exposure dose by the reference dose (RfD) or other suitable benchmark for non-carcinogenic health effects for an individual constituent. In general, HQs are assumed additive for constituents with similar toxic endpoints. In the HHRA, acute and chronic HQs were calculated using the chronic RfDs (or similar benchmark) and 1-day HAs, respectively.

The estimated cancer risks and non-cancer HIs (Table 3) were evaluated using EPA's established target risk range for Superfund cleanups (i.e., cancer risk range of  $10^{-6}$  to  $10^{-4}$ ) and target HI value (i.e., HI less than or equal to 1).

The results of the HHRA indicate that the presence of benzene and PCBs in surface soil and PCBs in subsurface soil do not pose an unacceptable human health risk. That is, estimated cancer risks and non-cancer HIs were below the target values (i.e.,  $10^{-6}$  to  $10^{-4}$  and 1.0, respectively). The cancer risks associated with future exposures to ground water were estimated to exceed the target cancer risk range of  $10^{-6}$  to  $10^{-4}$  under the realistic worst case (based on the maximum detected concentrations), and to fall within this range under the most probable case (based on the average concentrations). The elevation under the realistic worst case was primarily due to the presence of benzene and 1,1-dichloroethane which had individual cancer risks of  $3.2 \times 10^{-4}$  and  $8.4 \times 10^{-4}$ , respectively. The estimated non-cancer HIs for ingestion of ground water ranged from 1.5 (acute) to 9.3 (chronic) under the realistic worst case, but were less than 1.0 under the most probable case. Benzene was the main contributor to the estimated non-cancer HIs.

While not included in the quantitative assessment of site risks, the presence of TPH in site surface soils was evaluated qualitatively. It was concluded that minimal risk would be associated with direct contact with TPH-contaminated surface soils.

#### Implications of the Phase II EI on the Phase I HHRA

A discussion of the implications of the Phase II EI on the Phase I HHRA results is provided in the FS for Area 29 (TRC, July, 1989) at pages 1-20 through 1-29 and is summarized below.

PCBs and octachlorodibenzo-*p*-dioxin (OCDD) were the constituents detected in Phase II surface soil samples. While PCBs were also detected in Phase I, dioxins and furans were not included as Phase I analytes. Consequently, OCDD was evaluated with regard to inclusion as a COC on the basis of the Phase II EI. Due to OCDD's low toxicity, it was determined not to be of environmental concern and was not selected as a COC for Areas 29 and K. Therefore, no additional COCs were identified on the basis of the Phase II EI.

The risk results calculated on the basis of the Phase I and II data combined (Table 4) are consistent with those obtained in Phase I. That is, the inclusion of the Phase II PCB data does not change the Phase I conclusion that the COCs in surface and subsurface soils do not pose an unacceptable human health risk.

**TABLE 3**  
**SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED HUMAN HEALTH RISKS**  
**BASED ON PHASE I DATA**  
**AREA 29 - FIRE TRAINING AREA AND**  
**AREA K - STORAGE AREA NEAR AREA 29**  
**FAA TECHNICAL CENTER**

|                                                     | Cancer Risk        |                      | Non-Cancer Hazard Index             |                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|                                                     | Most Probable Case | Realistic Worst Case | Most Probable Case<br>Acute/Chronic | Realistic Worst Case<br>Acute/Chronic |
| <b>Current FAA Worker (Surface Soils):</b>          |                    |                      |                                     |                                       |
| Ingestion                                           | NC                 | 9.3E-08              | NC/NC                               | 1.1E-03/7.2E-05                       |
| Dermal Contact                                      | 4.9E-08            | 2.2E-06 (a)          | NC/NC                               | 2.4E-03/1.8E-03                       |
| <b>Future Construction (Subsurface Soils):</b>      |                    |                      |                                     |                                       |
| Ingestion                                           | NC                 | 4.7E-07              | NC/NC                               | 5.5E-03/1.3E-02                       |
| Dermal Contact                                      | 7.0E-07            | 1.1E-05 (a)          | NC/NC                               | 1.1E-02/3.0E-01                       |
| <b>Future Commercial/Industrial (Ground Water):</b> |                    |                      |                                     |                                       |
| Ingestion                                           | 5.8E-5 (b)         | 1.2E-03 (b)          | 1.5E-01/9.3E-01                     | 1.5E-00/9.3E+00 (c)                   |

  = Within 1E-06 to 1E-04 cancer risk range

  = Exceeds 1E-06 to 1E-04 cancer risk range or 1.0 non-cancer hazard index

NC = Not calculated since the realistic worst case estimate was below the 1E-06 to 1E-04 cancer risk range or 1.0 non-cancer hazard index

(a) Attributable to PCBs

(b) Primarily attributable to benzene and 1,1-dichloroethane

(c) Primarily attributable to benzene

**TABLE 4**  
**SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED HUMAN HEALTH RISKS**  
**BASED ON PHASE I AND II DATA (a)**  
**AREA 29 - FIRE TRAINING AREA AND**  
**AREA K - STORAGE AREA NEAR AREA 29**  
**FAA TECHNICAL CENTER**

|                                                     | Cancer Risk        |                      | Non-Cancer Hazard Index          |                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                                                     | Most Probable Case | Realistic Worst Case | Most Probable Case Acute/Chronic | Realistic Worst Case Acute/Chronic |
| <b>Current FAA Worker (Surface Soils):</b>          |                    |                      |                                  |                                    |
| Ingestion                                           | NC                 | 5.8E-07              | NC/NC                            | 6.9E-03/4.5E-04                    |
| Dermal Contact                                      | 4.0E-07            | 1.4E-05 (b)          | NC/NC                            | 1.4E-02/1.1E-02                    |
| <b>Future Construction (Subsurface Soils):</b>      |                    |                      |                                  |                                    |
| Ingestion                                           | NC                 | 4.7E-07              | NC/NC                            | 5.5E-03/1.3E-02                    |
| Dermal Contact                                      | 3.8E-07            | 1.1E-05 (b)          | NC/NC                            | 1.1E-02/3.0E-01                    |
| <b>Future Commercial/Industrial (Ground Water):</b> |                    |                      |                                  |                                    |
| Ingestion                                           | 5.8E-5 (c)         | 1.2E-03 (c)          | 1.5E-01/9.3E-01                  | 1.5E-00/9.3E+00 (d)                |

☐ = Within 1E-06 to 1E-04 cancer risk range

☐ = Exceeds 1E-06 to 1E-04 cancer risk range or 1.0 non-cancer hazard index

NC = Not calculated since the realistic worst case estimate was below the 1E-06 to 1E-04 cancer risk range or 1.0 non-cancer hazard index

(a) Note that the Phase II investigation was limited to the analysis of surface soil samples for dioxin and furans and PCBs and subsurface soil samples for PCBs. No additional ground water data were obtained.

(b) Attributable to PCBs

(c) Primarily attributable to benzene and 1,1-dichloroethane

(d) Primarily attributable to benzene

## **B. Environmental Risk Assessment**

A qualitative environmental risk assessment was conducted on the basis of the same COCs as the HHRA. Since PCBs are persistent in the environment, tend to bioaccumulate, and can cause reproductive and behavioral changes in animals, it was surmised that concentrations of PCBs in surface soils may be high enough to affect the reproduction and behavior of some wildlife. Currently, a comprehensive ecological risk evaluation of the entire FAA Technical Center facility is being conducted which will further define ecological risks associated with Area 29 and other portions of the facility.

Actual or threatened releases of hazardous substances from this site, if not addressed by implementing the response action selected in this ROD, may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health, welfare, or the environment.

## **VII. REMEDIAL ACTION OBJECTIVES**

Remedial action objectives are specific goals to protect human health and the environment; they specify the COCs, the exposure route(s), receptor(s), and acceptable contaminant level(s) for each exposure route. These objectives are based on available information and standards such as ARARs and risk-based levels established in the risk assessment.

A FS serves as the mechanism for the development, screening, and detailed evaluation of remedial alternatives for all environmental media affected at a site. The FS for Areas 29 and K was completed by TRC in July 1989 and established the objectives for remedial actions at Areas 29 and K. Due to changes in ARARs which have occurred since the time the FS was prepared, the objectives have been revised accordingly. The following remedial action objectives have been established for Areas 29 and K:

- Eliminate exposures to PCB-contaminated soils at levels which exceed state or federal cleanup criteria;
- Reduce concentrations of TPH in subsurface soils to prevent continued leaching of contaminants into ground water;
- Prevent the migration of VOCs in perched ground water to deeper aquifer systems;
- Reduce contaminant concentrations in the perched ground water system to acceptable levels; and
- Reduce human health risks posed by the site in accordance with state and federal remediation goals.

## **VIII. DESCRIPTION OF THE ALTERNATIVES**

The Area 29 FS (TRC, July, 1989) included 12 remedial alternatives formulated for addressing soil and perched ground water remediation at Areas 29 and K. An initial screening of the twelve alternatives was conducted in the FS based on acceptable engineering practice, effectiveness, and cost. On the basis of the initial screening, this list was reduced to six alternatives which were considered to provide the greatest degree of compliance with the screening criteria. An additional alternative (Alternative 2 - RCRA Capping of Contaminated Soil) was removed from further consideration subsequent to the FS (as described in the Proposed Plan) based on the issuance of the New Jersey soil cleanup criteria which eliminated the need for remediation of surficial TPH-contaminated soil.

The remaining five alternatives are referred to as Alternatives 1, 3, 4, 10, and 12. Included among these alternatives is the no action alternative (Alternative 1), a required consideration for every FS. The five alternatives are summarized below. Because a number of the alternatives involve common remedial elements, these are described first and then are referenced in the subsequent individual alternative descriptions, as appropriate.

### Common Major Elements of Remedial Alternatives

#### PCB-Contaminated Soil Excavation and Off Site Disposal

For each of the alternatives except the no action alternative (Alternative 1), the PCB-contaminated soils in three areas (within the circular burn area, adjacent to the concrete burn pad, and in the former drum storage area of Area K) will be excavated and disposed of off site at licensed landfill facilities permitted to accept soils containing chemicals at the levels detected. The soils exceeding the NJDEP cleanup criteria of 2 ppm, estimated to be approximately 350 cubic yards in volume, will be excavated for off site disposal. The remediation of the PCB-contaminated soils includes landfill disposal of PCB-contaminated soils which are not characteristically hazardous by RCRA definition and which do not exceed a total halogenated organic compound level of 1,000 ppm. Based on existing data, all PCB-contaminated soils at Area 29 are not expected to exceed land disposal restrictions. Prior to off site disposal, sampling and analysis to characterize the excavated soils will be performed. In association with the soil excavation activities, the circular burn area and concrete burn pad will be demolished and the demolition debris will also be further characterized for off site disposal. Disposal of these materials will be performed in accordance with RCRA and Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) regulations which address the handling and disposal of PCB-contaminated materials, as well as with state and local regulations.

#### TPH-Contaminated Soil Excavation and Off Site Disposal

For each of the alternatives except the no action alternative (Alternative 1), the TPH-contaminated soils at the former 10,000-gallon underground storage tank location will be excavated and disposed of off site at licensed landfill facilities permitted to accept soils containing chemicals at the levels detected. The soils exceeding the NJDEP cleanup criteria of 10,000 ppm for total organic compounds, estimated to be approximately 50 cubic yards in volume, will be excavated for off site disposal. Prior to off site disposal, sampling and analysis to characterize the excavated soils will be performed. Disposal of these soils will be conducted in accordance with RCRA and NJDEP industrial waste disposal regulations.

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APPENDICES

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### Declaration of Environmental Restrictions

New Jersey non-residential soil cleanup criteria will be attained by the remedial alternatives (except for Alternative 1, the no action alternative). Although not required by EPA, the FAA will install an institutional control in order to prevent unacceptable exposures from occurring under future site use. A Declaration of Environmental Restrictions will be placed on the land records for the portions of Areas 29 and K containing constituents of concern in soil above the New Jersey residential soil cleanup criteria.

### Ground Water Extraction/Treatment

Ground water extraction and treatment systems are included as components for two of the remedial alternatives (Alternatives 3 and 4). Perched ground water will be extracted for subsequent treatment. The remedial alternatives and costs presented herein are based on perched ground water extraction and treatment only. For the purpose of estimating relative costs, ground water is assumed to be extracted for treatment at a rate of five gallons per minute. Following treatment, the ground water will be reinjected back into the subsurface.

Ground water cleanup criteria will include federal and state MCLs and New Jersey Ground Water Quality Standards. Pursuant to NJAC 7:9-6.5(d)(2), ground water at the FAA Technical Center is classified as Class I-PL (Protection Area). Pursuant to NJAC 7:9-6.7(d)(2), the ground water quality criteria for Class I-PL (Protection Area) shall be background water quality, as that term is defined in NJAC 7:9-6.4. The NJDEP and Pinelands Commission recognize that technical limitations exist for measuring compliance with such criteria. The seven constituents identified below have either not been detected in background ground water at the FAA Technical Center or have been detected at concentrations which are lower than the relevant PQL, as that term is defined in NJAC 7:9-6.4, for each constituent. The background water quality for each of these constituents is, therefore, lower than the relevant PQL for each.

Pursuant to NJAC 7:9-6.9(c), where a constituent standard is of a lower concentration than the relevant PQL, NJDEP shall not consider a discharge to be causing a contravention of the New Jersey Ground Water Quality Standards for that constituent so long as the concentration of the constituent in the affected ground water is less than the relevant PQL for the constituent. The relevant PQLs for each of the seven constituents in ground water of concern at the FAA Technical Center are as follows:

| <u>Constituent</u>    | <u>PQL (ppm)</u> |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Benzene               | 0.001            |
| Ethylbenzene          | 0.005            |
| Methylene Chloride    | 0.002            |
| Tetrachloroethene     | 0.001            |
| Toluene               | 0.005            |
| 1,1,1-Trichloroethane | 0.001            |
| Xylene                | 0.002            |

### Ground Water In Situ Treatment

In situ treatment of ground water is included as part of two of the alternatives (Alternatives 10 and 12). This treatment does not involve the extraction and subsequent reinjection of ground water. Similar to the ground water extraction/treatment components above, the remedial alternatives and costs presented herein are based on perched ground water treatment only.

A brief description of the five remedial alternatives is presented below.

#### Alternative 1 - No Action

Capital Cost: \$7,000  
O & M Cost: \$332,000  
Present Worth Cost: \$408,000  
Construction Time: 1 month

This alternative involves no additional actions other than installation of two additional monitoring wells and continued ground water monitoring. No contaminants would be treated or contained and existing health and environmental risks would remain.

#### Alternative 3 - Ground Water Extraction with Air Stripping

Capital Cost: \$404,000  
O & M Cost: \$195,000  
Present Worth Cost: \$719,000  
Construction Time: 6 months

This alternative involves the removal and off-site disposal of PCB-contaminated soils, petroleum hydrocarbon-contaminated soils and demolition debris. Perched ground water contamination is addressed through extraction and air stripping for treatment of VOCs.

#### Alternative 4 - Ground Water Extraction with Carbon Adsorption

Capital Cost: \$401,000  
O & M Cost: \$201,000  
Present Worth Cost: \$723,000  
Construction Time: 6 months

This alternative involves the removal and off-site disposal of PCB-contaminated soils, petroleum hydrocarbon-contaminated soils and demolition debris. Perched ground water would be extracted and treated using carbon adsorption, with both VOC and SVOC contamination in ground water addressed.

#### Alternative 10 - In Situ Aeration of Contaminated Ground Water and Vacuum Extraction

Capital Cost: \$398,000  
O & M Cost: \$313,000  
Present Worth Cost: \$854,000  
Construction Time: 8 months

This alternative involves a combination of in situ aeration and vacuum extraction. In situ ground water treatment is treatment which is conducted in-place, with no extraction of the ground water prior to treatment. Aeration wells are used to aerate the perched ground water in situ, stripping volatile contaminants from the ground water into the soil pore spaces. The vacuum extraction system subsequently extracts the gas from the soil pore spaces for discharge or treatment. It would be combined with removal and off-site disposal of PCB-contaminated soils, petroleum hydrocarbon-contaminated soils, and demolition debris.

#### Alternative 12 - In Situ Biodegradation

Capital Cost: \$441,000  
O & M Cost: \$201,000  
Present Worth Cost: \$770,000  
Construction Time: 8 months

This alternative involves ground water treatment using in situ biodegradation. Perched ground water remediation would be achieved by installing wells for nitrate addition, which would enhance subsequent anaerobic degradation of ground water contaminants in-place, without ground water extraction. It would be combined with removal and off-site disposal of PCB-contaminated soils, petroleum hydrocarbon-contaminated soils, and demolition debris.

### **IX. SUMMARY OF COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES**

The five alternatives identified in Section VIII were initially evaluated on the basis of technical effectiveness and feasibility, public health and environmental effects, institutional issues, and costs as presented in the Feasibility Study. Subsequently, these alternatives were also evaluated using the criteria derived from the National Contingency Plan (NCP) and the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), as presented in the Proposed Plan. These criteria relate to the SARA amendment to Section 121 of CERCLA [Section 121 (b)(1)] as Section 300.430(e)(9)(iii) of the NCP and are as follows:

- Overall protection of human health and the environment addresses whether or not a remedy provides adequate protection and describes how risks posed through each pathway are eliminated, reduced, or controlled through treatment, engineering controls, or institutional controls.

- Compliance with applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs) addresses whether or not a remedy will meet all of the applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements of other federal and state environmental statutes and requirements or provide grounds for invoking a waiver.
- Long-term effectiveness and permanence refers to the ability of a remedy to maintain reliable protection of human health and the environment over time, once cleanup goals have been met and determines the magnitude of residual risk posed by untreated wastes or treatment residuals.
- Reduction of toxicity, mobility, or volume through treatment is the anticipated performance of the treatment technologies a remedy may employ.
- Short-term effectiveness addresses the period of time needed to achieve protection and any adverse impacts on human health and the environment that may be posed during the construction and implementation period until cleanup goals are achieved.
- Implementability is the technical and administrative feasibility of a remedy, including the availability of materials and services needed to implement a particular option.
- Cost includes estimated capital and operational and maintenance costs, and net present worth costs.
- State acceptance indicates whether, based on its review of the EI/FS reports and the Proposed Plan, the State concurs, opposes, or has no comment on the preferred alternative at the present time.
- Community acceptance evaluates the issues and concerns the public usually have regarding the alternatives.

The following presents a comparative analysis of the five alternatives based upon the evaluation criteria noted above.

Overall Protection of Human Health and the Environment - Alternative 4 provides the greatest overall protection of human health and the environment through its ability to treat both volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds dissolved in ground water, its removal and off-site disposal of PCB-contaminated soils and petroleum hydrocarbon-contaminated soils, and its proven reliability and effectiveness. Alternative 3 also offers a high degree of overall protection through the removal and off-site disposal of PCB-contaminated soils and petroleum hydrocarbon-contaminated soils and treatment of ground water, although it would not be as effective in the treatment of semi-volatile organic ground water contaminants. Alternatives 10 and 12 would provide some protection of human health and the environment since they also include removal and off-site disposal of PCB-contaminated soils and petroleum hydrocarbon-contaminated soils, but due to the innovative nature of their ground water treatment technologies, their reliability and capability in attaining ARARs are not as well-defined as Alternatives 3 and 4. Alternative 1, which provides no soil or ground water treatment, is the least protective alternative.

Compliance with ARARs - Each of the remedial alternatives except for Alternative 1 will comply with chemical-specific to-be-considered criteria (TBCs) applicable to PCB-contaminated soils and petroleum hydrocarbon-contaminated soils. Soil characterization, handling, transport and disposal will be conducted in accordance with applicable federal and state waste management regulations. Chemical-specific ARARs applicable to ground water are considered to be achievable for Alternatives 3 and 4. Alternatives 3 and 4 would also be designed to comply with ARARs applicable to the operation of the ground water extraction, treatment and discharge systems. Due to the more innovative nature of Alternatives 10 and 12, a greater degree of uncertainty is associated with the ability of these alternatives to achieve chemical-specific ground water ARARs, although Alternatives 10 and 12 would also be designed and operated in accordance with action-specific ARARs. Alternative 1 will not meet chemical-specific ARARs or TBCs for soil or ground water.

Long-Term Effectiveness and Permanence - Alternatives 3, 4, 10 and 12 will all be effective in the long-term in addressing soils contaminated with PCBs or petroleum hydrocarbons. Alternatives 3 and 4 will also be effective in the long-term in treating ground water contamination. Alternatives 10 and 12 may not be as effective in the long-term due to uncertainties associated with innovative and in situ treatment technologies. Alternative 1 provides no treatment of ground water and is not considered to be effective in the long-term.

Reduction of Toxicity, Mobility, or Volume through Treatment - Each of Alternatives 3, 4, 10 and 12 provide a reduction in ground water toxicity through treatment and a reduction in the mobility of soil contaminants through the containment features of an off-site landfill. Alternative 4 provides the greatest reduction in toxicity by treating both volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds dissolved in ground water. Alternative 3 would be successful in reducing the volume of ground water contaminated with VOCs. Alternatives 10 and 12 would also provide some reduction in ground water contaminant toxicity and mobility. Alternative 1 provides no treatment of VOCs in the ground water.

Short-Term Effectiveness - Alternatives 3 and 4 offer the greatest short-term effectiveness due to the ease and speed with which they could be implemented. Alternatives 10 and 12 require a greater implementation period and could require a greater operational period due to their in situ treatment methods. Alternative 1 involves minimal short-term effects but would not achieve remedial goals.

Implementability - Alternative 1 offers the greatest implementability followed by Alternatives 3 and 4, which involve conventional technologies with proven reliability and performance. Alternatives 10 and 12 are implementable but, due to their more innovative nature, their reliability and performance are not well-documented and the availability of equipment and services may be limited.

Cost - The total estimated costs of the four alternatives which include active remediation fall within a range of less than \$150,000. The No Action alternative, Alternative 1, which includes long-term ground water monitoring is the lowest cost alternative. Alternatives 3 and 4 are next in cost, with very comparable total costs. Each of these two alternatives utilizes more conventional technologies and, therefore, is less sensitive to potential variations in assumed technology costs. The remaining alternatives in order of increasing cost are Alternative 12 and Alternative 10, both innovative alternatives which may be sensitive to cost variations.

State Acceptance - The preferred alternative, as discussed in the following section, is acceptable to the NJDEP (see NJDEP letter of concurrence, Appendix A).

Community Acceptance - Community acceptance of the preferred alternative has been evaluated on the basis of public comments, as is described in the Responsiveness Summary of this ROD.

## **X. SELECTED REMEDY**

The following section describes in detail the remedial action which the FAA, in concurrence with EPA, has selected to implement at Areas 29 and K. The selected remedial alternative for Areas 29 and K at the FAA Technical Center is Alternative 4, Ground Water Extraction and Carbon Adsorption, and Excavation and Off Site Disposal of Soils Contaminated with PCBs and/or TPH, as presented in the Proposed Plan. Because of the design's preliminary nature, changes could be implemented during the final design and construction processes to address unforeseen conditions and more cost-effective remedial technologies for ground water extraction, treatment and recharge. Such changes will reflect modifications resulting from the engineering design process and will not substantially change the intent of the selected alternative described herein.

PCB-contaminated soils which exceed the NJDEP non-residential cleanup criterion of 2 ppm will be excavated and disposed of off site at a landfill licensed and permitted to handle the waste. The main areas of excavation will be within the circular burn area, adjacent to the concrete burn pad, and in the former drum storage area (Area K). The volume of soil requiring excavation is estimated to be approximately 350 cubic yards. Based on existing data, the chemical concentrations in the excavated soils are not expected to exceed land disposal restrictions. Prior to off site disposal, remedial sampling and analysis to further characterize the excavated surface soils will be performed. In association with the soil excavation activities, the circular burn area and concrete burn pad will be demolished and the demolition debris will also be further characterized for off site disposal. Disposal of these materials will be performed in accordance with RCRA regulations and Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) regulations which address the remediation of PCB-contaminated materials, as well as with state and local regulations.

The TPH-contaminated soils beneath the former 10,000-gallon underground storage tank location will be excavated and disposed of off site at a landfill licensed and permitted to handle the waste. The soils exceeding the NJDEP total organic compound cleanup criteria of 10,000 ppm, estimated to be approximately 50 cubic yards in volume, will be excavated for off site disposal. Prior to off site disposal, remedial sampling and analysis to further characterize the excavated soils will be performed. Disposal of these soils will be performed in accordance with RCRA and NJDEP industrial waste disposal regulations.

Perched ground water will be extracted and treated using carbon adsorption. Pre-treatment of water to remove iron and other metals or sequestration may be employed to minimize fouling of carbon beds and the reinjection system. Other dissolved VOC treatment technologies may be employed as a substitute for carbon adsorption, as long as they meet or exceed the treatment efficiency of carbon adsorption. Treated ground water will be reinjected back into the subsurface.

Although not required by EPA, the FAA will establish a Declaration of Environmental Restrictions where constituents of concern in soil exceed the New Jersey residential soil cleanup criteria, to prevent further development of the site for residential use.

## **XI. STATUTORY DETERMINATIONS**

Under Section 121 of CERCLA and Section 300.430(f) of the NCP, selected remedies must meet certain statutory and regulatory requirements. These requirements and a description of how the selected remedy satisfies each requirement are presented below.

### Protection of Human Health and the Environment

The preferred alternative provides the greatest overall protection of human health and the environment by providing remediation of soil contaminants and treatment of both VOCs and SVOCs in perched ground water. It is effective in the short term, with only minimal risks associated with its installation and operation. It also utilizes a proven treatment technology which is readily implemented, and its long-term effectiveness and permanence are expected to be good.

### Compliance with ARARs

The selected remedy will attain federal ARARs and those New Jersey ARARs which are more stringent than federal ARARs for ground water, as well as TBCs for soil quality. A summary of applicable chemical-specific, location-specific and action-specific ARARs and TBCs is presented by media in Table 5. Table 6 presents numerical chemical-specific ARAR and TBC values.

The selected remedy is expected to achieve compliance with NJDEP's non-residential soil cleanup standards for PCBs (2 ppm) and total organic compounds (including TPH) (10,000 ppm) through the excavation and off site disposal of any soils exceeding these standards. ARARs for ground water (the most stringent of state or federal MCLs and New Jersey Ground Water Quality Standards) will be achieved through the extraction of perched ground water and subsequent treatment through carbon adsorption.

The regulations established under RCRA, the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, TSCA, the New Jersey Hazardous Waste Regulations, the New Jersey Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Requirements, and the New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System will apply to the implementation of this alternative. Compliance with the Pinelands Protection Act, including the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan, a TBC, will be required due to the facility's location within the Pinelands.

### Cost-Effectiveness

The selected remedy is comparable in cost to the other alternatives which provide remediation of the contaminated soils and the treatment of perched ground water. The alternatives are similar in their handling of contaminated soils but vary in their means of ground water treatment. The ground water treatment component of Alternative 4 provides treatment of both VOCs and SVOCs while utilizing a proven treatment technology. Therefore, it provides the greatest overall cost-effectiveness of the alternatives considered.

**TABLE 5**

**APPLICABLE OR RELEVANT AND APPROPRIATE REQUIREMENTS (ARARs)  
AND TO-BE-CONSIDERED CRITERIA (TBCs)  
AREA 29 - FIRE TRAINING AREA AND  
AREA K - STORAGE AREA NEAR AREA 29  
FAA TECHNICAL CENTER**

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**CHEMICAL-SPECIFIC ARARS (Also see Table 6)**

- Safe Drinking Water Act  
Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) [40 CFR 141.11-.16, and 141.60 - .63]  
Federal maximum permissible contaminant levels allowable for public water systems; applicable to the remediation of ground water
  
- NJ Safe Drinking Water Act  
NJ Maximum Contaminant Levels [NJAC 7:10 5.1-5.3]  
State maximum permissible contaminant levels allowable for public water systems; applicable to the remediation of ground water
  
- NJ Water Pollution Control Act  
NJ Ground Water Quality Standards [NJAC 7:9-6.7(c)]  
State-designated levels of constituents which, when not exceeded, will not prohibit or significantly impair a designated use of water. Pursuant to NJAC 7:9-6.5(d)(2), ground water at the FAA Technical Center is classified as Class I-PL (Protection Area). Pursuant to NJAC 7:9-6.7(d)(2), the ground water quality criteria for Class I-PL (Protection Area) shall be background water quality, as that term is defined in NJAC 7:9-6.4. The NJDEP and Pinelands Commission recognize that technical limitations exist for measuring compliance with such criteria. The seven constituents listed in Table 6 have either not been detected in background ground water at the FAA Technical Center or have been detected at concentrations which are lower than the relevant practical quantitation level (PQL), as that term is identified in NJAC 7:9-6.4, for each constituent. The background water quality for each of these constituents is, therefore, lower than the relevant PQL. Pursuant to NJAC 7:9-6.9(c), where a constituent standard is of a lower concentration than the relevant PQL, NJDEP shall not consider a discharge to be causing a contravention of the New Jersey Ground Water Quality Standards for that constituent so long as the concentration of the constituent in the affected ground water is less than the relevant PQL for the constituent. The relevant PQLs for each of the seven constituents in ground water of concern at Areas 29 and K of the FAA Technical Center are listed in Table 6.

**TABLE 5 (Continued)**

**APPLICABLE OR RELEVANT AND APPROPRIATE REQUIREMENTS (ARARs)  
AND TO-BE-CONSIDERED CRITERIA (TBCs)**

**AREA 29 - FIRE TRAINING AREA AND  
AREA K - STORAGE AREA NEAR AREA 29  
FAA TECHNICAL CENTER**

---

**CHEMICAL-SPECIFIC TBCs**

- NJ Soil Cleanup Criteria  
Non-promulgated criteria used to determine the potential need for soil remediation

**LOCATION-SPECIFIC ARARS**

- Safe Drinking Water Act  
Protection of Ground Water Use for Potable Water Supply [40 CFR 149]  
Protects aquifers designated as sole source aquifers from actions by federally-funded programs

**LOCATION-SPECIFIC TBCs**

- Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan (NJAC 7:50)  
Establishes standards and requirements pursuant to the Pinelands Protection Act designed to promote orderly development of the Pinelands so as to preserve and protect the resources of the Pinelands, including wetland, ground water and air resources, among others.

**ACTION-SPECIFIC ARARS**

- NJ Water Pollution Control Act  
NJPDES Permit/Discharge Requirements [NJAC 7:14A-2.1]  
State standards for discharges to ground water
- NJ Water Supply Management Act  
General Water Supply Management Regulations [NJAC 7:19-1.4, 1.5, 1.6(b) and 2.2]  
Well Drilling Permits [NJSA 58:4A-14]  
Well Certification Forms [NJAC 7:8-3.11]  
State regulations governing the extraction of ground water at a rate which exceeds 100,000 gallons per day and the drilling and construction of new wells; applicable should the extraction rate of the ground water extraction system exceed 100,000 gallons per day and applicable to the installation of ground water extraction wells
- Toxic Substances Control Act  
Requirements for PCB Spill Cleanup [40 CFR 761.125]  
Establishes requirements for the removal and disposal of PCB-contaminated materials.

**TABLE 5 (Continued)**

**APPLICABLE OR RELEVANT AND APPROPRIATE REQUIREMENTS (ARARs)  
AND TO-BE-CONSIDERED CRITERIA (TBCs)**

**AREA 29 - FIRE TRAINING AREA AND  
AREA K - STORAGE AREA NEAR AREA 29  
FAA TECHNICAL CENTER**

- 
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)  
Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste [40 CFR 261]  
Waste classification procedures applicable to the characterization of excavated soils and spent carbon
  - RCRA  
Standards Applicable to Generators of Hazardous Waste [40 CFR 262]  
Requirements for manifesting, marking and reporting applicable to generators of hazardous waste; applicable if wastes shipped off site are determined to be hazardous
  - RCRA  
Standards Applicable to Transporters of Hazardous Waste [40 CFR 263]
  - Hazardous Materials Transportation Act  
Rules for Transportation of Hazardous Materials [49 CFR 171 through 179]  
Procedures for off site shipment of hazardous materials or wastes; applicable if wastes shipped off site are determined to be hazardous
  - NJ Solid Waste Management Act  
NJ Hazardous Waste Regulations [NJAC 7:26-8.5]  
Waste classification procedures applicable to the characterization of excavated soils and spent carbon

## **DECLARATION FOR THE RECORD OF DECISION**

Area 29 - Fire Training Area and  
Area K - Storage Area Near Area 29  
FAA Technical Center

---

### **FACILITY NAME AND LOCATION**

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Technical Center, Atlantic County  
Atlantic City International Airport, New Jersey

### **STATEMENT OF BASIS AND PURPOSE**

This decision document presents the selected remedial action for Area 29, the Fire Training Area and Area K, a former drum and tank storage area located adjacent to Area 29 at the FAA Technical Center, Atlantic City International Airport, New Jersey. The remedial action decision was chosen in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), and, to the extent practicable, the National Contingency Plan (NCP). This decision is based on the administrative record for Areas 29 and K.

The Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the Pinelands Commission concur with the selected remedy (Appendix A).

### **ASSESSMENT OF THE SITE**

Actual or threatened releases of hazardous substances from this site, if not addressed by implementing the response action selected in this Record of Decision (ROD), may present an imminent and substantial threat to public health, welfare, or the environment.

### **DESCRIPTION OF THE REMEDY**

The selected remedy for Areas 29 and K addresses the principal threat by controlling the migration of and treating dissolved chemicals in ground water. Contaminated soils will be excavated and disposed of off site. The selected remedy for Areas 29 and K includes the following components:

- Excavation of approximately 350 cubic yards of PCB contaminated soil and transport off site for disposal at a licensed facility;
- Excavation of approximately 50 cubic yards of petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated soil and transport off site for disposal at a licensed facility;
- Demolition and excavation of debris from the former circular burn area and concrete burn pad and transport off site for disposal;

**TABLE 6****CHEMICAL-SPECIFIC ARARS AND TBCS**

AREA 29 - FIRE TRAINING AREA AND  
 AREA K - STORAGE AREA NEAR AREA 29  
 FAA TECHNICAL CENTER

| Ground Water<br>Parameter | Federal<br>ARARS (ppb)                        | State<br>ARARS (ppb) |                   |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
|                           | MCL (1)                                       | NJMCL (2)            | GWQS (3)<br>[PQL] |
| Benzene                   | 5                                             | 1                    | [1]               |
| Ethylbenzene              | 700                                           |                      | [5]               |
| Methylene Chloride        |                                               | 2                    | [2]               |
| Toluene                   | 1,000                                         |                      | [5]               |
| Xylene (total)            | 10,000                                        | 44                   | [2]               |
| Tetrachloroethene         | 5                                             | 1                    | [1]               |
| 1,1,1-Trichloroethane     | 200                                           | 26                   | [1]               |
| Soil<br>Parameter         | State TBCs (ppm)                              |                      |                   |
|                           | Non-Residential Soil<br>Cleanup Criterion (4) |                      |                   |
| PCBs                      | 2                                             |                      |                   |
| Total Organics            | 10,000                                        |                      |                   |

- (1) MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level. National Primary Drinking Water Regulations, Final Rule
- (2) Maximum Contaminant Level for Drinking Water; NJ Safe Drinking Water Act, NJAC 7:10-16.7
- (3) Ground Water Quality Standards; based on Class I-PL (Protection Area, ground water quality criteria shall be the background ground water quality. As discussed in the associated text, when the background water quality is lower than the Practical Quantitation Level (PQL), a discharge will not contravene the standard so long as the concentration of the constituent is less than the relevant PQL.
- (4) Compliance with the PCB soil cleanup criterion is determined based on compliance averaging procedures as described in NJDEP Site Remediation News, Spring 1995, Volume 7, No. 2; compliance averaging is not applicable to the total organic soil cleanup criterion.

#### Utilization of Permanent Solutions and Alternative Treatment Technologies

The FAA, in cooperation with EPA, has determined that the selected remedy utilizes permanent solutions and treatment technologies to the maximum extent practicable. This determination was made based on the comparative evaluation of alternatives with respect to long-term effectiveness and permanence, reduction of toxicity, mobility, or volume through treatment, short-term effectiveness, implementability, and cost, as well as the statutory preference for treatment as a principal element and state and community acceptance.

The main difference between the alternatives is related to the ground water treatment technology utilized. Alternative 4 provides for permanent treatment of the ground water contaminants through extraction and treatment utilizing carbon adsorption. The contaminants are permanently removed from the ground water and transferred to the carbon media for subsequent disposal or regeneration. The proven nature of the carbon adsorption technology in treating the COCs ensures its effectiveness in meeting the remediation goals of the treatment process. The technology is readily implemented and presents minimal short-term risks. The excavation and off site disposal of contaminated soils provides for the permanent elimination of the potential for direct contact with constituents in these media as well as the removal of these materials from acting as a potential source of ground water contamination.

#### Preference for Treatment as a Principal Element

The preferred alternative addresses the principal threat, which is associated with the presence of contaminants in the perched ground water at levels which present unacceptable risks to human health, through treatment of the ground water. Extraction of perched ground water followed by carbon adsorption will provide treatment of the ground water contamination and will lessen the potential for the movement of dissolved constituents from the perched water table into the true water table. The preferred alternative also addresses the presence of PCBs and TPH in soils through off site disposal of soils which do not meet New Jersey non-residential soil cleanup criteria (TBCs).

## **XII. DOCUMENTATION OF NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES**

The Proposed Plan for Areas 29 and K was released for public comment on April 11, 1996. The Proposed Plan identified Alternative 4, Ground Water Extraction and Carbon Adsorption, and Excavation and Off Site Disposal of Soils Contaminated with PCBs and/or TPH as the preferred remedy. FAA received no written and verbal comments on the Proposed Plan, either during the public meeting or the subsequent 30-day comment period. Consequently, it has been determined that no significant changes to the remedy, as originally identified in the Proposed Plan, are necessary.

**RESPONSIVENESS SUMMARY**  
**RECORD OF DECISION**  
Area 29 - Fire Training Area and  
Area K - Storage Area Near Area 29  
FAA Technical Center

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The purpose of this Responsiveness Summary is to review public response to the Proposed Plan for Areas 29 and K. It also documents the FAA's consideration of such comments during the decision-making process and provides answers to any major comments raised during the public comment period.

The Responsiveness Summary is divided into the following sections:

- Overview - This section briefly describes the selected remedy and any changes to the remedy from that included in the Proposed Plan for Areas 29 and K.
- Background on Community Development - This section provides a summary of community interest in Areas 29 and K and identifies key public issues. It also describes community relations activities conducted with respect to these areas of concern.
- Summary of Major Questions and Comments - This section summarizes verbal and written comments received during the public meeting and public comment period.

**I. OVERVIEW**

The FAA Technical Center is located at the Atlantic City International Airport in Atlantic County, New Jersey. Area 29 is located northeast of Atlantic City International Airport runways and southwest of White Horse Pike and was constructed in the early 1970s for the training of airport fire fighting personnel. Area K is located northwest of the test burn areas at Area 29 and was formerly used to store drums and tanks. This Responsiveness Summary addresses public response to the Proposed Plan for Areas 29 and K only.

The Proposed Plan and other supporting information for Areas 29 and K are available for public review at the Atlantic County Library, 2 South Farragut Avenue, Mays Landing, New Jersey.

**II. BACKGROUND ON COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

This section provides a brief history of community participation in the EI/FS activities conducted at Areas 29 and K.

Throughout the investigation period, the EPA, NJDEP, Atlantic County Department of Health and the Pinelands Commission have been directly involved through proposal and project review and comments. Periodic meetings have been held to maintain open lines of communication and to keep all parties abreast of current activities.

On April 11, 1996, a newspaper notification was published in the Atlantic City Press inviting the public to comment on the EI/FS process and Proposed Plan. The announcement also identified the time and location of a public meeting to be held to discuss the proposed remedial action, the location of the information repository, the length of the public comment period, and the address to which written comments could be sent. Public comments were accepted from April 11 through May 10, 1996.

A public meeting was held on May 2, 1996 at the Atlantic County Library in Mays Landing, New Jersey. The Areas 29 and K EI/FS results were discussed. FAA representatives included: Keith C. Buch, Program Manager, Howard Kimpton, Supervisor, Environmental Section and Gary Poulsen, Manager, Facility Engineering and Operations Division. Betsy Donovan, Remedial Project Manager, Federal Facilities Section represented the USEPA Emergency and Remedial Response Division; and Ian Curtis, Case Manager, represented the NJDEP Bureau of Federal Case Management. Sean Clancy represented the Atlantic County Health Department. TRC Environmental Corporation, FAA's environmental contractor, also attended. The complete attendance list is provided as Appendix B to this ROD. A transcript of the public meeting is provided as Appendix C.

### III. SUMMARY OF MAJOR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

No questions or comments with regard to the Proposed Plan for Areas 29 and K were raised at the public meeting held on May 2, 1996. In addition, no written comments were received during the thirty-day public comment period following the public meeting.

---

**APPENDIX A**

**NJDEP AND PINELANDS COMMISSION  
LETTERS OF CONCURRENCE**



State of New Jersey

Christine Todd Whitman  
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection

Robert C. Menn, Jr.  
Commissioner

JUL 26 1995

Mr. Keith Buch  
FAA Technical Center  
Environmental Programs Branch  
ACM-440  
Atlantic City International Airport, N.J. 08405

Dear Mr. Buch,

Re: Area 29 and K Proposed Plan  
FAA Technical Center  
Egg Harbor Township, Atlantic County

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has reviewed the Draft Final Proposed Plan for Areas 29 and K of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Superfund Site located in Egg Harbor Township, Atlantic County.

Area 29 was developed in the 1970's for the training of airport fire fighting personnel. The site was designed with runoff storage and fuel storage tanks which were removed and disposed of off-site. Full-scale aircraft test burns were conducted on a large burn area, while smaller fuel fires were extinguished on a concrete pad. Area K is immediately adjacent to Area 29, and has been included in the Area 29 remedial investigation, risk assessment and feasibility study.

Contaminants of concern are petroleum hydrocarbons, PCBs, volatile organic compounds, and aromatic hydrocarbons. The remedial objectives, as stated in the draft Proposed Plan are to reduce surface and subsurface contaminants to prevent exposure and migration hazards, to eliminate PCB contaminated surface soils, and to eliminate/prevent migration of contaminants in the perched ground water. In order to meet these objectives, the agencies involved have determined that a remedial action incorporating ground water extraction and carbon adsorption, combined with excavation and off-site disposal of PCB and Petroleum Hydrocarbon contaminated soils would be the best alternative (alternative 4) for these Areas.

The previously submitted Proposed Plan for Areas 29 and K had been reviewed and approved by the NJDEP prior to this latest revision. This copy/revision of the Proposed Plan has undergone minor changes in order clarify certain statements to make the Proposed Plan more consistent with other decision documents at the FAA Technical Center and other USEPA decision documents.

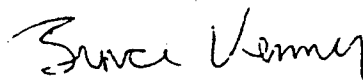
The Proposed Plan is approved subject to approval of the Pinelands Commission, and addressing the comments below.

- Page 6; In regard to the PCBs in the soil. The current soil cleanup criteria of PCBs is 0.49 for residential use, and 2 ppm for non-residential (industrial) use. These criteria are applicable through the entire soil column (please see attachment). Further, the Impact To Ground Water criteria - stated as 100 ppm - is incorrectly used and has been modified to 50 ppm to be consistent with TSCA requirements. Impact to ground water criteria is a "screening" criteria which should be used to determine if ground water investigation is necessary. In the event that FAA chooses to cleanup the soils to the non-residential cleanup criteria, a Declaration of Environmental Restriction (DER - deed restriction) will be necessary.
- A major remedial objective for the remediation of Areas 29 and K is the reduction in the human health risks and Hazard Index. The NJ required risk criteria is  $10^{-6}$  and hazard index is 1. Please state this a remedial action objective.

The NJDEP has determined that Alternative 4 and the Proposed Plan is consistent with State regulations and policies. Based on discussions with Kathy Swigon of the Pinelands Commission, the Pinelands Commission will be commenting on this Proposed Plan separately from the NJDEP. Pinelands Commission approval must be obtained prior to implementation of the Proposed Plan.

If you should have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (609) 633-1455.

Sincerely,



Bruce Venner, Chief  
Bureau of Federal Case Management

cc. Kathy Swigon, Pinelands Commission  
Betsy Donovan, USEPA - Region II  
George Nicholas, BGWPA  
Steve Byrnes, BEERA



State of New Jersey

THE PINELANDS COMMISSION

PO Box 7

NEW LISBON NJ 08064

(609) 894-9342

CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN  
Governor

April 25, 1996

Ian Curtis  
NJDEP, Bureau of Federal Case Management  
CN 028  
401 East State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0028

Please Always Refer To  
This Application Number

RE: App. No. 87-0046.12  
Areas 29 & K  
FAA Technical Center  
Egg Harbor Township

Dear Mr. Curtis:

The Commission staff has received and reviewed the April, 1996 Superfund Proposed Plan regarding the remediation of soils and groundwater for Area2 29 & K at the FAA Technical Center.

The Plan will be consistent with the minimum standards of the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan provided that the groundwater extraction, treatment and reinjection system is designed to comply with the non-degradation water quality standards and other applicable standards. Please refer to our March 13, 1996 letter (enclosed) regarding Commission concerns and application requirements for the proposed remedial design.

If you have any questions, please contact our development review staff.

Sincerely,

William F. Harrison, Esq.  
Assistant Director

Encl(1): March 13, 1996 letter

cc: Keith Buch  
Jean Oliva (with enclosure)



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and an International Biosphere Reserve

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In addition to meeting the water quality standards of the CMP, the proposed remedial action must comply with all applicable requirements of the CMP, including the standards relating to wetlands protection and protection of threatened and endangered species. Prior to implementation of the remedial alternative, it will be necessary for the Pinelands Commission to determine that the remedial design plans are consistent with the CMP. In order for the Commission to make such a determination, the following information must be provided:

1. Fill out, sign, have notarized and return the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan's Application (enclosed).
2. A dated plan showing the location of all existing and proposed development including all existing and proposed equipment, facilities, the treatment system extraction and injection wells, monitoring wells, pipelines, buildings, structures, parking areas, roads, limits of disturbance and clearing and driveways.
3. The limits of any wetlands located within 300 feet of the project must be indicated on a plan.
4. Modeling of the expected impacts of the system on the perched groundwater and an analysis of the expected efficiency of the treatment unit in reducing the concentration of each contaminant of concern.

Table 5 of the submitted ROD contains a list of ARAR's for the site. The table should include the requirements of the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan (N.J.A.C. 7:50-1.1 et seq.) in this list. The standards of the CMP are ARAR's.

If you have any questions, please contact our development review staff.

Sincerely,

  
William F. Harrison, Esq.  
Assistant Director

TD

Encl(1): Application Form

cc: Keith Buch  
Jean Oliva

- Extraction of perched ground water (a zone of ground water located above a low-permeability clay layer and above the true water table aquifer) and on-site treatment using carbon adsorption and/or other treatment processes to remove organic compounds. Treated ground water will be recharged to the subsurface in the vicinity of the site.

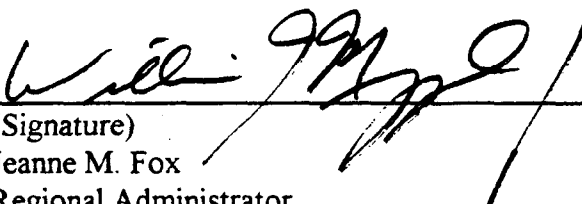
#### DECLARATION OF STATUTORY DETERMINATIONS

The selected remedy is protective of human health and the environment, complies with federal and state requirements that are legally applicable or relevant and appropriate to the remedial action and is cost-effective. This remedy utilizes permanent solutions and alternative treatment (or resource recovery) technologies to the maximum extent practicable, and it satisfies the statutory preference for remedies that employ treatment that reduce toxicity, mobility, or volume as their principal element.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Gary E. Poulsen, P.E., Manager  
Plant Engineering & Operations Branch  
FAA Technical Center

7/19/96  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Jeanne M. Fox  
Regional Administrator  
United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region II

9/20/96  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)



## State of New Jersey

THE PINELANDS COMMISSION

PO Box 7  
New Lisbon NJ 08064  
(609) 894-9342

CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN  
Governor

March 13, 1996

Ian Curtis  
NJDEP Bureau of Federal Case Management  
CN 028  
401 East State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08625-028

Please Always Refer To  
This Application Number

RE: App. No. 87-0046.12  
FAA Technical Center  
Areas 29 & K  
Egg Harbor Township

Dear Mr. Curtis:

The Commission staff has received and reviewed the Revised Draft Final Proposed Plan and the Record of Decision (ROD) regarding the remediation of soils and groundwater for Areas 29 & K at the FAA Technical Center. The revised Plan proposes the institution of a Declaration of Environmental Restriction (DER) for soils.

The proposed remedial alternative described in the draft ROD will be consistent with the water quality standards of the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) provided that the groundwater extraction, treatment and re-injection system is designed so that:

1. Prior to re-injection, the concentrations of the contaminants of concern in the treated groundwater are reduced to a levels that do not exceed the Practical Quantitation Levels as defined in N.J.A.C. 7:9-6.4, or
2. The design and location of the components of the extraction, treatment and re-injection system ensure that, as monitored in groundwater monitoring wells installed on the site, the concentration of contaminants in the treated groundwater at the site are reduced to levels do not exceed the PQL for each contaminant of concern.



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**APPENDIX B**  
**PUBLIC MEETING ATTENDANCE LIST**

SIGN-IN SHEET  
PUBLIC MEETING  
MAY 2, 1996

PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTION AT  
AREAS 29, K, & B  
FAA TECHNICAL CENTER  
ATLANTIC CITY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, NEW JERSEY

|     | NAME            | ADDRESS              | PHONE NUMBER |
|-----|-----------------|----------------------|--------------|
| 1.  | Howard Kimpton  | FAA Technical Center | 609-485-5998 |
| 2.  | Gary Poulsen    | FAA Technical Center | 609 485 6789 |
| 3.  | GEORGE NICHOLAS | NJDEP                | 609-292-8427 |
| 4.  | BETSY DONOVAN   | EPA                  | 212-637-4303 |
| 5.  | Steve Byrne     | NJDEP                | 609-984-3068 |
| 6.  | Ian Curtin      | NJDEP                | 609 633 7232 |
| 7.  | Sean Clary      | ATL. Co              | 609 645 5971 |
| 8.  |                 |                      |              |
| 9.  |                 |                      |              |
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| 23. |                 |                      |              |

**APPENDIX C**  
**PUBLIC MEETING TRANSCRIPT**

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**PUBLIC MEETING**

**To Discuss the Proposed Remedial Action at  
Area 29 - Fire Training Area  
Area K - Storage Area Near Area 29  
Area B - Former Navy Fire Test Facility**

---

**FAA Technical Center  
Atlantic City International Airport, NJ**

---

**Thursday, May 2, 1996  
2:00 p.m.  
Atlantic County Library  
2 South Farragut Avenue  
Mays Landing, NJ 08330**

---

**APPEARANCES**

---

**For the FAA Technical Center: KEITH C. BUCH, Program Manager  
FAA Technical Center**

**For TRC Environmental Corp.: LARRY BUTLIEN, Project Hydro-  
geologist, TRC Environmental  
Corporation**

**JEAN M. OLIVA, P.E., Project  
Engineer, TRC Environmental  
Corporation**

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|    | FAA Technical Center                  |         |
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| 5  | Overview (Areas 29 and K)             |         |
| 6  | Larry Butlien, Project Hydrogeologist |         |
|    | TRC Environmental Corporation         |         |
| 7  | Risk Evaluation and Feasibility       | Page 12 |
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| 9  | of Proposed Plan (Areas 29 and K)     |         |
|    | Jean M. Oliva, P.E., Project Engineer |         |
|    | TRC Environmental Corporation         |         |
| 10 | Environmental Investigation           | Page 15 |
| 11 | Overview (Area B)                     |         |
|    | Larry Butlien                         |         |
| 12 | Risk Evaluation and Feasibility       | Page 22 |
| 13 | Study Overview and Presentation       |         |
|    | of Proposed Plan (Area B)             |         |
|    | Jean M. Oliva, P.E.                   |         |
| 14 | Final Remarks                         | Page 26 |
| 15 | Keith C. Buch                         |         |
| 16 | Questions and Answers                 | None    |
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## **DECISION SUMMARY RECORD OF DECISION**

Area 29 - Fire Training Area and  
Area K - Storage Area Near Area 29  
FAA Technical Center

---

### **I. SITE NAME, LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION**

The FAA Technical Center encompasses an area of approximately 5,000 acres in Atlantic County, New Jersey, eight miles northwest of Atlantic City. Among the installations on the property are the Atlantic City International Air Terminal, the New Jersey Air National Guard 177th Fighter Interceptor Group, the Upper Atlantic City Reservoir, the Laurel Memorial Park Cemetery and the extensive facilities of the FAA Technical Center. Atlantic City's municipal water supply is provided by nine ground water production wells located just north of the Upper Atlantic City Reservoir on FAA Technical Center property as well as by water drawn directly from the Atlantic City Reservoirs. The reservoirs are fed by the North and South Branches of Doughty's Mill Stream, which traverse portions of the FAA Technical Center grounds. The public water supply facilities on site are owned by the Atlantic City Municipal Utilities Authority (ACMUA).

The FAA Technical Center is located within the Atlantic Coastal Plain, a broad, flat plain which encompasses the southern three-fifths of New Jersey. The area within two miles of the FAA Technical Center has a maximum relief of about 65 feet, ranging from an elevation of ten feet above mean sea level (msl) at the Lower Atlantic City Reservoir to 75 feet msl to the west and north of the airport. The facility itself is relatively flat; slopes generally range from 0 to 3 percent. Forested areas exist north, south, and east of the airport runways. These areas comprise about 40% of the 5,000-acre FAA Technical Center property. The remaining 60% of the site has been cleared for FAA facilities and consists of buildings and paved surfaces, grassed lawns and native grassland and shrubs adjacent to the runways.

The area within one mile of the FAA Technical Center boundaries includes open or forested land and commercial and residential areas. A large forested tract containing no commercial or residential property exists west of the FAA Technical Center. To the east, the property is bordered by the Garden State Parkway, the Lower Atlantic City Reservoir, and the forested land surrounding the reservoir. The area north of the FAA Technical Center contains commercial properties along the White Horse Pike (Rt. 30) and a concentrated residential area, Pomona Oaks, north of the White Horse Pike. The closest residential area south of the FAA Technical Center is a series of three trailer parks at the intersection of Tilton Road and Delilah Road. The majority of commercial and residential areas south of the FAA Technical Center are greater than 2,000 feet away from the FAA Technical Center property, south of the Atlantic City Expressway. All residential areas in the vicinity of the FAA Technical Center appear to be upgradient or otherwise isolated from the ground water flow at the FAA Technical Center.

Area 29, referred to as the Fire Training Area, is located northeast of the Atlantic City International Airport runways and southwest of White Horse Pike, as indicated in Figure 1. The site was constructed in the early 1970s for the training of airport fire fighting personnel. The facility consisted of a circular burn area approximately 150 feet in diameter, a small concrete burn pad, two

1 Tape #CP-4-96, Index #0025 at 2:00 p.m.)

2 MR. BUCH: Hello. My name is Keith Buch. I'm the  
3 FAA Superfund Program Manager, and welcome to today's public  
4 hearing for Area 29 and Area B. The public hearing was duly  
5 advertised in the Press of Atlantic City as required by the  
6 Superfund regulations. We expect that after today's public  
7 hearing to have a finalized rod within -- how many days,  
8 Jean?

9 MS. OLIVA: About ninety to a hundred and twenty.

10 MR. BUCH: Okay. And at that point we'll proceed  
11 with the final designs for the cleanup of both Area 29 and  
12 both Area B. I'd like at this point to turn the meeting over  
13 to our technical experts from TRC who have been here at the  
14 FAA Tech Center since 1986 performing all the necessary  
15 remedial investigations and feasibility studies and designs  
16 that are required to effectuate a proper Superfund Cleanup.  
17 I'd like to introduce Jean Oliva from TRC and Larry Butlien  
18 from there. I'll let Larry explain the hydrogeological  
19 background of the Area 29 and K Superfund Cleanup. Larry,  
20 would you please.

21 MR. BUTLIEN: Certainly. As Keith mentioned, my  
22 name is Larry Butlien and I'm the Project Hydrogeologist from  
23 TRC for the FAA project. I'd first like to very briefly  
24 present a history of how the Tech Center became involved in  
25 environmental investigation.

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1 In 1980 and 1981 contamination was found at the  
2 Price's Pit Landfill. This contamination also affected the  
3 Atlantic City well field which was located adjacent to  
4 Price's Pit. Price's Pit is a Superfund site which is  
5 located about three to four miles east-southeast of the  
6 Technical Center. In 1981 the New Jersey Department of  
7 Environmental Protection (NJDEP) and the Atlantic City  
8 Municipal Utility Authority (ACMUA) hired Roy F. Weston to  
9 conduct a study to relocate the well field. As a result of  
10 this study the Technical Center was selected as the best  
11 location for the new Atlantic City well field. Between 1983  
12 and 1984, Weston, through the New Jersey DEP, identified five  
13 areas within the Technical Center boundaries which might  
14 present a potential pollution impact to the new well field.  
15 Weston confirmed the presence of the pollutants and the New  
16 Jersey DEP issued a consent order to the Technical Center to  
17 perform the remedial investigation/feasibility study. In  
18 1986 the FAA contracted with TRC Environmental Corporation  
19 to perform a remedial investigation/feasibility study of the  
20 Technical Center grounds. As part of the contract a complete  
21 background investigation of the Technical Center was  
22 required. A total of twenty-five areas of concern have been  
23 identified by the FAA and the U.S. Environmental Protection  
24 Agency (USEPA) that require evaluation.

25 All the work that TRC has performed has been in

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1 accordance with all applicable federal and state  
2 environmental laws, statutes and regulations. The FAA has  
3 worked closely with USEPA, the New Jersey DEP, Atlantic  
4 County Health Department, and the Pinelands Commission. Each  
5 step of the investigative process has been reviewed and  
6 approved by these organizations and no work has been  
7 conducted until all necessary approvals were received.

8 (SLIDE PRESENTATION)

9 The meeting this afternoon will focus on the  
10 proposed plan for three areas: Area 29, the Fire Training  
11 Area; Area K, the Storage Area near Area 29; and Area B, the  
12 Navy Fire Test Facility. Each area will be discussed  
13 separately; Areas 29 and K will be discussed initially  
14 followed by Area B. I will discuss the background  
15 information and the results of the remedial investigation for  
16 each area, while Jean Oliva will discuss the risk evaluations  
17 conducted for each area and then will summarize the remedial  
18 alternatives for each area.

19 Area 29 is located northeast of the Atlantic City  
20 International Airport runways, with Area K located adjacent  
21 to Area 29. This slide also shows the locations of Area B  
22 and other areas of concern at the Technical Center.

23 Area 25 -- excuse me. Area 29 is referred to as  
24 the Fire Training Area. This area was constructed in the  
25 early 1970's and was used to train airport fire fighting

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1 personnel. The area contains a 150 foot-diameter burn pad  
2 and a smaller concrete burn pad where test burns were  
3 conducted. The area also contained two underground storage  
4 tanks for the collection of run-off from the burn pads and  
5 two above ground tanks located on a small hill. The two  
6 underground tanks were emptied, removed, and disposed of  
7 off-site in an environmentally acceptable manner in December  
8 of 1988. Area K, referred to as the Storage Area near Area  
9 29, is located across the dirt road from the burn areas at  
10 Area 29. This area was used for the storage of drums and  
11 tanks and it was reported that the drums were removed off-  
12 site in an environmentally acceptable manner from the area by  
13 the Fall of 1986.

14 This next slide shows the general layout of Areas  
15 29 and K. Area 29's boundaries are generally outlined by the  
16 triangular shaped dirt roads in the area. As you can see, at  
17 the center of Area 29 is the circular burn pad with the  
18 smaller concrete burn pad located to the north. The two  
19 former underground storage tanks that collected the burn pad  
20 run-off were located to the east of the small burn pad. The  
21 two above ground -- the two above ground tanks located on the  
22 small hill is in the western portion of the site. Area K is  
23 located northwest of Area 29 on the northwest side of the  
24 northeast-southwest trending dirt road.

25 This is a photo -- this is a photograph taken

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1 recently from the small hill looking northeast along the  
2 dirt road. The small concrete burn pad is in the center of  
3 the photograph and Area K is located on the far left-hand  
4 side of the photo.

5 This is a photograph taken recently from the small  
6 hill looking east toward the large circular burn pad, and  
7 note the current conditions showing standing water in the  
8 middle of the burn pad.

9 This is an older photograph taken in 1988 that  
10 shows the small concrete burn pad.

11 This photo was also taken in 1988 showing one of  
12 the underground storage tanks used for the collection of the  
13 burn pad run-off. This particular tank collected the burn  
14 pad (sic) from the large circular burn pad and had a ten  
15 thousand gallon capacity. As you can see, this tank was  
16 open-ended on the top.

17 This is a photograph taken in December of 1988  
18 immediately after the ten thousand gallon tank was removed  
19 from the ground.

20 This final photograph shows the above ground tanks  
21 located on the small hill. The photo was taken on the west  
22 side of the hill looking toward the east.

23 The goal of the environmental investigations at  
24 Areas 29 and K was to determine if past site activities  
25 resulted in contamination of the site's soils and/or ground

1 contamination was also identified in the subsurface soils.  
2 And finally, VOC contamination has been identified in the  
3 perched ground water aquifer above ground water quality  
4 standards. Results from the quarterly ground water sampling  
5 program have not identified contaminated ground water within  
6 the true water table aquifer at levels above ground water  
7 quality standards.

8 This slide shows locations of soil contamination --  
9 where soil contamination exceeds the current soil cleanup  
10 criteria. Specifically, the areas include surface soils  
11 contaminated with PCBs in the immediate vicinity of Area K,  
12 the area surrounding the small concrete burn pad, and within  
13 the large circular burn pad. The maximum PCB level detected  
14 in the surface soils was thirty parts per million (ppm). TH  
15 NJDEP soil cleanup criteria for PCBs is two parts per  
16 million. The other area of soil contamination is at the  
17 location of the former ten thousand gallon underground  
18 storage tank. At this location the maximum level of TPH  
19 contamination was fourteen thousand ppm. The NJDEP soil  
20 cleanup criteria for total organics is ten thousand ppm.

21 As mentioned earlier, during the environmental  
22 investigations at Area 29, a zone of perched ground water was  
23 identified across the site. This perched zone was identified  
24 as underlying a significant portion of Area 29 including the  
25 circular and concrete burn pads. This slide represents a

1 schematic geologic cross-section of Area 29 showing the  
2 relationship between the perched and true water table  
3 aquifers. As you can see, the perched water table is  
4 situated above the true water table and is relatively limited  
5 in lateral and vertical extent. The perched ground water is  
6 formed where the soil in the unsaturated zone is locally  
7 saturated because it overlies a low-permeability silty clay  
8 or clayey silt zone situated above the true water table.  
9 During the investigation the clay unit was identified as  
10 being variable in thickness ranging between two and sixteen  
11 feet thick with the surface of the clay unit found at a depth  
12 of ten to fourteen feet below the ground surface. While  
13 ground water flow in the regional true water table aquifer  
14 was determined to be toward the east-southeast, the flow of  
15 perched ground water was estimated to be much more variable  
16 due to localized changes in the slope of the surface of the  
17 clay unit.

18 This slide represents an approximation of the  
19 aerial extent of ground water contamination in the perched  
20 zone where ground water quality standards have been exceeded.  
21 Ground water results from monitoring well 29-MW2S have  
22 consistently exhibited VOCs above ground water quality  
23 standards, while exceedances of ground water qualities  
24 standards have been more sporadic and periodic in monitoring  
25 well 29-MW3S.

1 This slide represents a contour map and ground  
2 water flow direction of the true water table aquifer. As  
3 stated earlier, the ground water flow direction in the true  
4 water table aquifer is toward the east-southeast direction as  
5 represented by contouring the water level elevations in the  
6 wells screened in the true water table aquifer.

7 I would now like to turn the presentation over to  
8 Jean Oliva of TRC. She will summarize the risk evaluation  
9 and the remedial action objectives associated with Areas 29  
10 and Area K.

11 MS. OLIVA: Thank you, Larry. As Larry mentioned,  
12 my name is Jean Oliva and I'm a project engineer with TRC  
13 Environmental Corporation and I have been involved in  
14 feasibility study activities at the FAA Technical Center  
15 since 1989.

16 (SLIDE PRESENTATION CONTINUED)

17 Based on the results of the site investigations, a  
18 human health risk assessment was conducted to evaluate  
19 potential risks associated with exposures to soil and ground  
20 water. Ground water ingestion was evaluated even though  
21 there is no drinking water well currently located at Areas 29  
22 or K. The risk estimated for ground water ingestion was  
23 above acceptable limits indicating that a remedial response  
24 is appropriate. A qualitative assessment of ecological risks  
25 also identified a potential risk to wildlife.

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1           Based on the results of the risk assessment and the  
2 site investigation, objectives were developed for a remedial  
3 response as listed here. In general these objectives include  
4 preventing exposures to contaminants in soil and ground water  
5 and minimizing the potential migration of these contaminants.  
6 Based on these objectives, a feasibility study was conducted.

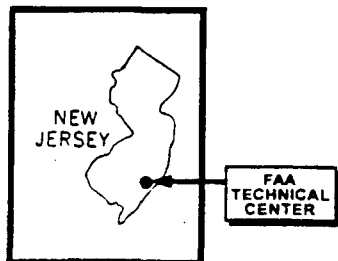
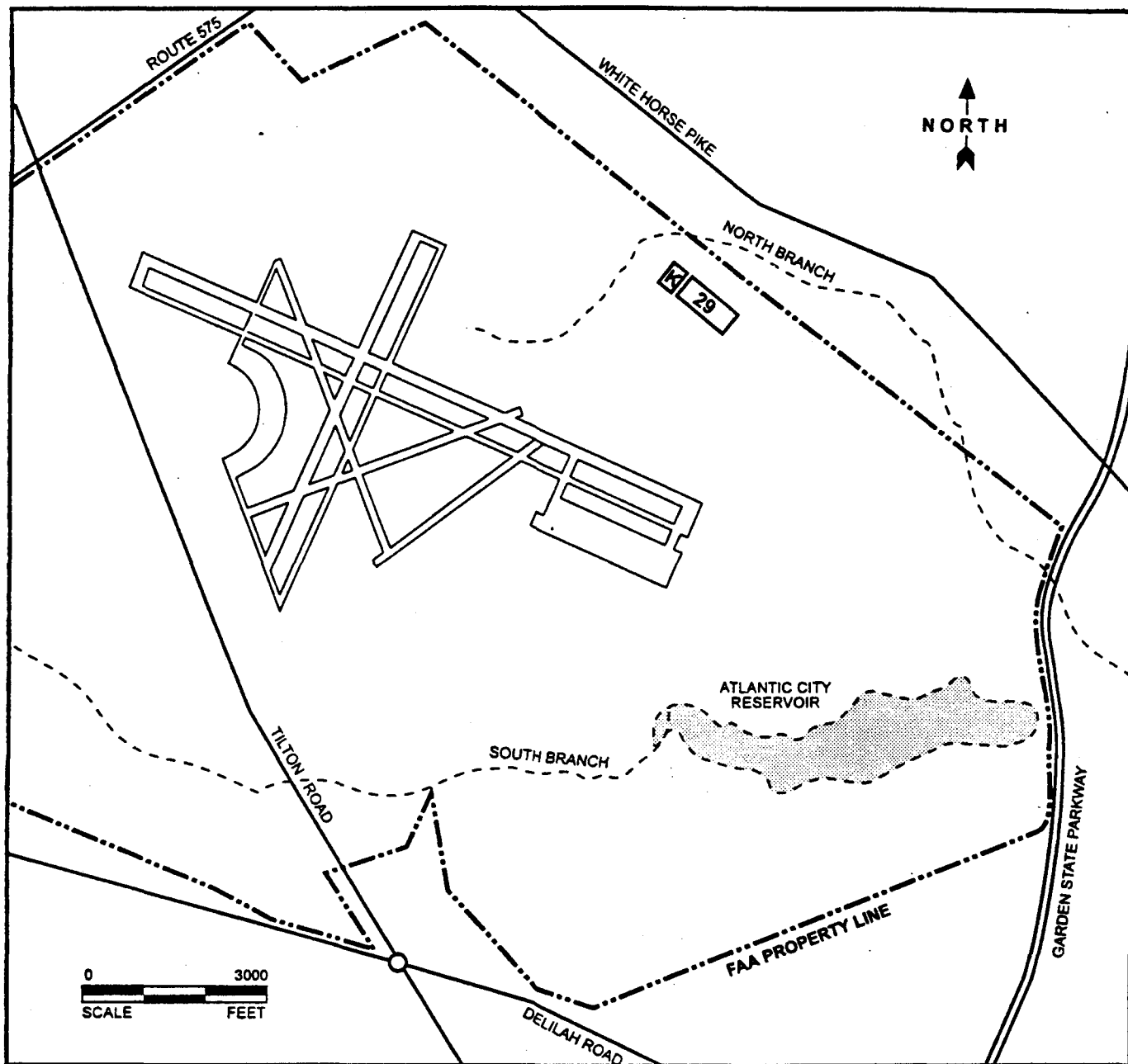
7           This slide highlights the elements of a feasibility  
8 study. Initially, remedial technologies are identified and  
9 screened to determine which technologies are most appropriate  
10 for use at the site. The selected technologies are then used  
11 to develop remedial alternatives which are evaluated based on  
12 nine criteria defined in the federal regulations.

13           The alternatives that were developed for Areas 29  
14 and K include a no-action alternative which must  
15 be considered based on federal regulations. The  
16 second alternative involves the placement of a cap  
17 over contaminated soils which would address  
18 potential exposures to the soils but would not  
19 address ground water contamination. The next two  
20 alternatives involve ground water extraction and  
21 treatment in combination with soil excavation and  
22 off-site disposal. The first of the two  
23 alternatives involves air stripping in which ground  
24 water contaminants are transferred to the vapor  
25 phase. The second of the two alternatives involves

1 carbon adsorption in which the ground water  
2 contaminants are transferred to a carbon filter  
3 media. The last two remedial alternatives employ  
4 in situ, or in-place, remedial actions which do not  
5 involve ground water extraction. They would also  
6 be combined with soil excavation and off-site  
7 disposal. The first of the two in situ remedial  
8 alternatives uses processes similar to air  
9 stripping but applies them below ground to remove  
10 contaminants from the ground water. The second  
11 alternative uses microbes to break down the ground  
12 water contamination.

13 Each of the remedial alternatives underwent a  
14 detailed evaluation based on the nine criteria listed here.  
15 The alternatives and their evaluations are described in more  
16 detail in the proposed plan. Compliance with the last  
17 criterion community acceptance will be determined based on  
18 public comments which I'll discuss in more detail later in  
19 this presentation.

20 Based on the detailed analysis of the remedial  
21 alternatives, a preferred remedy was selected for Areas 29 and  
22 K. The preferred remedy consists of ground water extraction  
23 and treatment using carbon adsorption in combination with  
24 soil excavation and off-site disposal as well as the  
25 establishment of a Declaration of Environmental Restrictions



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FAA TECHNICAL CENTER  
RECORD OF DECISION

**FIGURE 1.**  
**AREAS 29 AND K**  
**SITE LOCATION MAP**

Date: 1/96

Drawing No. 01040-0010-00220

1 to ensure that future residential site development does not  
2 occur. This alternative offers the greatest overall  
3 protection of human health in the environment through its  
4 off-site disposal of contaminated soils and its ability to  
5 treat the ground water contaminants. It is also cost-  
6 effective and meets regulatory requirements.

7 I will now turn the presentation back to Larry  
8 Butlien of TRC who will describe the investigations that  
9 were conducted at Area B, the Navy Fire Test Facility.  
10 Larry.

11 MR. BUTLIEN: Thanks, Jean.

12 (SLIDE PRESENTATION CONTINUED)

13 First I want to just talk briefly about the  
14 background information and the results of the remedial  
15 investigation at Area B.

16 Area B is located in the southwestern portion of  
17 the FAA Technical Center property. The South Branch of  
18 Doughty's Mill Stream is located along the southern portion  
19 of the area. Area B is located approximately forty-five  
20 hundred feet upstream of the Upper Atlantic City Reservoir.  
21 This slide also shows the locations of Area 29 and K, and  
22 other areas of concern relative to Area B.

23 Area B is referred to as the Navy Fire Test  
24 Facility. The area was used during the late 1950's and early  
25 1960's for aircraft fire training. A review of historical

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1 aerial photographs indicates that the highest level of  
2 activity occurred between 1957 and 1962. During this time  
3 frame aircraft and sections of aircraft were located  
4 throughout the area and portions of the area's ground  
5 exhibited dark-colored stains. By 1965 the area had been  
6 grassed over. A portion of the area was later used for GSA  
7 motor pool parking. Today a majority of Area B is grass-  
8 covered with a heavily wooded area in the souther portion of  
9 the site along the stream.

10 This next slide shows the general layout of Area B.  
11 Shown are the approximate limits of the Navy Fire Test Area  
12 and then the smaller area showing the GSA Motor Pool parking  
13 location. Also note the South Branch of Doughty's Mill  
14 Stream along the southern portion of the area and that the --  
15 and also the location of the former wastewater treatment  
16 plant which was closed and demolished in 1992.

17 This photo was taken in 1988. It shows the  
18 southern portion of the site. I'm sorry. This photo was  
19 taken in 1987 from the northern portion of Area B looking  
20 southwest toward the wastewater treatment facility. Note the  
21 dirt road which essentially separates Area B into the  
22 northern and southern halves, and also note that the area is  
23 generally an open grassy field.

24 This next photo was taken in 1988 and shows the  
25 southern portion of the site. The South Branch of Doughty's

1 Mill Stream is located immediately behind the front edge of  
2 the wooded area. Also note one of the site's monitoring  
3 wells which is located adjacent to the stream.

4 The goal of the environmental investigations at  
5 Area B was to determine if past site activities resulted in  
6 contamination of the site's soils and ground water. TRC has  
7 conducted a number of environmental investigations that are  
8 at Area B dating back to 1987. TRC's Phase I investigation  
9 at Area B included preliminary investigations such as soil  
10 gas surveys and a geophysical investigations. In addition, a  
11 total of five surface soil samples, four soil borings, and  
12 four subsurface soil samples were collected. In addition,  
13 one stream sediment and surface water sample was collected  
14 from the South Branch and three monitoring wells were  
15 installed at the site.

16 The next slide shows locations of all the Phase I  
17 sampling locations including surface soil samples, soil  
18 borings and the one sediment/surface water sampling.

19 During 1988, TRC conducted a Phase II investigation  
20 of Area B. The purpose of this investigation was to further  
21 define the lateral extent and chemical nature of a floating  
22 product layer which had been identified in monitoring well  
23 B-MW3S following the Phase I investigation. These goals were  
24 accomplished by drilling a total of twelve soil borings  
25 within seventy-five feet of the well. Organic vapor

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1 headspace readings were measured in the soil samples  
2 collected from each soil boring. Elevated readings were  
3 plotted to determine the lateral extent of the subsurface  
4 contamination associated with the floating product. In  
5 addition, a sample of the floating product was collected and  
6 was determined to be similar to gasoline. Finally, a sample  
7 of ground water beneath the floating product was collected  
8 and analyzed and it determined to exhibit elevated levels of  
9 VOCs.

10 This next slide shows the locations of the Phase II  
11 soil borings drilled in the vicinity of well MW3S. It also  
12 shows the approximate extent of the floating product based on  
13 the elevated headspace readings. Also note the direction of  
14 shallow ground water flow toward the southeast, which is  
15 toward the South Branch.

16 During 1989 TRC conducted a supplemental  
17 investigation. The purpose of this investigation was to  
18 further define the subsurface soil quality in the area of the  
19 floating product. This was accomplished by drilling two soil  
20 borings and collecting three subsurface soil samples for  
21 chemical analysis. The results of the soil testing did not  
22 indicate any exceedance of federal or state soil standards.

23 This next slide shows the locations of the  
24 supplemental investigation soil borings drilled adjacent to  
25 well MW3S.

1 A number of additional investigations were  
2 conducted at Area B to determine the source of the  
3 contamination and to further delineate the nature and extent  
4 of ground water contamination at the site. During August of  
5 1992 a HydroPunch study was conducted and focused on areas of  
6 stained soils and aircraft staging areas that were visible in  
7 the historical aerial photographs. A total of ten HydroPunch  
8 locations were sampled in which shallow ground water was  
9 collected. The results of this study did not identify a  
10 source of the floating product.

11 The next investigation occurred in January of 1993  
12 and included the installation of two additional monitoring  
13 wells, downgrading of well MW3S to further define the nature  
14 and extent of dissolved ground water contamination. These  
15 wells were sampled during February and May of 1993 and  
16 determined to contain several chlorinated VOCs at levels  
17 above federal and state ground water quality standards.

18 During July of 1993 a Geoprobe investigation was  
19 conducted to further define the extent of the floating  
20 product as well as the nature and extent of dissolved ground  
21 water contamination up gradient and down gradient of well  
22 MW3S. A total of twenty-six Geoprobe ground water samples  
23 were collected during this investigation. The results of the  
24 Geoprobe samples resulted in the installation of four addi-  
25 tional monitoring wells, one located up gradient, one side

1 gradient, and two down gradient of well 3S. In addition, one  
2 subsurface soil sample was collected and analyzed from each  
3 of the new monitoring well soil borings. The results of this  
4 investigation further defined the extent of the floating  
5 product and the nature and extent of the dissolved ground  
6 water contamination plume.

7 Lastly, a program of quarterly ground water and  
8 surface water monitoring was implemented at Area B starting  
9 in February of 1993 and is still ongoing. The purpose of the  
10 monitoring was to determine trends in the dissolved ground  
11 water contamination, evaluate the South Branch surface water  
12 quality adjacent to the site, and to measure the product  
13 thickness in well MW3S.

14 (POSTER BOARD)

15 I would like to now direct your attention to the  
16 poster board -- I'll move it a little closer. This poster  
17 board basically shows the colored areas which represent the  
18 historical ground scars and stained soils that were  
19 indicated from the aerial -- the historical aerial  
20 photographs. Shown on this poster are all the environmental  
21 investigations that have been conducted during the Phase I  
22 and Phase II supplemental in the HydroPunch investigation.  
23 The HydroPunch investigation focused on areas within or down  
24 gradient of the stained soil area as represented by these  
25 black symbols here, and this generally just gives you kind of

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1 a general overview of the historical site use with -- like I  
2 said, of the ground stains and scars, and also shows airplane  
3 fuselage locations relative to the various investigation  
4 sampling locations.

5 (SLIDE PRESENTATION CONTINUED)

6 This next slide shows the locations of the twenty-  
7 six Geoprobe ground water samples and the four new monitoring  
8 wells associated with the investigation. Also shown is the  
9 updated approximation of the lateral extent of the floating  
10 product plume in the vicinity of MW3S.

11 This next slide identifies the locations of the  
12 three wells and the three surface water sampling stations  
13 sampled during the ongoing quarterly ground water sampling  
14 areas.

15 The results of the various investigations at Area B  
16 have identified a zone of contaminated ground water at levels  
17 exceeding federal and state ground water quality standards.  
18 In addition, a plume of floating product has been identified  
19 in the southern portion of the site. The floating product  
20 has been identified as being similar to gasoline and as  
21 measured in MW3S has ranged in thickness between zero and  
22 eight inches. The aerial dimensions of the product plume are  
23 approximately sixty feet long by twenty-five feet wide. The  
24 major dissolved ground water contaminants exceeding the  
25 ground water quality standards include aromatic and

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1 chlorinated VOCs. However, no specific contaminant source  
2 area or areas have been identified during the various  
3 investigations at Area B.

4 This shows the aerial extent of ground water  
5 contamination where the ground water quality standards have  
6 been exceeded. As you can see, this area is in the southern  
7 portion of the site immediately north of the stream.

8 I would now like to turn the presentation back over  
9 to Jean who will summarize the risks associated with the  
10 contamination found at Area B, and also summarize the  
11 remedial action objectives associated with the site.

12 MS. OLIVA: Based on the results of the site  
13 investigations at Area B, a human health risk assessment was  
14 conducted to evaluate potential risks associated with  
15 exposures to the soil and ground water. Again, ground water  
16 ingestion was evaluated even though a drinking water well  
17 does not exist at Area B. The risk estimated for ground  
18 water ingestion was above acceptable limits, indicating a  
19 remedial response is appropriate. A quantitative assessment  
20 of ecological risks also identified a potential risk to  
21 wildlife.

22 Remedial objectives were developed for a remedial  
23 response as listed here. The objectives include preventing  
24 exposures to both the floating product and the ground water  
25 contamination and minimizing the potential migration of these

1 contaminants. Based on these objectives a feasibility study  
2 was conducted.

3 The Area B Feasibility Study used the same  
4 technology evaluation and alternative development process  
5 which was used for the Areas 29 and K Feasibility Study.

6 The remedial actions developed for Area B include  
7 the no action alternative; there are three  
8 alternatives in which floating product and ground  
9 water -- and ground water would both be extracted  
10 with the product treated off-site and the ground  
11 water treated on-site using various technologies.  
12 As I mentioned for Areas 29 and K, the air  
13 stripping alternative, which is the first of these  
14 three alternatives, utilizes a technology which  
15 transfers ground water contaminants to the vapor  
16 phase. The second of the three alternatives uses  
17 ultraviolet, or UV, oxidation where contaminants  
18 are destroyed by exposing them to ultraviolet light  
19 in the presence of oxidizers. The last of the  
20 three alternatives includes cross-flow  
21 pervaporation, a technology which uses a selective  
22 membrane that allows certain organic compounds to  
23 pass through the membrane and be separated from the  
24 water phase. The last remedial alternative  
25 involves in situ treatment in which the floating

1 product and ground water would be treated without  
2 being extracted from the ground. The air  
3 sparging/vapor extraction technology uses processes  
4 similar to air stripping but applies them below  
5 ground to remove the contaminants.

6 Each of the remedial alternatives underwent a  
7 detailed evaluation based on the nine Superfund criteria  
8 and, again, public comments will provide the basis for  
9 determining compliance with the last criterion community  
10 acceptance.

11 Based on the detailed analysis of the remedial  
12 alternatives, no action is the preferred remedy for Area B  
13 soils. For ground water at Area B, a preferred remedy and a  
14 contingency remedy were selected. The preferred ground water  
15 remedy consists of in situ treatment to the ground water  
16 using air sparging and vapor extraction.

17 I wanted to describe the air sparging treatment  
18 system. In air sparging treatment, air is injected beneath  
19 the water table using an air sparging well. As the air  
20 bubbles move upward to the soil, ground water and any  
21 floating product which may be present, they strip away the  
22 volatile contaminants. The air with the contaminants is then  
23 extracted using a vapor extraction well and, if necessary, is  
24 treated before being released. Additional testing needs to  
25 be conducted at Area B to ensure that the subsurface

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above ground fuel tanks on a small hill, and two underground tanks for the collection of runoff from the burn pads (Figure 2). A more complete description of Area 29 can be found in the Phase I Environmental Investigative/Feasibility Study (EI/FS) Report (TRC, March, 1989) at pages 11-1, 11-2 and 11-8 to 11-16.

Area K, referred to as the Storage Area Near Area 29, is located northwest of the test burn areas at Area 29 (Figure 2). Aerial photographs taken in 1974 and 1983 show that drums and tanks were once stored in this area. Since this area was investigated in conjunction with Area 29, separate detailed descriptions of Area K are not provided in the EI/FS Report (TRC, March, 1989).

## **II. SITE HISTORY AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES**

### **A. Land Use**

The first significant development of what is now FAA Technical Center property came during the 1930s when the Upper Atlantic City Reservoir was created by damming the South Branch of Doughty Mill Stream. Prior to 1942, the entire property was wooded, except for the presence of large borrow pits near the present-day Research and Development (R&D) facilities. On a 1940 aerial photograph, several dirt roads and what appeared to be a railroad right-of-way traversed the property. In the early 1940s, a Naval Air Base and the Atlantic City Municipal Airport, including most of the existing runways, were constructed over much of the eastern two-thirds of the property. Many of the buildings in the western built-up area were also constructed at this time. In 1958, the Navy transferred its interests to the Airways Modernization Board (AMB).

The FAA took over the operations of the AMB in November 1958. The development of most of the R&D portion of the facility south of the Upper Atlantic City Reservoir occurred in the early 1960s. The FAA's large Technical/Administrative Building was constructed in 1979. The New Jersey Air National Guard has maintained their facilities at the northern end of the built-up area since 1973.

Area 29 was constructed in the early 1970s for the training of airport fire fighting personnel. Full scale aircraft test burns were conducted on the large circular burn area, while smaller fuel fires were extinguished on the concrete pad. An underground drain system was used to collect runoff from the circular burn area and to divert it to a 10,000-gallon underground circular storage tank. Runoff from the concrete pad was collected in a 5,000-gallon underground storage tank. Both of these tanks were emptied, removed, and disposed of off site in an environmentally safe manner in December 1988. Area K was formerly used to store drums and tanks. The drums were removed by the fall of 1986 and were also disposed of off site in an environmentally acceptable manner.

The FAA Technical Center was listed on the National Priorities List (NPL) on August 30, 1990, 55 FR 35502, with an effective date of October 1, 1990. The FAA entered into an Interagency Agreement (IAG) with the EPA on May 17, 1993. The IAG is a legally enforceable document that memorializes FAA's commitment to remediate the site and defines the role of EPA in the cleanup process.

1 conditions are appropriate for the use of this technology.

2 In the event that this preferred alternative is not  
3 appropriate for use at Area B, then the contingency remedy  
4 will be employed. And the contingency remedy consists of  
5 floating products and ground water extraction with off-site  
6 incineration of the floating product and air stripping of the  
7 contaminated ground water.

8 In an air stripping system the extracted ground  
9 water is allowed to flow down over packing material to a  
10 stripping tower as air is blown countercurrent to the  
11 direction of the water flow. As the air passes over the  
12 water it strips away the volatile contaminants and they're  
13 released through the top of the air stripper.

14 Both the preferred ground water remedy and the  
15 contingency remedy are protective of human health in the  
16 environment because they both treat the floating product and  
17 the ground water contaminants. Since the contingency remedy  
18 utilizes the same basic treatment processes as the cross-flow  
19 -- I'm sorry -- as the air sparging vapor extraction, they  
20 offer -- both alternatives offer a similar degree of  
21 effectiveness.

22 And this last slide shows the process that will be  
23 used to determine the final remedial actions at Areas 29 and  
24 K, and Area B. Through this meeting as well as an ongoing  
25 thirty-day public comment period, the FAA is soliciting

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1 public comments on the Proposed Plans. We're right in this  
2 area here. Written comments will be accepted through May  
3 10th and verbal comments will be accepted here this afternoon  
4 following these presentations. Based on the Proposed Plan  
5 and the public comments, a Records of Decision will be  
6 prepared for each, Areas 29, K and Area B. The Records of  
7 Decision will include Responsiveness Summaries which will  
8 address all public comments which will be received during the  
9 public comment period. Upon finalization of the Records of  
10 Decision, a notice will be printed in the Press and a copy of  
11 the Records of Decision will be placed in the Administrative  
12 Record which is maintained in the reference section here at  
13 the Library.

14 I will now turn the presentation back to Keith Buch  
15 of the FAA Technical Center. Keith.

16 MR. BUCH: Well, thank you, Jean and Larry. I'd  
17 just like to state for the record that all practices that led  
18 to the contamination of ground water and soil that we have  
19 previously viewed have been eliminated at the FAA Technical  
20 Center, and that the FAA is currently in compliance with all  
21 federal, state, and local regulations respecting the handling,  
22 storage and disposal of hazardous waste and materials.

23 At this point we will end the formal presentation  
24 and will open the floor up to interested members of the  
25 public that may have questions regarding what they've seen

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1 for the past forty minutes. If you do have a question,  
2 please state your name, affiliation, and address for the  
3 record. Seeing that there's no members from the public in  
4 the audience and there are no questions, I will now close  
5 this public meeting. Thank you for coming and please come to  
6 our next meeting.

7 (Ended at Index #1329 at 2:45 P.M.)

8 \* \* \* \* \*

9  
10 C E R T I F I C A T I O N

11 I, CAROL PLATT, agent for GCI TRANSCRIPTION AND  
12 RECORDING SERVICES, a Notary Public and State- and Federal-  
13 ly-Approved Sound Recording operator and transcriber, do  
14 hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate  
15 transcript of the TRC Public Meeting taken by electronic  
16 sound recording at the time, place, and on the date herein-  
17 before set forth.

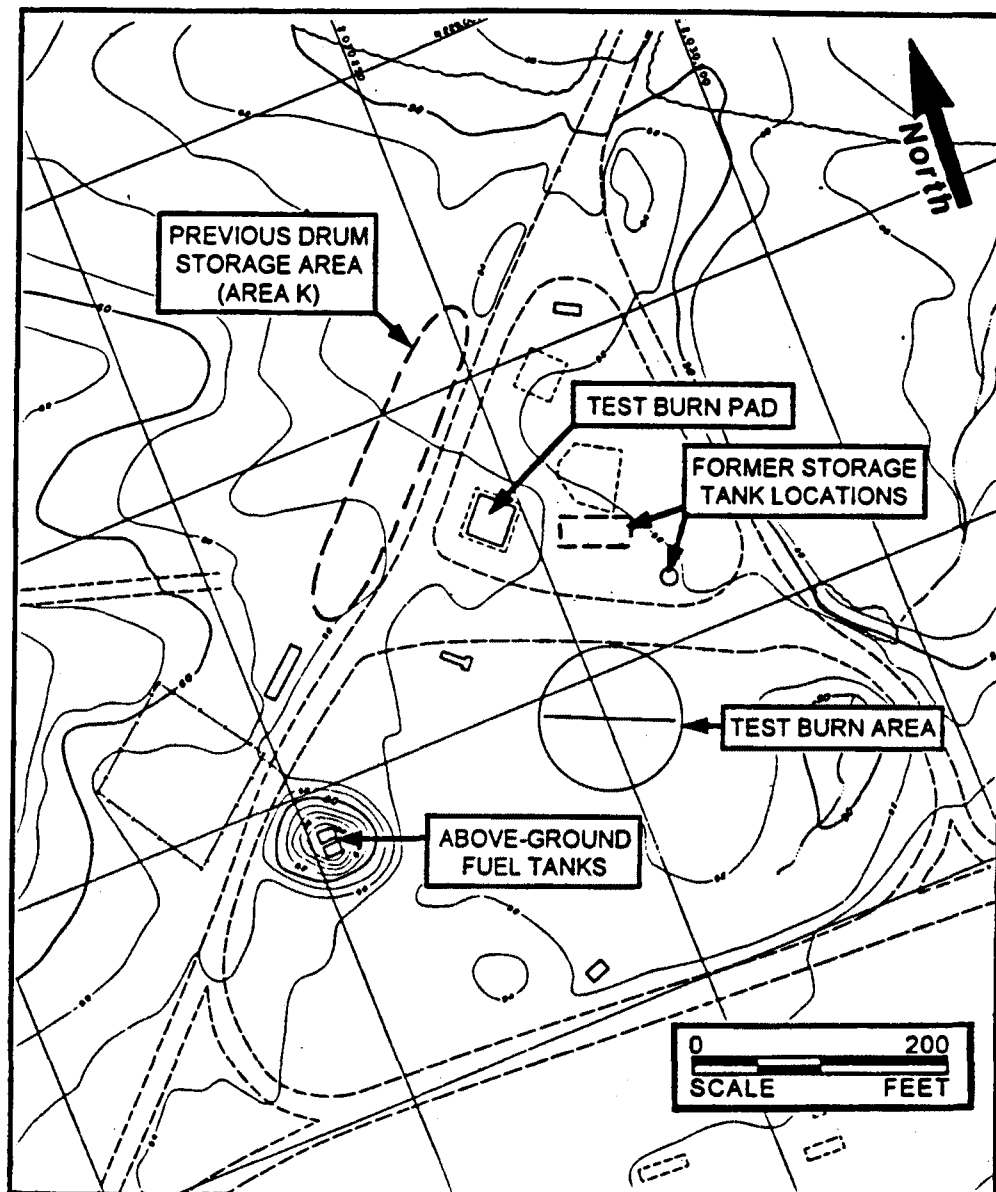
18  
19 

20 CAROL PLATT

21 Notary Public of New Jersey  
22 My Commission expires July, 1997

23  
24 Dated:  
25

5-2-96



**TRC Environmental Corporation**

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FAA TECHNICAL CENTER  
RECORD OF DECISION

**FIGURE 2.**  
**AREAS 29 AND K SITE PLAN**

Date: 1/96

Drawing No. 01040-0010-00220