

Fact Sheet - Tanapag Village PCB Cleanup

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Announces Public Comment Period on the Proposed Plan for the Tanapag Village PCB Cleanup.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) requests public comment on the Proposed Plan for the remediation of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)(Arochlor 1254) contaminated soils at Tanapag Village, Saipan, CNMI. The Proposed Plan describes ten alternative methods that the Corps considered to clean up the PCB contamination.

What is the problem?

In an on-going effort to cleanup PCB contamination at the Tanapag Village, the Corps excavated 20,000 tons of contaminated soils between August 2000 and April 2001. The Corps stockpiled these contaminated soils in cells on site. The Corps will treat these stockpiled soils after selection of a final cleanup method. In its Proposed Plan, the Corps studied ten alternative methods to do the final cleanup.

What alternatives has the Corps considered?

The alternatives that have been evaluated by the Corps are:

- No Action
- Off-Site Disposal
- Off-Site Encapsulation with Stabilization
- On-Site Treatment by Thermal Blanket and Thermal Oxidation
- On-Site Treatment by Incineration
- On-Site Treatment by Indirect Thermal Desorption (ITD) and PCB Destruction by Fenton's Reaction
- On-Site Treatment by ITD and PCB Destruction by Solvated Electron Technology
- On-Site Treatment by ITD and PCB Destruction by Gas-Phase Chemical Reduction
- On-Site Treatment by ITD and PCB Destruction by Base-Catalyzed Dechlorination
- On-Site Treatment by ITD and Off-Site Disposal

The Corps' goal at the Tanapag cleanup site is to eliminate the risk of human exposure to PCB contamination and to leave the site clean for safe use in the future.

The Corps requests your comments

The Corps asks for public comment on these alternatives in order to select the one best suited for the final cleanup action at Tanapag. The comment period is July 3 - August 3, 2001. At the conclusion of the comment period, the Corps will review, evaluate and address your comments. The Corps will select and recommend a cleanup alternative to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), who will approve the cleanup method to be used.

For more information, or to submit written comments, please contact:

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Copies of the Proposed Plan are available at: Joeten-Kiyu Library, Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and at the Division of Environmental Quality, 3rd floor, Morgen Building, San Jose, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.