QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

1. When was the contaminated soil and debris found at the RHS track?
Between December 2013 - January 2014, the State Department of Education (DOE)'s construction contractor encountered buried debris and stained soil during excavation work to replace the old cinder running track at Radford High School (RHS) with a new all-weather (synthetic) track. Preliminary data in January determined that the soil is contaminated.

2. When did the Navy learn about the debris?
The Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii was told by the Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response (HEER) Office on January 24, 2014 about the finding.

3. Where did the contaminated material originate?
NAVFAC Hawaii Navy environmental remediation specialists have determined that the material found at RHS track area is most likely part of past disposal actions by the Navy salvage yard operations and dredged wastes at its Makalapa Crater site adjacent to the H–1 Freeway and the school. That site is currently under a Remedial Investigation with data being evaluated and boring logs and analytical information reviewed. Historical aerial photos show the area of the track appears to have been built out from the side of the crater in the 1950s.

The Navy will take appropriate action to remediate the RHS track and field as necessary to create a safe environment for students and faculty at the school.

4. Who is responsible for the cleanup?
The Navy takes full responsibility for legacy contamination from past disposal practices and programs money to conduct clean ups from the most hazardous to the least. This site was unknown and is being treated as a Time-Critical Removal Action.

5. What is the extent or delineation of the buried, underground debris? Does it include RHS, MES and NHKS?
Full delineation of the buried debris will need to be determined. The discovery at RHS track was unexpected based on past understanding of the area. Our past understanding is as follows:

For the area WEST of H–1 Freeway, underground debris was observed; but seemed to be associated with construction type debris. Based the chemical data from our RI samples, the areas WEST of the H–1 Freeway are safe for current and future use. However, because our RI samples are from borings located ~200-300 feet apart, there is a reasonable possibility that there may be other pockets of contamination/debris that were missed and may need to be reevaluated.

For the Navy property EAST of H–1 Freeway (including NHKS and former Child Development Center area), there is underground contamination and debris. The buried material is approximately 2 feet below surface soil which makes the property safe for current use.

For RHS, the current finding identifies underground contaminated soil and debris in the track area.

For the surrounding areas of the RHS sports complex and MES playground, the Navy has not yet collected samples so the presence or extent of that material is unknown at this time. However, DOE has recently shared information of encountering underground debris on areas of the RHS sports complex and MES playground.

As far as the depth of contamination, it is not defined; however, the Navy has some soil borings showing debris as deep as 20-30 feet.

6. Are the students at RHS in any danger from the chemical contamination or the possible munitions related debris?
No, DOE covered and fenced off the contaminated excavated soil when they shut down the project site. Prior to excavation, the debris was underground and not accessible. As far as the possible munitions related debris, the Navy is confident that their location in the stockpiled material at RHS pose no danger to students or faculty at the school as long as they do not enter the closed off area.

Once remediation work begins, the site will be secured with established safety exclusion zones and certified personnel on hand to ensure any explosive hazards are safely addressed.

The Navy, DOH and DOE agree students are safe to continue to use the RHS and MES campuses while track and field construction is underway and during any additional investigation work in the near future.

7. What safety measures will be taken to protect RHS, MES and Navy Hale Keiki School students during remediation efforts?
The Navy takes safety very seriously and has been properly planning for this work to ensure that all operations are done appropriately. We will be taking a number of actions to protect all students, faculty, family members and the public during remediation work. This will include using experts in the environmental field to remediate the site and to conduct oversight.

- New Temporary Access Road – A temporary access road will be built behind Navy Hale Keiki School, close to the H–1 Freeway, to reduce truck traffic at RHS and MES main student access from Salt Lake Boulevard. The road access road will exit onto Bougainville Drive. It will be built with fencing and dust screens to protect students at NHKS.
- Securing the Site – The site will be secured with a safety standoff distance identified to ensure that all work on debris/potential munitions will not endanger a bystander.
- Installing Dust Screens/Fences – Best management practices will be employed to ensure dust does not leave remediation site, i.e. keeping soil moist to so it does not become airborne and covering various areas when not being remediated. In addition, dust screens and fences will be erected.
- Screening Debris – A special screening machine will be used to sift for all possible munitions related debris. Certified personnel will ensure explosive hazards are safely addressed.
- Transportation of Screened Material – All material will be moved in properly covered trucks to an appropriate permitted disposal facility.

8. Why has this remediation project taken months to start?
The Navy's main focus is the safety and health of the students, faculty, family members and the public that work or play at RHS. Acquiring funding, awarding contracts, receiving access to non-Navy property, and special planning for work with chemical contamination and possible munitions related debris took time to complete. This Time-Critical Removal Action has moved exceedingly quickly for the complexity of the issues and the coordination of the remediation and restoration work required.

9. What is the cost for this remediation action?
The Navy has obtained funds for the RHS cleanup action. We have awarded approximately $8 million to date.

10. When will work commence?
The Navy received right of entry access to RHS August 25, 2014 and began work that day.

11. When will remediation work be completed?
The cleanup is expected to take approximately three months. The estimated completion date is end of November 2014, with the exception that the Navy will schedule to sod the football field in late spring 2015.

12. What will be the final results of this remediation action?
The Navy's actions will make the RHS track and field safe for students as well as for construction workers to complete the track and any future maintenance or renovations of the football field.