



REGION 1, Peter A. Scully, Regional Director
Nassau and Suffolk counties



York State Department of Environmental Conservation

E. Pataki, Governor
M. Sheehan, Acting Commissioner

www.dec.state.ny.us

SUNY Campus, Loop Road, Building 40
Stony Brook, NY 11790-2356

For Release: IMMEDIATE
Wednesday, June 8, 2005

Contact: Bill Fonda
(631) 444-0350

**DEC ANNOUNCES PUBLIC AVAILABILITY SESSION ON BETHPAGE AREA
GROUNDWATER REMEDIATION ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS**

Availability Session is Scheduled for June 16 at Bethpage Community Center

The United States Navy and the Northrop Grumman Corporation (NGC), in cooperation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), will be holding a Public Availability Session on June 16, 2005 at the Bethpage Community Center, 103 Grumman Road West, Bethpage to provide updated information related to the Navy's and NGC's implementation of various remedy components to address groundwater contamination in the area.

This availability session will utilize posters to convey appropriate information. The session is informal and you can attend at your convenience anytime between the hours of 5 p.m. and 9 p.m.

The focus of this availability session will be on actions taken by the Navy and Northrop Grumman to address groundwater contamination. Other issues such as soil and groundwater contamination at the Bethpage Community Park or potential reuse scenarios for the former Navy property, although important to the community, will not be topics at this session. These issues will be the subjects of separate community workshops or meetings to be held in the future.

The groundwater contamination in the area is relatively deep, generally 150 to 500 feet below ground surface. As such, this contamination does not present a threat to area residents. In addition, the Navy and Northrop Grumman are continuing to work with the NYSDEC, the Nassau County and New York State Departments of Health (DOH), and local water districts to address the deep groundwater contamination.

(MORE)

Representatives from the following agencies and companies will be present to answer your questions at this session.

- ! United State Department of Navy
- ! Northrop Grumman Corporation
- ! New York State DEC
- ! New York State Department of Health
- ! Town of Oyster Bay

Local water authorities have been notified of this session and may send a representative. The local drinking water is tested regularly and meets or exceeds all applicable drinking water standards.

The Navy and Northrop Grumman have been implementing various actions that have served to remediate contaminated groundwater or otherwise ensure the continued protection of public health from groundwater contamination. These activities include the following:

- ! A groundwater pump and treat system constructed at the southern/ southwestern boundary of Northrop Grumman property. This system has been operating successfully since the late 1990s.
- ! Installation of groundwater monitoring wells located between Hempstead Turnpike and the Southern State Parkway to ensure adequate notification of potential impacts to water districts. These wells were installed in the early 2000's.
- ! Funding for treatment systems constructed at local water district well fields. Three systems associated with the Bethpage Water District were constructed in the 1990s. Additional treatment systems are likely to be required in the future.
- ! Construction and future operation of a groundwater extraction and treatment system located at the GM-38 Area. This system is intended to address an area with higher concentrations of volatile organic contamination in the underlying aquifer than other surrounding areas.

###