Groundwater Flow Model Progress Report 04, Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, O'AHU, HAWAI'I

Administrative Order on Consent in the Matter of Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, EPA Docket Number RCRA 7003-R9-2015-01 and DOH Docket Number 15-UST-EA-01, Attachment A, Statement of Work Section 6.2, Section 7.1.2, Section 7.2.2, and Section 7.3.2

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- 5 Administrative Order on Consent in the Matter of Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage
- 6 Facility, EPA Docket Number RCRA 7003-R9-2015-01 and
- 7 DOH Docket Number 15-UST-EA-01, Attachment A, Statement of Work
- 8 Section 6.2, Section 7.1.2, Section 7.2.2, and Section 7.3.2
- 9 April 5, 2018
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- 21 Comprehensive Long-Term Environmental Action Navy
- 22 Contract Number N62742-12-D-1829, CTO 0053

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1		ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS
2	AOC	Administrative Order on Consent
3	bgs	below ground surface
4	BWS	Board of Water Supply, City and County of Honolulu
5	CF&T	contaminant fate and transport
6	CWRM	Commission on Water Resource Management, State of Hawai'i
7		Department of Land and Natural Resources
8	DLNR	Department of Land and Natural Resources, State of Hawai'i
9	DOH	Department of Health, State of Hawai'i
10	EPA	Environmental Protection Agency, United States
11	ft	foot/feet
12	GWFMWG	Groundwater Flow Model Working Group
13	msl	mean sea level
14	SAP	sampling and analysis plan
15	SME	Subject Matter Expert
16	SOW	scope of work
17	TUA	Tank Upgrade Alternatives
18	TWG	Technical Working Group
19	UH	University of Hawai'i
20	USGS	United States Geological Survey
21	UST	underground storage tank
22	WP	work plan

1 **1. Introduction**

2 This Groundwater Flow Model Progress Report 04 is the fourth in a series of modeling progress reports that describe the technical status of the groundwater flow modeling effort being conducted 3 for the Investigation and Remediation of Petroleum Product Releases and Groundwater Protection 4 5 and Evaluation project at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility ("Facility"), Joint Base Pearl 6 Harbor-Hickam, O'ahu, Hawai'i. The progress report is a component of the overall project reporting 7 as specified in the project Work Plan/Scope of Work (WP/SOW) (DON 2017a). The WP/SOW presents the process, tasks, and deliverables that address the goals and requirements of Statement of 8 9 Work Sections 6 and 7 of the Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) In the Matter of Red Hill Bulk 10 Fuel Storage Facility (EPA Docket No: RCRA 7003-R9-2015-01; DOH Docket No: 11 15-UST-EA-01) (EPA Region 9 and DOH 2015). Submittal of groundwater flow model progress 12 reports at a minimum of every 4 months is stipulated in AOC Statement of Work Section 7.1.2.

13 The objective of the AOC is to take steps to ensure that the drinking water resources in the vicinity 14 of the Facility is protected and to ensure that the Facility is operated and maintained in an 15 environmentally protective manner. Work to support Section 6 of the AOC Statement of Work is 16 being conducted in response to the January 2014 release from Tank 5, and to evaluate potential 17 remediation methods for the January 2014 Tank 5 release, as well as any potential future releases. 18 Work to support Section 7 of the AOC Statement of Work is being conducted to monitor and 19 characterize the flow of groundwater around the Facility and includes groundwater modeling. The 20 collective work conducted under Section 7 will be used to inform changes to the current 21 Groundwater Protection Plan (DON 2014).

Reporting Period 04 covered in this report represents progress for the fourth 4-month period (December 4, 2017 – April 5, 2018) following conditional approval of the project WP/SOW by the Regulatory Agencies, which was received by the Navy on December 5, 2016 (EPA Region 9 and DOH 2016). *Groundwater Flow Model Progress Reports 01, 02*, and *03* were submitted on April 5, August 4, and December 3, 2017, respectively.

27 **2. Work Completed This Period**

28 **2.1 CURRENT STATUS**

29 The Groundwater Flow Model Working Group (GWFMWG) met four times during this reporting 30 period, on December 20, 2017, January 11, 2018, February 12, 2018, and March 16, 2018. The 31 GWFMWG is composed of representatives from the Navy, United States Geological Survey 32 (USGS), United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), State of Hawai'i Department of 33 Health (DOH), State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Commission 34 on Water Resource Management (CWRM), City and County of Honolulu Board of Water Supply 35 (BWS), and the University of Hawai'i (UH). The working group was formed to coordinate the 36 Navy's development of accurate and reliable groundwater flow and contaminant fate and transport 37 (CF&T) models, and solicit technical feedback from stakeholders during the model development 38 process. Agenda items covered in the four GWFMWG meetings held during the current reporting 39 period include:

- 40 December 20:
- 41 Water Level Data Assimilation
- 42 Calibration Targets, Weights and Error Bounds
- 43 Parameter Values and Ranges

1		 Recharge and Pumping Stresses
2		 Conceptual Groundwater Budget Estimates
3		 Model Construction
4		 Synoptic Monitoring Update
5	•	January 11:
6		 Field Data Collection Update
7		 Groundwater Potentiometric Map
8		– Interim Modeling
9		 LNAPL Modeling
10		 Synoptic Monitoring Update
11	•	February 12:
12		 Field Data Collection Update
13		– Interim Modeling
14		 Synoptic Monitoring Update
15	•	March 16:
16		 Interim Modeling / Sensitivity Analyses
17		- Final Groundwater Flow Model - due December 5, 2018
18		 Contaminant Fate & Transport Considerations
19		 Synoptic Monitoring Update
20	211	Tochnical Progress

- 20 2.1.1 Technical Progress
- 21 2.1.1.1 GROUNDWATER FLOW MODEL

During this reporting period, the Navy developed a calibrated interim groundwater flow model based on MODFLOW USG (for Unstructured Grid) to support the forthcoming TUA decision. The model was calibrated to average groundwater elevations for the years 2006, 2015, and 2017. Transient calibration was performed using synoptic monitoring data from 2006 and 2015.

It is important to understand the uncertainty in various model input parameters that may influence model predictions. Consequently, an evaluation of more than 20 sensitivity analyses (under both steady-state and transient conditions) was conducted and included the following:

- Recharge multipliers
- 30 Northeast boundary inflows
- Presence of clinker at water table under Red Hill ridge
- Northwest and Southeast General-Head Boundary stages
- Saprolite hydraulic properties same as basalt
- Lower vertical hydraulic conductivity of basalt with higher hydraulic conductivity for saprolite

3

- 1 Horizontal and vertical hydraulic conductivity of basalt
- 2 Transient sensitivities
 - Specific yield
- 4 Specific storage
- 5 Horizontal anisotropy
- 6 Presence of clinker at water table under Red Hill ridge
- 7 High horizontal hydraulic conductivity of basalt

Additional sensitivity analyses continue to be conducted to answer specific questions developed in
 ongoing interactions with the AOC Parties and SMEs.

The calibrated interim model is being actively used for particle tracking analysis of several pumpingscenarios. These analyses include:

- 12 Red Hill Shaft on at average pumping rates:
- With Hālawa Shaft pumping at maximum pumping rate and the BWS Moanalua Wells
 off
- 15 With the BWS Moanalua Wells pumping at maximum rate and Hālawa Shaft off
- Red Hill Shaft off:
- With Hālawa Shaft pumping at maximum pumping rate and the BWS Moanalua Wells
 off
- 19 With the BWS Moanalua Wells pumping at maximum rate and Hālawa Shaft off

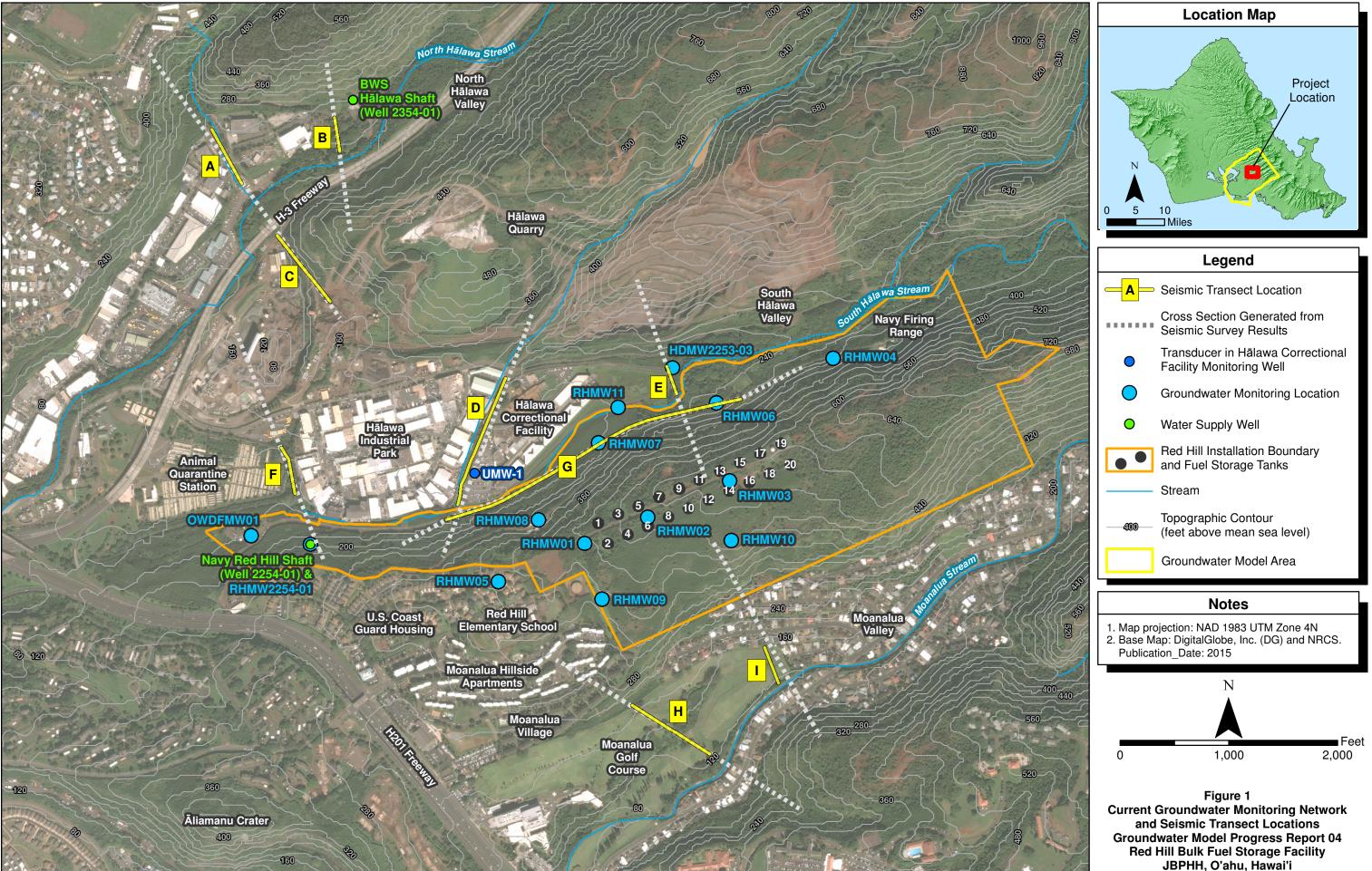
20 Impacts on particle tracks and zones of contribution when model parameters are changed have been 21 evaluated as part of sensitivity analyses. The use of particle tracking to understand groundwater flow 22 directions is important for understanding potential risk to drinking water supply wells and will help 23 inform the forthcoming TUA decision. Generalized zones of contribution (with slight variability 24 depending on the sensitivity analysis) have been established for the three zones of most interest (i.e., 25 Hālawa Shaft, Red Hill Shaft, and the Moanalua Wells). The interim model continues to be 26 evaluated and refined for the Technical Memorandum in support of the forthcoming TUA decision, 27 scheduled for submittal in July 2018.

Interim model runs of various pumping scenarios performed to date have predicted groundwater from beneath the Facility will likely not migrate toward BWS Hālawa Shaft or Moanalua Wells; conversely, the interim model runs have predicted groundwater will likely flow to the southwest.

Other activities conducted during this reporting period relevant to groundwater flow modelinginclude the following:

- Well Elevation Survey. The Well Elevation Survey Report was published in January 2018 (DON 2018b). The survey was conducted in Summer–Fall 2017 using Second Order, Class I techniques and included all existing sampling locations in the Red Hill groundwater monitoring network.
- Conceptual Site Model Report. Prepared in-progress draft report for internal review. The
 report includes the following modules:

- **Physical Setting** 1 2 Facility Construction and Operations 3 LNAPL Release and Source-Zone Migration Model _ 4 _ Vadose Zone Model 5 Saturated Zone Model _ 6 Fate and Transport of LNAPL and Dissolved COPCs in Groundwater _ 7 **Exposure Model** _ 8 • Seismic Survey. A seismic survey consisting of nine transects at North and South Hālawa 9 Valleys, Moanalua Valley, and Red Hill was completed in December 2017 (see Figure 1). 10 The survey assessed the depth of valley fill deposits, clay-rich decomposed volcanic units (i.e., saprolite), and relatively unweathered volcanic bedrock layers using seismic refraction 11 12 and reflection technologies. Interpretation of the composite images generated for the 13 transects and various borehole logs found saprolite to extend from above the local 14 groundwater table to depths as great as -250 ft mean sea level (msl) in North Hālawa 15 Valley, -304 ft msl in South Hālawa Valley, and -164 ft msl in Moanalua Valley. Results of the survey including 2D cross sections and 3D cross-section models were presented to the 16 17 Regulatory Agencies and Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) on February 13 and March 2, 18 2018. A Seismic Profiling report was published on March 30, 2018 (DON 2018d). Survey 19 findings will be incorporated into the December 2018 groundwater flow model. 20 • **RHMW11 Installation.** RHMW11 was completed in South Hālawa Valley as a multi-level
- Westbay well in November 2017 (see Figure 1). During coring, valley fill deposits were encountered to a depth of 68.5 ft below ground surface (bgs), and saprolite was encountered below that, extending down to 279 ft bgs, or approximately 87 ft below the regional basal groundwater table (as recorded at the time of drilling; the boring log is presented in DON 2018c, Attachment D). Recent monitoring shows that the saprolite is continuously saturated from approximately 104 ft bgs to the basal groundwater table.
- The well includes eight discrete sampling zones with can be equipped with transducers: five in the basal aquifer to a depth of 300 ft below the regional groundwater table, and three above that in the saprolite. Since well completion, hydraulic head measurements in the upper three sampling zones have continued to show high groundwater table elevations, significantly higher than those at RHMW07. Packer integrity was tested in December 2017 and verified to be good (DON 2018c). Evaluations to determine the cause of the elevated water levels in the saprolite are ongoing.
- Groundwater in the five deeper zones of RHMW11 was first sampled in March 2018 and will be sampled again in April 2018 as part of the Red Hill quarterly monitoring events. Samples are being analyzed in accordance with the project *Sampling and Analysis Plan* (DON 2017b) and *SAP Addendum 01* (DON 2017c). Results from the March monitoring event samples are currently pending laboratory analysis and data validation.
- 39Data obtained during the RHMW11 installation including water level measurements were40presented to the EPA and Hawai'i DOH on March 15, 2018. Additional data including the41results of the pneumatic packer testing were presented to the DLNR CWRM on March 22,422018.



- Gyroscopic Corrections. Groundwater elevation corrections were developed based on gyroscopic surveys of Red Hill monitoring wells. These will be provided in a forthcoming technical memorandum and are being used to adjust groundwater elevations based on well plumbness and alignment.
- USGS Synoptic Water Level Study. The synoptic water level study involving regional monitoring and supply wells ended in late February 2018. USGS installed transducers in Red Hill monitoring wells in July 2017 prior to and November 2017 following the Fourth Quarter 2017 groundwater monitoring event; the First Quarter 2018 monitoring event was postponed from January until March 2018 to allow for continuous logging of water elevations. The transducers were swapped out with water pumps in March for the First Quarter (March) and Second Quarter (April) 2018 monitoring events.
- The USGS released provisional water level data (under the condition that neither the USGS nor the United States Government may be held liable for any damages resulting from its use) on March 27, 2018. Final data from the synoptic monitoring will be submitted following receipt of the gyroscopic data from the Navy. Final data will be incorporated in the December 2018 groundwater flow model.
- 17 Water Level Monitoring at Hālawa Correctional Facility. On February 2, 2018, USGS 18 installed a transducer in inactive shallow monitoring well UMW-1 in the Hālawa 19 Correctional Facility parking lot (see Figure 1); this well was installed during an 20 underground storage tank (UST) investigation in the late 1980s/early 1990s (Unitek 1988; Dames & Moore 1991). UMW-1 is located within what was initially conceptualized as a 21 22 perched groundwater system (based on the UST investigation's boring logs), but what may 23 actually be a continuously saturated section starting in the shallow subsurface and extending 24 downward to the regional basalt aquifer. Plans to install transducers in two other nearby 25 inactive monitoring wells in the Correctional Facility parking lot were discontinued after 26 field inspection revealed their vaults to be flooded from recent rains to ensure contamination 27 from street runoff would not be introduced into the wells.
- AOC Parties Technical Working Group (TWG). A TWG was formed in February to create dialogue that allows the AOC Parties to relay highest-level concerns on the Red Hill project so that the best data moving forward can be obtained. Formation of the group was described in two March 9, 2018 Navy letters providing responses to Regulatory Agency comments on four derivative deliverables and groundwater flow and CF&T modeling concerns. To date, meetings have been held on February 8, March 2, March 15, and March 20.
- Additional activities:
- Held preliminary coordination discussions with Queen Emma Estate regarding
 installation of monitoring wells RHMW12 and RHMW13 and drilling of a deep test hole
 adjacent to or in close vicinity of HDMW2253-03.
- Surveyed elevation of Navy Hālawa Shaft (#2255-32); however, the survey could not be completed with standard digital surveying equipment due to space and access restrictions, and additional surveying will be required to meet precision requirements of the Second Order Class I survey.
- 43 Distributed the Red Hill Database to the AOC Parties and a redacted version to external parties/SMEs.
- 45 Re-assessed LNAPL and mass flux estimates.

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- Exhibited posters and a 3D modeling video of Red Hill geology at the March 14 Public
 Information Workshop.
 - Provided cores of Red Hill monitoring wells for inspection by AOC Parties and SMEs during the week of the Public Information Workshop (March 12–16, 2018).

5 2.1.2 Technical Issues

The nature and cause(s) of the elevated groundwater levels at RHMW07, HDMW2253-03, and
RHMW11 (three shallow zones) continue to be explored.

8 During this reporting period, the Regulatory Agencies expanded their team of technical specialists 9 and in a February 23, 2018 letter to the Navy identified five overarching concerns with the ongoing 10 groundwater flow and CF&T modeling (e.g., prematurely drawn conclusions, non-conservative 11 approaches, lack of strategy for evaluating uncertainty). The Navy provided written responses to the 12 overarching concerns on March 9, 2018 and agreed to address detailed comments attached to the 13 letter in future meetings of the newly established TWG or smaller-group technical meetings.

14 **2.2 SUBMITTAL OF MODELING DELIVERABLES**

15 Relevant deliverables submitted during this reporting period include:

- 16 *Risk-Based Decision Criteria Development Plan*, December 11 (DON 2017d)
- 17 Sentinel Well Network Development Plan, December 11 (DON 2017e)
- 18 Well Elevation Survey Report, January 5 (DON 2018b)
- Final Fourth Quarter 2017 Quarterly Groundwater Monitoring Report, January (DON 2018a)
- Technical Memorandum, Testing and Verification of Packer Integrity at RHMW11,
 February 9 (DON 2018c)
- Red Hill Database Deliverable, distributed to AOC Parties and SMEs, February 16
- Seismic Profiling to Map Hydrostratigraphy in the Red Hill Region, Oahu, Hawaii
 (Department of Geosciences, Boise State University), March 30

Deliverables due for submittal during upcoming Reporting Period 05 (April 6 – August 4, 2018)
 include:

- 28 Conceptual Site Model
- Technical Memorandum, Sections 6 and 7 Support Document for Tank Upgrade Alternatives
 Decision and Interim Groundwater Flow Model Report
- Final First Quarter 2018 Quarterly Groundwater Monitoring Report
- *Final Second Quarter 2018 Quarterly Groundwater Monitoring Report*

33 3. Anticipated Work for Next Reporting Period

- 34 Anticipated work for Reporting Period 05 (April 6 August 4, 2018) includes:
- GWFMWG meetings approximately monthly
- Additional particle tracking, if needed

- Refinement of the interim flow model with new data to in developing the flow model for the
 December 2018 Groundwater Flow Model Report
 - Review and evaluation of synoptic water level study
- Groundwater sampling of the Red Hill groundwater monitoring network wells in April and July 2018
- 6 Begin drilling and installation of one or more monitoring wells and/or a test hole

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