



## Information for Norwalk Neighbors

### NEW COMMANDER INTRODUCED AT APRIL RAB

*Environmental cleanup of petroleum hydrocarbons continues at the Defense Fuel Support Point (DFSP) Norwalk, also known as the Tank Farm. The Defense Energy Support Center (DESC) and Kinder Morgan Energy Partners both conduct operations at the facility, located at 15306 Norwalk Boulevard. This newsletter is designed to update the progress of the cleanup since distribution of the January 2000 fact sheet.*

At the April 2000 meeting, the Norwalk Tank Farm Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) welcomed Lt Col Edward Wilson, the new Commander of DESC-Los Angeles and RAB Co-Chair. Lt Col Wilson was previously stationed at Defense Logistics Agency Headquarters in Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

"The Restoration Advisory Board has done a lot of good work, and I am happy to become a part of such a dedicated group of individuals," said Lt Col Wilson.

The RAB recently celebrated its five-year anniversary. It continues to meet quarterly to review and discuss progress of the environmental cleanup of the Tank Farm.



**New Commander.** RAB member David Caughey (center) greets new DESC-LA Commander Lt Col Edward Wilson (left) at the April meeting as Joe Trani (right) looks on.

RAB membership includes Norwalk residents and representatives of DESC, Kinder Morgan, state regulators, and the City of Norwalk. ■

### DESC SCHEDULED TO CEASE OPERATIONS

The Norwalk Tank Farm has operated as a fuel storage and transfer facility under various owners since the 1920s. The military has used the facility as a critical link for transferring jet fuels to bases in Southern California, Nevada, and Arizona since the 1950s. DESC, which operates the Tank Farm, is scheduled to cease operations at Norwalk pending transfer to the Kinder Morgan facility.

Kinder Morgan Energy Partners (KMPE) has operated a pump station

on a two-acre easement along the facility's southern border since the 1950s. Kinder Morgan is constructing three tanks at their Watson Station in Carson for DESC's use. Construction is now scheduled for completion in September. After testing, the tanks should be ready to come online by November 2000.

After construction and testing of the new tanks is complete, DESC will suspend operations at Norwalk and transfer to Watson Station within 90 to 120 days. The removal of the

remaining tanks and structures at Norwalk is the responsibility of the Air Force, which owns the property.

After DESC suspends operations at the Tank Farm, KMPE will remove their above ground facilities associated with the pipeline. Removal of KMPE's facilities is tentatively scheduled for the first quarter of 2001.

DESC and KMPE will continue to be responsible for environmental cleanup after removal of the tanks and facilities. ■

# REMEDIATION UPDATE: CLEANUP CONTINUES TO REMOVE FUEL PRODUCTS BENEATH SITE

Environmental cleanup will continue after the operations are suspended at Norwalk. DESC and Kinder Morgan are both operating treatment systems to remove and destroy chemicals in the soil and groundwater from past fuel releases.

The primary chemicals of concern are petroleum hydrocarbons (fuel products), 1,2-dichloroethane (1,2-DCA), benzene, and methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE). The chemicals are mainly found 20 to 40 feet below the ground surface. Health risk assessments have indicated that these chemicals do not pose a threat to public health at this facility.

From November 1999 through April 2000, DESC's treatment system in the central area of the

Tank Farm recovered and/or destroyed over 9,000 gallons of hydrocarbons. The system uses *free product recovery* (where liquid fuel is skimmed off the top of the groundwater and recycled) and *soil vapor extraction* (where chemical vapors are extracted from the soil by applying a vacuum). An additional 4,500 gallons of fuel were destroyed by the natural process of biodegradation during the period. Over 3 million gallons of groundwater was pumped and treated.

Kinder Morgan operates treatment systems in the south-central and southeast areas as well as the

Norwalk Tank Farm Cleanup Statistics As of 4/27/00					
Cleanup Area	System Startup	Liquid Fuel Recovered	Soil Vapor Extraction	Total	Water Pumped and Treated
Central	April 1996	53,848 gal.	60,891	115,571 gal.	23 million gal.
South-central, Southeast	Sept. 1995	8,700 gal.	306,700 gal.	315,400 gal.	17.6 million gal.
West Side Barrier System	Enhanced Jan. 1999	-	-	-	2.8 million gal.
<b>Total</b>		62,548 gal.	367,591 gal.	430,971 gal.	43.4 million gal.

West Side Barrier system. From November 1999 through April 2000, the soil vapor extraction systems removed approximately 31,800 gallons of fuel from the soil. The recovered fuel was destroyed by thermal oxidation.

In addition, about 260 gallons of liquid fuel was recovered and 1.9 million gallons of groundwater was pumped and treated during the period. *See chart for totals to date.* ■

## GROUNDWATER MONITORING UPDATE

Groundwater is monitored facility-wide at the Tank Farm twice per year. In addition, certain monitoring wells are checked on a quarterly basis to provide seasonal data.

During the November 1999 semi-annual monitoring event, water levels were measured in 148 on- and off-site monitoring wells. There were 23 wells that contained free product, ranging from 0.01 to 8.1 feet in thickness.

"This is all good news," Joe Trani, DESC Environmental Engineer, reported at the January Restoration Advisory Board meeting. Liquid hydrocarbon

thickness decreased almost one-half foot in the northern area and over one foot in the southern area, he said.

Groundwater was sampled and analyzed from 99 wells. Overall, groundwater conditions are similar to those observed in May 1999, indicating a stable groundwater plume.

Sampling for the first semi-annual event of 2000 took place in April. A report analyzing the data from the event is being prepared. Results will be discussed at the July Restoration Advisory Board meeting. The report will be

placed in the Information Repository at the Norwalk Library for public review. ■



**Semi-Annual Monitoring.** A contractor prepares a monitoring well for water purging prior to the April groundwater sampling event.

## RWQCB USES TANK FARM AS MODEL INSTALLATION FOR SAFETY TRAINING

DESC hosted two facility tours in May. The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), the state regulatory agency overseeing the cleanup of the Tank Farm, used the facility as a model installation for employee safety training.

A state industrial hygienist led a group of RWQCB employees on a tour and instructed them on how to recognize, evaluate, and control potential hazards while conducting site visits.

The group discussed issues such as noise, safety labels, safety around operating machinery, health and safety plans, sun



**State uses Tank Farm as Model Installation.** Employees of the Regional Water Quality Control Board pose for a picture after taking a Tank Farm tour. The tour was part of a state safety training course.

protection, insect protection, wind directions, and trip and fall hazards.

Greg Coppola, an engineer from Geomatrix Consultants, gave the group an overview of Kinder Morgan's treatment system.

Robert Ruscitto, a geologist from the IT Corporation, gave the group an overview of DESC's treatment system. ■

## ELECTED OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES TOUR FACILITY

On May 19, DESC hosted a facility tour for staff of Norwalk elected officials. The tour helped new staffers learn and ask questions about the project so they can better serve their constituents. On hand for the tour was James Koopman, Special Assistant for Constituent Outreach for Congresswoman Grace F. Napolitano, and William Sanchez, District Representative for California State Senator Martha M. Escutia.

Mary Jane McIntosh, RAB Community Co-Chair, gave a brief history of the facility cleanup and Restoration Advisory Board activities. Jill Jefferson, Environmental Specialist with Kinder Morgan, described Kinder Morgan's treatment system. Joe Trani described DESC's treatment system. Also attending the tour was John Rifilato, Terminal Superintendent.

The group also discussed issues such as groundwater, phytoremediation, bioremediation, offsite remediation, the West Side Barrier system, the oil/water separator, pipeline testing, and land transfer issues.

Tank Farm tours are held on an as-needed basis for RAB members, officials and representatives, and citizens. To arrange a tour, please contact one of the representatives listed on page four. ■

## WESTERN OFFSITE CLEANUP PLAN NEARS COMPLETION

Kinder Morgan, working with the Restoration Advisory Board's Offsite Chemicals Cleanup Subcommittee, is completing responses to regulatory agency comments on the Risk-Based Corrective Action Plan report.

The final report will set recommendations of cleanup technology and cleanup goals for chemicals that have traveled offsite to the west of the

facility. Some recommendations in the plan have already been implemented, such as increasing the pumping rates of the West Side Barrier groundwater recovery wells.

Kinder Morgan is also looking for a property to place an offsite treatment system to help speed up cleanup of the offsite chemicals. ■

## FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

If you have any questions, comments, would like copies of previous newsletters, or want to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact one of the representatives listed below:

Or, visit the information repository to review RAB meeting handouts, minutes, and project documents:

Jill Jefferson Environmental Specialist Kinder Morgan Energy Partners 1100 Town and Country Road Orange, CA 92868 (714) 560-4875 (714) 560-6572 FAX jeffersonj@kindermorgan.com	Ana M. Townsend Sanitary Engineer Associate Regional Water Quality Control Board 320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200 Los Angeles, CA 90013 (213) 576-6738 (213) 576-6717 FAX aveloz@rb4.swrcb.ca.gov	Tim Whyte Public Involvement Specialist URS Corporation 2020 East First Street, Suite 400 Santa Ana, CA 92705-4032 (714) 835-6886 (714) 667-7147 FAX tim_whyte@urscorp.com	Joe Trani Environmental Engineer Defense Energy Support Center-LA 3171 North Gaffey Street San Pedro, CA 90731-1099 (310) 900-6960, ext. 1106 (310) 900-6973 FAX jtrani@desc.dia.mil
Information Repository Norwalk Regional Library County of Los Angeles Public Library Reference Section 12350 Imperial Highway Norwalk, CA 90650 (562) 868-0775 Hours: M, Tu, W, : 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Th, F: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sa: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed Sundays and Holidays.	Information Repository Norwalk Regional Library County of Los Angeles Public Library Reference Section 12350 Imperial Highway Norwalk, CA 90650 (562) 868-0775 Hours: M, Tu, W, : 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Th, F: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sa: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed Sundays and Holidays.	Si quiere una copia de este boletín en español, por favor llame al (714) 835-6886.	

**Defense Energy Support Center-Los Angeles**  
**3171 North Gaffey Street**  
**San Pedro, CA 90731-1099**

**Norwalk Tank Farm  
Restoration Advisory  
Board Meeting:  
Thursday, July 27,  
2000, 6:30 p.m. Arts  
& Sports Complex.**