

FACT SHEET

Supplemental Environmental Investigation Report

Sampling Results of May 24, 2016

Office of Military Commissions
Camp Justice, Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

Introduction

The Navy Marine Corps Public Health Center is performing a comprehensive and multi-faceted Public Health Review (PHR) to assess potential health risks associated with living and working at Camp Justice. In line with the Navy's commitment to continually share important health information during the PHR process, which is still underway, we encourage you to review this Fact Sheet, which contains a brief summary of key information contained in the associated 161 page report. The report and this Fact Sheet are provided as part of the Navy's effort to investigate the potential health risks to personnel serving at Camp Justice on Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (NSGB).

Purpose

The purpose of this supplemental environmental investigation was to conduct additional sampling as recommended by the NMCPHC in their Preliminary Public Health Screening Risk Assessment Report (see link below) which included: 1) the need to obtain mercury air sampling in AV29 that is representative of potential occupational exposures to building occupants, 2) the need to sample for PCBs from inside and adjacent to the transformer vaults at AV32, 3) the need for data related to the natural occurrence of some metals in soil, and 4) additional sampling to determine the extent of benzo(a)pyrene in soil adjacent to AV34.

Findings

Mercury Vapor: Samples were collected April 16, 17 and 22, 2016, from 19 rooms within Building AV-29. Mercury vapors were not detected in any of the samples.

PCBs: Wipe sampling was conducted April 18, 2016, in the two transformer rooms in Building AV-32 and in the transformer building adjacent to AV-32. PCBs were not detected in the samples.

Soil – Metals: Supplemental surface soil samples were collected October 15, 2016, from 14 locations that represented natural soil conditions. The samples confirmed the presence of naturally occurring metals in the soil near Camp Justice.

Soil – Benzo(a)pyrene: Supplemental surface soil samples were collected April 21, 2016 from 9 locations around AV-34. The samples were similar or slightly higher than the October 2015 sampling results and are consistent with typical U.S. urban background levels.

In summary, these results are preliminary – not final. Final conclusions will not be made until all of the data for the PHR have been collected, analyzed and presented in the final PHR Report.

The NMCPHC preliminary public health screening risk assessment report can be viewed at the following link:

http://www.cnic.navy.mil/content/dam/cnic/cnrse/pdfs/ns_gitmo/NMCPHC%20Preliminary%20Public%20Health%20Screening%20Risk%20Assessment%20Camp%20Justice%2023%20Feb%202016%20For%20Public%20Release.pdf

For more information on Mercury, Benzo(a)pyrene, and Arsenic, please view the following Fact Sheets:

Mercury in Air:

http://www.cnic.navy.mil/content/dam/cnic/cnrse/pdfs/ns_gitmo/Fact%20Sheet%2012%20June%202016%20Camp%20Justice%20Mercury%20in%20Air.pdf

Benzo(a)pyrene in Soil:

http://www.cnic.navy.mil/content/dam/cnic/cnrse/pdfs/ns_gitmo/BenzoPyreneFactSheet_10June12016.pdf

Arsenic in Soil:

http://www.cnic.navy.mil/content/dam/cnic/cnrse/pdfs/ns_gitmo/Arsenic%20FactSheet%201JUNE2016.pdf

To read the full report associated with this fact sheet, go to:

http://www.cnic.navy.mil/content/dam/cnic/cnrse/pdfs/ns_gitmo/161_page_Supp_EI_Rpt_24_May_2016_for_public_release_10_Aug_2016.pdf