



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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## **Hawai'i Department of Health receives corrosion testing data on Red Hill bulk fuel storage tanks**

HONOLULU -- The Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are announcing the receipt of required laboratory analyses of steel and concrete samples from the U.S. Navy's Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility. The laboratory data received from the Navy is being reviewed in conjunction with other tank work to assess the Navy's ability to adequately address corrosion and other flaws that may be present inside the fuel tanks.

Under EPA and DOH direction, the samples were selected and removed by the Navy from sites where corrosion was both expected and unexpected. The laboratory analysis was performed by an independent laboratory contracted by the Navy. The 148-page lab report of mostly raw data is available for public review at <http://health.hawaii.gov/shwb/ust-red-hill-project-main/>.

Currently, EPA and DOH are utilizing outside corrosion and tank management experts to review the laboratory report. The report was submitted to EPA and DOH as part of the 2015 Red Hill Administrative Order on Consent and in response to a Hawai'i Department of the Attorney General request to the Navy to submit corrosion-related information, including the third-party lab report and any field data by Feb. 15, 2019. DOH is awaiting the additional field data from the Navy. A final report from the Navy summarizing these results and additional corrosion and metal fatigue management practices will be due to EPA and DOH in mid-2019.

The Navy sent ten 12-inch square steel samples, also known as "coupons", cut from Tank 14 in mid-June 2018 to an independent laboratory for corrosion testing. Tank 14 is one of 18 actively used steel-lined concrete tanks at the Facility. Each tank has the capacity to store 12.5 million gallons of fuel.

The laboratory data includes actual measurements of coupon thickness and corrosion pit depths along with other corrosion-related information, such as the chemical composition of concrete and steel samples.

The corrosion and tank evaluation work are one of many parts of the Red Hill Administrative Order on Consent which requires the Navy and Defense Logistics Agency to take steps to ensure that Hawai'i's groundwater resources are protected, and that the Red Hill facility is operated in an environmentally protective manner.

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