



## COMMANDER, NAVY REGION HAWAII

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

850 TICONDEROGA STREET, SUITE 110

JBPHH, HAWAII 96860

PHONE: 808-473-2888 FAX: 808-473-2876

[www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii)



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### News Release

**POC:** Mike Andrews, Deputy Director of Public Affairs  
Cell: (808) 223-4691  
Duty Cell: (808) 371-5189

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Release # 21-06

## Navy continues investments, improvements, and upgrades at Red Hill Facility

(JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM) – Today, the Navy provided additional information to Federal and State regulators that further explains earlier plans regarding ongoing significant investments, improvements and upgrades to the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

Under the working agreement of the 2015 Administrative Order on Consent (AOC), the Navy and Defense Logistics Agency work with regulators – the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Hawaii State Department of Health’s (DOH) – to ensure continued infrastructure improvements that protect human health and the environment while maintaining safe operations at the Red Hill facility.

In September 2019, the Navy submitted the Tank Upgrade Alternative and Release Detection Decision Document (TUA DD), which details the Navy’s investment in two major programs: upgrades at the current facility to maintain safe operations, and an accelerated program to implement a viable secondary tank containment upgrade.

In October 2020, the EPA and DOH responded to the TUA DD submission, requesting additional information and clarification of the Navy’s plan outlined in the TUA DD. Working closely with the EPA and DOH, the Navy completed a TUA DD Supplemental document to answer the regulators’ questions.

The TUA DD Supplemental combines important information from the original TUA DD and other AOC reports along with new information the Navy obtained over the 19 months from the TUA DD’s initial submission, including work with an engineering industry expert on secondary containment,

“The responsible path forward at Red Hill involves more than a choice of a single wall tank upgrade over a dual wall solution,” said Capt. Gordie Meyer, Commanding Officer, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Hawaii. “It is important to emphasize that the Department of Defense, U.S. Navy, and the Defense Logistics Agency are equally invested in the

simultaneous advancement of these programs, all in line with current Federal and State regulations.”

The Department of Defense (DoD) continues to invest resources to support improvements and upgrades at Red Hill.

“The Red Hill fuel facility is a vital and strategic asset for all our military throughout the Indo-Pacific Region,” said Rear Admiral Timothy Kott, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. “We are investing more than \$750 million to serve the mission of protecting America, the people of Hawaii, and our precious drinking water resource. Successful projects take careful planning and thoughtful engineering to ensure the best outcome.”

The Navy continues to collaborate and share information and plans with the EPA and DOH and other stakeholders to prevent future releases of fuel from the Red Hill Facility, protect the groundwater resource in the vicinity of Red Hill, and safely operate and maintain the facility.

Reports produced by the regulators and the Board of Water Supply substantiate that the Red Hill fuel tanks are not leaking and Oahu’s drinking water resource remains safe.

AOC deliverables and other Red Hill reports can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/red-hill>

Drinking water reports are available online at <https://health.hawaii.gov/sdwb/>.

For more information about the Navy’s Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, please visit: <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/redhill>.

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# RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY TUA DD Fact Sheet

## RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY TANK UPGRADE ALTERNATIVE AND RELEASE DETECTION DECISION DOCUMENT (TUA DD) SUPPLEMENTAL FACT SHEET

In August 2021, the Navy submitted the TUA Supplemental document to the Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) regulators - the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) in support of the Navy's 2019 Tank Upgrade Alternative and Release Detection Decision Document (TUA DD).

The TUA Supplemental provides amplifying information to substantiate how the Navy's enhanced Clean, Inspect and Repair (CIR) program is the most viable tank upgrade alternative that satisfies the best available practicable technology (BAPT) requirement set forth under the AOC. The document also details how the enhanced CIR Program provides a foundation for the Navy to move forward in its secondary containment initiative.

### TUA DD and TUA Supplemental:

- The TUA DD embraces all options as the Navy considers realistic and timely options to best protect the environment and the water while supporting national defense.
- This TUA DD rests on the foundation of significant investments in two major programs; first the upgrades to the current facility to ensure it remains safe and operational; and second an accelerated program to develop a secondary containment upgrade in the near term.
- The Department of Defense (DoD) is investing \$750 million of system enhancements and upgrades into Red Hill over 10 years as the focus of this TUA DD.
- The Navy is putting equal effort into an accelerated project focused on secondary containment technology, in development with a leading engineer in the industry.
- This is not a choice of a single wall tank upgrade over dual wall, it is a strong investment in both while acknowledging that one is a mature program and one is in the program developmental phase.

### Tank Upgrade Alternative (TUA) Supplemental Details:

- In developing the TUA Supplemental document the Navy carefully considered:



# RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY TUA DD Fact Sheet

- All related AOC reports regarding technology, operations, and environmental conditions at Red Hill;
  - Ongoing research and development and technology evaluation efforts;
  - EPA and DOH request for amplifying information to support the TUA DD recommendation, and;
  - Public comments on the TUA DD received by the EPA and DOH in December of 2019.
- Part 1 of the TUA Supplement is the Executive Summary. It also provides additional supporting details for the BAPT recommendation and reaffirms the Navy's commitment to secondary containment.
  - Part 2 of the TUA Supplement provides detailed Navy responses to each of the 16 RFIs. Each RFI response is comprised of the following three sections; a) the RFI from the regulators; b) the Navy's summary response; c) the Navy's detailed response.
  - Part 3 of the TUA Supplement contains additional evidence and enclosures in support of the Navy's BAPT recommendation detailed in Part 2 of the supplement.

## **Best Available Practicable Technology (BAPT)/Secondary Containment:**

- The 2019 TUA DD established that the Navy's enhanced Clean, Inspect and Repair (CIR) program is the only alternative to meet today's BAPT requirement and is compatible (relative to key attributes such as inspection, construction, repair and reliability) with potential future solutions currently being evaluated.
- The enhanced CIR program ensures the Red Hill tanks will be maintained and does not commit resources or infrastructure that will impede future BAPT implementation.
- The current BAPT recommendation serves as the foundation that will support the next BAPT recommendation (5 years from initial BAPT approval) and will include findings from ongoing research and development efforts and new technological advancements.
- The Navy's next BAPT recommendation will also depend on the results of the secondary containment pilot project currently being conducted by Gaztransport & Technigaz – North America (GTT NA).





# RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY TUA DD Fact Sheet

- GTTNA is pursuing the feasibility of applying its dual membrane technology as a Red Hill tank secondary containment solution that meets State requirements. The dual membrane consists of two metal barriers with interstitial monitoring. This means the area outside of the fuel tank can be monitored to safeguard the environment. This potential solution to secondary containment was not known in 2019.

## **Background/Timeline:**

- In 2015, the U.S. Navy and the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) entered into an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Hawaii's Department of Health (DOH) to establish a process for upgrading and implementing technical solutions, focusing on continued safe operations at Red Hill while protecting the environment and drinking water.
- September 2019 - Navy and DLA submitted the Tank Upgrade Alternative and Release Detection Decision Document (TUA DD) to the EPA and DOH which summarized the Navy's approach to improvements at the Red Hill and included the Navy's recommendation of today's Best Available Practicable Technology (BAPT).
- October 26, 2020 – EPA and DOH sent a request for amplifying information regarding the Navy's TUA DD submission.
- August 18, 2021 – After clarifying the EPA and DOH request for information, the Navy developed the TUA Supplemental and submitted to the Regulators.





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## News Release

**POC: Lydia Robertson, Director of Public Affairs**  
**Duty Cell: 808-371-5189**

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### **U.S. Navy Provides 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility Public Information Update**

As a result of on-going COVID-19 social gathering restrictions, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) has posted the 2021 third quarter Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility public information audio update on its website:

[www.cnic.navy.mil/redhill](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/redhill)

These audio updates provide information regarding ongoing maintenance and improvements being made at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility:

- 1) Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) Update** – Donald Panthen, Director of the Navy’s Red Hill Program Management Office, provides an update on the Navy’s progress under the AOC agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH).
- 2) Red Hill Fuel Support to the State of Hawaii** – Lt. Cmdr. Les Begin, Fuel Director for the Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center, discusses how the fuel contained at Red Hill supports the State of Hawaii in day-to-day operations as well as during times of disaster or emergency response.
- 3) Soil Vapor Monitoring (SVM) 101** – Dayna Fujimoto, a Supervisory Environmental Engineer with the Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Hawaii, provides supporting soil vapor monitoring information to supplement the Navy’s first quarter “Soil Vapor Monitoring Program Update” audio cast file.

The Department of Defense (DoD) has allocated \$750 million worth of system enhancements and upgrades at Red Hill over a 10 year period to ensure the primary objectives of the Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) are fulfilled. The Navy remains fully dedicated to working collaboratively and transparently with the EPA and DOH under the AOC to maintain safe and secure operations of the Red Hill Facility and ensure the drinking water and the environment remain safe.