DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL BASE KITSAP 120 SOUTH DEWEY STREET BREMERTON WA 98314-5020

> 5090 PRB4 18 Nov 24

Dear Community Member:

SUBJECT: NAVAL BASE KITSAP ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM -RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD FORMATION

The U.S. Navy is committed to protecting and conserving natural resources at Naval Base Kitsap (NBK) and in our surrounding community. As part of this commitment, the Navy performs environmental cleanup activities under the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP). The ERP focuses on investigations for past releases to the environment at the following NBK facilities: NBK - Bangor, NBK - Bremerton, Jackson Park Housing Complex, NBK - Keyport, NBK - Manchester, and Naval Hospital Bremerton.

With the intent to communicate and educate the public about ERP activities, the Navy conducted public outreach in the form of a questionnaire to gauge interest in the formation of a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) for NBK facilities. A RAB is an advisory panel of interested, local community members who meet regularly with the Navy and regulatory agency representatives to discuss, and provide input on, environmental investigation and cleanup plans.

The questionnaire was made available to the public May through June 2024 through postcards and public notices posted on the website for Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Northwest, local newspapers, and social media. Participation in the questionnaire was voluntary and anonymous. Questionnaire respondents indicated a high level of interest in RAB formation. Additionally, Department of Defense (DoD) requirements regarding the purpose and responsibility of RAB formation have been met under 32 C.F.R. 202.1(b) and 202.2(a).

This communication documents the Navy's decision to form a RAB for NBK. In addition, the attached RAB Assessment Memorandum documents public interest in the formation of a RAB and serves as a Memorandum of Record for DoD administrative record requirements for NBK under 32 C.F.R. 202.

Sincerely,

J. W. HALE

Captain, U.S. Navy

Commanding Officer

Enclosure: 1. Restoration Advisory Board Action Memorandum