



Virginia NSF Dahlgren

Facility and Location

Naval Support Facility (NSF) Dahlgren is located approximately 55 miles south of Washington, D.C. Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Dahlgren, the largest tenant at NSF Dahlgren, provides research, development, test and evaluation, engineering, and fleet support for surface warfare, surface ship combat systems, ordnance, strategic systems, mines, amphibious warfare systems, mine countermeasures, special warfare systems, and proof and test weapons. It is among the largest research and development centers in the U.S.

Media Sampled and Findings

Drinking Water — In 2007, nine samples reported no detection.

Groundwater — In 2010, 26 of 27 samples detected perchlorate from 2 to 653 ppb. In 2009, 28 of 28 samples detected perchlorate from 0.34 to 702 ppb. In 2008, 19 of 30 samples detected perchlorate from 0.18 to 940 ppb. In 2007, 10 of 23 samples detected perchlorate from 0.15 to 740 ppb. Prior to 2007, 142 of 249 samples detected perchlorate from 0.03 to 2,700 ppb.

Sediment — Prior to 2007, 1 of 25 samples detected perchlorate at 120 ppb.

Soil — In 2011, one sample reported no detection. In 2010, 43 of 43 samples detected perchlorate from 0.2 to 320 ppb. In 2009, one sample detected perchlorate at 0.3 ppb. In 2008, 34 of 34 samples detected perchlorate from 1 to 3,100 ppb. Prior to 2007, 18 of 120 samples detected perchlorate from 0.34 to 1,200 ppb.

Surface Water — In 2007, two of eight samples detected perchlorate from 0.16 to 0.38 ppb. Prior to 2007, 11 of 28 samples detected perchlorate from 0.07 to 230 ppb.

Wastewater — In 2007, one sample reported no detection. Prior to 2007, one sample detected perchlorate at 0.07 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

NSWC Dahlgren operates under a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Part B Permit for the thermal treatment of hazardous waste by open burn/open detonation (OB/OD) issued by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VADEQ). Perchlorate has been found in shallow groundwater in the vicinity of the OB/OD units. NSWC Dahlgren continues to monitor the OB/OD site in coordination with and within the protection standard of VADEQ, to assess risks and the potential for off range migration. Under the Range Sustainability Environmental Program Condition Assessment, NSWC Dahlgren is completing a Range Condition Assessment and continues to work with the VADEQ regarding appropriate corrective actions.