

# Community Bulletin

Kelly Air Force Real Property Agency



April 2003

## AIR FORCE TO INSTALL CLEANUP SYSTEM IN AREA OF FORMER BUILDING 301

The Air Force has begun preparing the area of the former Building 301 for installation of a groundwater cleanup system. The actual installation will begin in the first part of May and will take approximately one month to complete. All construction activities will occur Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

### *What is being cleaned up?*

Groundwater at the former Building 301 contains the cleaning solvent tetrachloroethylene (PCE). PCE and its associated degradation products (trichloroethylene, or TCE, and 1, 2-dichloroethylene, or 1, 2-DCE) are also present in the groundwater in the area near the former Building 301. Although this is not a source of drinking water, the law requires that groundwater meet drinking water standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

### *How is the Air Force going to clean up the groundwater?*

The Air Force will construct a permeable reactive barrier (PRB) at the site of the former Building 301. A PRB is an underground trench filled with iron filings. It is placed across the flow of groundwater so the water must pass through it. As contaminated water flows through the trench, the iron reacts with the contaminants and breaks them down into water, carbon dioxide, ethene, and chloride. The Air Force will regularly monitor and maintain the PRB to ensure it is operating properly.

### *What construction activities are going to occur?*

The PRB will be installed along the south and east boundaries of the former Building 301. It will measure about 700 feet long, 2.5 feet wide and 30 feet deep.

There will be increased truck traffic in this area. Temporary security fencing and barricades will be placed around the construction site. Heavy machinery and trucks will operate in the area. Some equipment and materials will also be stored within the construction area.

Air quality will be monitored. Any soil that is removed will be tested according to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) guidelines and will be reused and/or disposed of properly.

### ***Questions?***

*AFRPA is dedicated to involving the community in the cleanup program for the former Kelly Air Force Base. For more information on this project, please call the AFRPA Public Information Line at 210-925-0956 or visit our web site at [www.kellyafb.net](http://www.kellyafb.net).*