

Kelly

Air Force Base

Installation Restoration Program



Quintana Road Drainage Project

January 1999

A fact sheet providing information on the Quintana Road drainage culvert

The purpose of this fact sheet is to provide environmental background information on the Quintana Road culvert project. The information discusses both the history of the project and future actions Kelly Air Force Base is taking to ensure the project is completed. Kelly AFB is working closely with the City of San Antonio to ensure the installation of the City's drainage project in a manner protective of human health and the environment.

History

The Quintana Road neighborhood, east of Kelly AFB, has been susceptible to periodic flooding. The lack of an adequate stormwater drainage system prompted the City of San Antonio (CoSA) to begin construction of a stormwater drainage system in this area in 1986. The project was to provide a major underground drainage culvert for the transfer of stormwater in the area.

In June 1988, CoSA workers were installing a storm drainage culvert along Quintana Road when they encountered free-phase JP-4 fuel in the shallow groundwater, which appeared to have come from Kelly AFB. It was discovered this fuel had leaked from tanks and pipelines that were part of a Fuel Distribution Line System that used to underlie Site S-4. As a result, the project was subsequently halted for safety and environmental concerns.

Kelly AFB also discovered the presence of a chlorinated solvent plume and initiated several interim response actions to manage the impacted area in a manner consistent with the Base's overall Installation Restoration Program and all applicable environmental regulations.

In 1993, as a result of increased growth in areas east of Kelly AFB, CoSA found it necessary to recommence with the project. Kelly AFB and CoSA reviewed various alternatives for getting the project

completed while adequately addressing the environmental issues. Kelly AFB proposed to share the environmental costs of the project. Kelly AFB and CoSA recommended a reroute of the proposed system to reduce the risk of exposure to contamination for workers and the Quintana Road residents. The project consists of the construction of the storm drainage system by CoSA to improve stormwater drainage in the neighborhood and the installation of a High Density Polyethylene barrier wall to act as a physical barricade to the further downgradient migration of contaminants from Kelly AFB.

Action

The new route of the culvert is from Quintana Road to McLaughlin, east along McLaughlin to Bynum, then north on Bynum to Quintana Road. The original project was rerouted to minimize public and city worker contact with contaminated groundwater and potentially contaminated soil. Contaminated groundwater will be removed and treated by Kelly AFB. Contaminated soil, if encountered, will be removed and paid for by Kelly AFB and disposed of by the City.

Air Quality

In 1990, NUS Corporation, an independent subcontractor, performed a health and safety evaluation and provided air monitoring in the Quintana Road neighborhood. The study found that there was no potential risk with long term exposure to airborne contaminants. The air in the construction zone will be monitored for the presence of dust and organic vapors. Proper measures will be taken to eliminate the risk of airborne contaminants to workers and residents, if it is determined the air quality poses a risk.