

## **2023 ACO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS SEP 2024**

**1. Q: Are there plans to install any addition GWMW's and if so how many?**

A: In August 2024, the Navy completed the installation of a 22<sup>nd</sup> Groundwater Monitoring Well at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility. Completion of this well fulfills our commitment to the community to install 22 monitoring wells following the November 2021 fuel spill. To further this commitment, the Navy is installing another well that will be completed by mid-October. These monitoring wells allow the Navy to observe groundwater conditions in and around the facility, sample for more than 50 analytes and determine any possible contaminate migration away from Red Hill. The Navy remains committed to ensuring Oahu's aquifer remains safe today and for future generations.

**2. Q: There have been multiple detections of lead in both LTM and groundwater monitoring. What is the source of this lead contamination? Is it the piping or source water? What is the Navy actively doing about this?**

A: The lead detections in drinking water during Long-Term Monitoring and groundwater monitoring were below the Environmental Protection Agency's action level of 15 parts per billion. Lead can come from different sources including pipes, faucets and fixtures. The Navy tests for lead through multiple efforts: as part of its voluntary Extended Drinking Water Monitoring program, ongoing groundwater monitoring, annual water quality testing and the EPA-mandated Lead and Copper Rule program.

**3. Q: With these detections, is the water safe to drink?**

A: Yes, the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Drinking Water system remains in compliance with state and federal drinking water standards.