

2023 ACO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Quarter 2 (April - June) 2026

1. Q: Are the components of the filtration system being installed at the Navy Aiea-Halawa Shaft NSF-61 certified?

A. Yes, the components of the filtration system meet NSF/ANSI/CAN 61 industry standards. The Navy is following the Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) requirements for the reactivation of the Navy Aiea-Halawa Shaft. NSF/ANSI/CAN 61 certification is a standard practice for ensuring materials are safe for drinking water.

2. Q: How will the Navy ensure that community continues oversight throughout the full duration of Red Hill's closure, remediation, and monitoring process?

A. NCTF-RH is increasing its investment in high-value and direct engagement, and we invite and encourage all members of the public to participate in planned open houses, webinars, community neighborhood board meetings, and a new town hall, which will provide a large, open forum for community questions and discussion. We also invite the community to other government-hosted meetings where public comment is accepted – including the Hawaii Department of Health's (DOH) Fuel Tank Advisory Committee and the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources' Commission on Water Resource Management. The purpose of these events is to inform and gather crucial community input and feedback, which directly informs our actions. NCTF-RH remains committed to keeping the community informed and educated throughout its mission. Beyond scheduled community outreach and engagement opportunities, the public is encouraged to submit questions and comments at any time to NCTF-RH_PAO@us.navy.mil. NCTF-RH posts answers to frequently asked questions on a quarterly basis at <https://tinyurl.NCTF-RH-FAQs>.

3. Q: In step four of tank cleaning – what is the equipment being demobilized?

A: Following the completion of tank cleaning, all specialized equipment installed for the evolution is demobilized. This includes high-pressure washing systems, booms, temporary lighting, and supporting utility lines.

4. Q: What is the Navy's involvement in the University of Hawaii's dye tracer study and groundwater flow model efforts?

A. The University of Hawaii's field efforts and their studies are independent of the Navy. The Navy facilitates access to locations UH wants to sample from for its dye tracer study and

groundwater flow model. The data UH collects belongs to UH. The Navy is not involved in collecting samples or publishing results related to UH's efforts.

5. Q: What portion of the Red Hill pipelines will remain in place following closure and will any of the pipes remain in use?

Following the closure of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, no fuel pipelines will remain in place. The decommissioning process involves removing the majority of the piping infrastructure; however, specific sections of pipe embedded within the tunnel system's concrete structural support bulkheads will be safely abandoned in place. After the pipe-cutting process is finalized, a short section of pipe, measuring no more than 12 inches, will remain on each side of the concrete structures.

6. Q: Is Red Hill still connected to the JBPHH fuel system?

A. No, the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility was disconnected and airgapped from the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam fuel distribution system in March 2024. This occurred immediately following the successful completion of large-scale defueling operations, which removed more than 104 million gallons of fuel from the facility.

7. Q: What sort of fuel movement in groundwater are you observing based on testing data?

A: Based on current testing data, there is no evidence of jet fuel migration from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility. NCTF-RH actively monitors a growing network of 48 groundwater monitoring wells. This ongoing data collection and analysis, which is posted to the Safe Waters website and shared with regulatory agencies, provides this confirmation.

8. Q: When is the Navy planning to re-open/re-activate the Aiea-Halawa shaft?

A. The Navy Aiea-Halawa Shaft will be reactivated upon DOH's inspection and approval.

9. Q: Where can I find an updated schedule of work for Navy Closure Task Force?

A. For progress on the decommissioning efforts, check out the progress dashboard at www.navyclosuretaskforce.navy.mil or on the mobile app. For environmental efforts, visit www.jbphh-safewaters.org to view the most updated remediation actions schedule.