

Our Drinking Water is at risk



Appropriation of clean-up funds is urgently needed.

The Navy spilled approximately 500,000 gallons of fuel on UIC lands and buried contaminants over a period of decades before the land was conveyed to UIC.

These spills contaminated the land and one of the few sources of drinking water.

Exposure to unsafe levels of contaminants in drinking water may result in damage to fetuses, the liver, thyroid and immune system. It may also cause cancer.

In 1986 the Navy agreed to re-mediate the land, however, these spills remain a threat to UIC's land and drinking water today.



Contamination on old Navy sites is still a threat to Barrow's fresh water sources such as at Imikpuk Lake.



Old container drums litter the area along with other improperly-disposed-of Navy scrap.

NARL Aerial Map with highlighted clean-up sites



Timeline

1952-1986: Navy spills 500,000 gallons of gas at NARL (six documented incidents).

1986: Land Exchange Agreement executed between Navy and UIC (Includes requirement for Navy to clean up NARL).

1995: US Navy ranks contamination at NARL "HIGH".

2002: ADEC finds that Navy is responsible for pollution at NARL (Requests Navy clean up and monitor Imikpuk Lake).

2008: Navy report shows majority of wells have unacceptable levels of contamination.

2012: Navy report shows increasing contamination levels at wells around Imikpuk Lake.

2017: US Navy conducts water sampling at Imikpuk Lake to verify whether safe to drink.

2017: Navy recommends that Imikpuk Lake is no longer a suitable source of drinking or cooking water.

2018: UIC submits proposal to the Navy for remediation to the Bulk Fuel tank farm area at NARL.

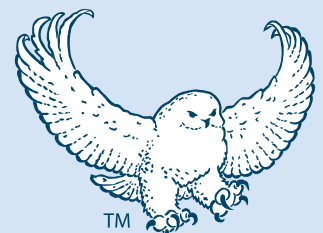
2018: Air Force begins performance of remediation of contaminated soil and takes down old Air Force Hanger.

In 1986, UIC and the Navy entered into a land exchange agreement and swapped the Navy's Arctic Research Laboratory land (NARL) for land UIC previously selected under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). The Navy agreed to perform a feasibility study and re-mediate the contamination at Imikpuk Lake. The Navy also agreed to re-mediate all contamination at NARL. This would include land between Imikpuk Lake and Middle Salt Lagoon where there are buried debris and potential contamination that the Navy has yet to address. UIC has been waiting decades for remediation to be completed at NARL and requests that funds be appropriated to re-mediate the land and Imikpuk Lake.

Questions?

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