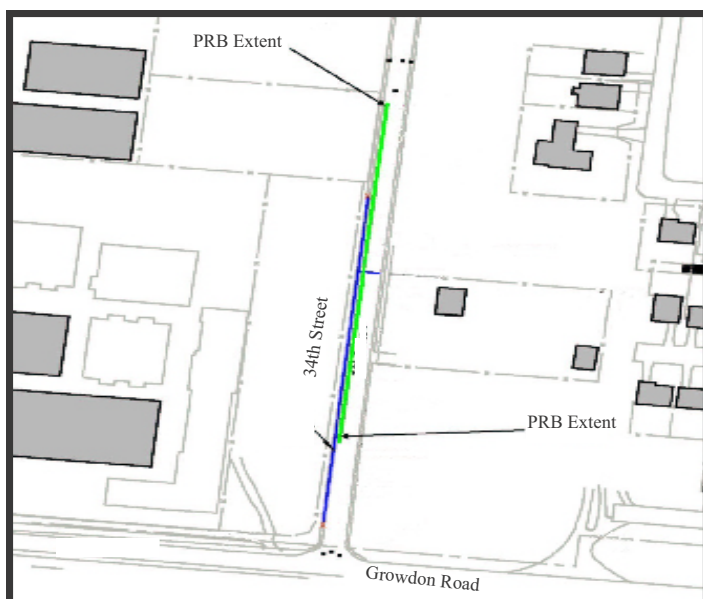




January 2004

Community Bulletin

Installation of a PRB on 34th Street near Growdon Road



Site of the PRB on 34th Street near Growdon Road

The Air Force plans to install a permeable reactive barrier (PRB) on 34th Street, near Growdon Road, this March and April. The goal of the PRB is to bring the levels of solvents in the shallow groundwater down to safe drinking water standards. The shallow groundwater is not a drinking water source. It is separated from the Edwards Aquifer, by more than 1,000 feet of rock and clay.

The solvents perchloroethylene (PCE) and trichloroethylene (TCE) were commonly used at Kelly that leaked into the shallow groundwater.

The PRB will be an underground trench filled with sand and iron filings. When the water and solvents come into contact with the iron, they start to break down into

carbon dioxide, ethene, and the mineral chloride, which occur naturally in the groundwater near Kelly. The PRB will be about 540 feet long, 30 inches wide and 35 feet deep.

During the six-week project, the southern part of 34th Street will be closed. Traffic will be able to reach Growdon Road via Menifee and 35th Street. There will be security personnel at the site to ensure safety after hours. When construction is done monitoring wells will be installed. This will require lane closures on 34th Street in April and May. The wells will be sampled quarterly.

The Air Force will work with the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD) and the Public Center for Environmental Health (PCEH) to monitor air quality during the project and make sure it meets state and federal regulations.

Have Questions About the Environmental Cleanup Program at Kelly?

We've Got Answers!

The AFRPA is dedicated to involving the community in the cleanup of the former Kelly AFB. If you have any questions, please call the AFRPA Information Line at (210) 925-0956, visit the Kelly Web site at <http://www.afropa.hq.af.mil/kelly/>, or write to us at:

143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1
San Antonio, Texas 78226-1816