Groundwater contamination under the Willow Grove Naval Air Station and the adjacent Air Reserve Station has triggered a proposal to add the facilities to the EPA's list of Superfund sites. Although no contamination has been detected off base, there are three confirmed sources of releases to ground water aboard the base: Privet Road Landfill, The Fire Training Area and the Washrack area.

There are six other potential sources of contamination, including three land fills, two storage areas, and a ponding basin that will be investigated along with the confirmed sources as a part of the Superfund process.

At the base today, EPA Region 3 Administrator, Peter Kostmayer told media representatives that the Navy and Air Force have been
working with the EPA over a long period and have already started remedial work to stabilize and clean up the contamination. Kostmayer called the media gathering today to help generate more public participation in the process in keeping with the new Superfund bill now before congress.

Kostmayer pointed out that today's action give the base a higher priority for clean up and eligible for additional funds if included on the NPL. He noted all the cleanup funding would come from the Department of Defense.

Kostmayer explained that this action is just a proposal to add the base to the Superfund list. There will now be a 60 day public comment period during which EPA will accept and review comments that could affect the proposal. "This is the first of many important opportunities for public participation," he stressed.