



12/19/05-02463

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION
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December 19, 2005

Mr. Jeffrey Harlow
Western Vieques Remedial Project Manager
Commander Atlantic Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
6506 Hampton Boulevard
Norfolk, VA 23508-1278

Re: Review of the Draft Final Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis for AOC J and R and SWMU 6 and 7 at the Former US Naval Ammunition Support Detachment (NASD) Vieques Island, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Harlow:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (EQB) have completed the review of the Draft Final Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) for AOC J and R and SWMU 6 and 7 dated December 2005, and the Preliminary Response to Comments included as Appendix C of the EE/CA. Our comments have been satisfactorily addressed with the exception of the following:

1. The EE/CA still does not consistently refer to the draft RI/FS and draft HHRA reports for AOC J and SWMUs 6 and 7 as "draft", particularly throughout Chapter 1 of the report. In lieu of revising every reference to the draft RI/FS and HHRA reports throughout the EE/CA, EPA recommends revising the first bullet in Section 1.2 on Page 1-3 to read, "Section 1 contains the regulatory framework for EE/CA, and information previously submitted as part of the draft RI/FS and draft HHRA, including background information with a description of the nature and extent of contamination, and a streamlined risk evaluation for each site."
2. Tables A-4 and A-5: Please review the ARAR determination for the national primary drinking water standards and the ambient water quality criteria (Table A-4) and the Puerto Rico water quality standards (Table A-5). These may be ARARs, rather than TBCs.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (787) 741-5201.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Rodriguez', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Daniel Rodriguez
Remedial Project Manager
Enforcement and Superfund Branch

cc: Yarissa Martinez, EQB
Felix Lopez, FWS
Oscar Díaz, FWS
Brett Doerr, CH2M Hill