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NAS CECIL FIELD, FL  
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LETTER REGARDING ANALYSIS TO DETERMINE ACCEPTABLE SOIL LEAD  
CONCENTRATION AT SITE 15 BASED ON ACUTE EXPOSURE FOR A SMALL CHILD NAS  
CECIL FIELD FL  
12/2/2002  
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA



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Ligia Mora-Applegate  
Bureau of Waste Cleanup  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
2600 Blair Stone Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Ms. Mora-Applegate:

In the context of assessing potential risks to human health from lead in soils at Site 15, Cecil Field, the question arose as to what constitutes an acceptable soil lead concentration limit based on acute contact by a small child. This question is important because it may define the effective not-to-exceed value for lead in areas where small children might come in contact with soil. We conducted an analysis to determine the upper limit for lead concentration in soil such that acute exposure, in the form of a soil pica episode [single dose], would not result in a blood lead concentration associated with acute lead toxicity in children. This analysis was conducted in collaboration with Dr. Joel Pounds of Battelle Northwest Laboratories and Dr. Ted Simon of U.S. EPA Region 4. The details of that analysis have been provided to you previously. We intend to publish this analysis in a peer-reviewed journal, but this will take several months. In the meantime, so as not to further delay management decisions concerning Site 15, we would like to convey to you that the results indicate protection from acute exposure of children at a soil lead concentration of 6,500 mg/kg or less.

If you have any questions regarding this analysis or its implications in terms of risk strategies at Site 15, Cecil Field, we would be happy to provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Roberts, Ph.D.

Bernard K. Gadagbui, Ph.D.