



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE
PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE SOUTHEAST
4130 FABER PLACE DRIVE
SUITE 202
NORTH CHARLESTON, SC 29405

Ser BPMOSE med/0084
06 Apr 10

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 2
Mr. Timothy Gordon
290 Broadway – 22nd Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866

Subj: NOTICE OF DETONATION OF MUNITIONS AND EXPLOSIVES OF
CONCERN, AREA OF CONCERN E, PIÑEROS ISLAND, NAVAL ACTIVITY
PUERTO RICO

Dear Mr. Gordon:

This letter is to inform the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) that on Wednesday, 31 March 2010, the Navy performed a controlled detonation of an item of munitions and explosive of concern (MEC) found on Area of Concern (AOC) E, Piñeros Island. The item of MEC was identified as a MK 3A2 offensive grenade. The grenade was missing the detonator (only the body was found) and was assumed to be filled with TNT. The MEC item was found on the trail from the north beach to the bunker during the Navy's ongoing investigation of terrestrial anomalies previously identified in the summer of 2006 via geophysics. The grenade was determined to be safe to move by on-site unexploded ordnance technicians and relocated to the beach where it was detonated to reduce the risk of fire. A soil sample from the demolition location was taken after the detonation and will be analyzed for munitions constituents. Base security and Ceiba police were notified prior to the detonation. The quantity of explosives needed to detonate the grenade was small, and associated exclusion zone did not require notification of the Federal Aviation Authority or the Coast Guard.

The Navy concluded the terrestrial anomaly investigative work at AOC E on Thursday, 1 April 2010. A total of 397 anomalies were investigated. Only one item of MEC (above grenade) was identified. 138 items were identified as munitions debris and 165 anomalies were identified as scrap metal type items. The remaining items were identified as "other". The Navy will document the findings of this terrestrial investigation in the Phase I RCRA Facility Investigation Report upon completion of the underwater anomaly investigation currently scheduled for the winter of 2011.

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The terrestrial anomaly investigative work and detonation were performed in accordance with a Naval Ordnance Safety and Security Activity approved Explosive Safety Submission.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (843) 743-2124 or via email at mark.e.davidson@navy.mil.

Sincerely,



MARK E. DAVIDSON
BRAC Environmental Coordinator

Copy to (via mail):

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