

5090
Ser 18311TB/7032
24 July 97

From: Commanding Officer, Engineer Field Activity, West, Naval Facilities engineering
Command
To: Distribution

Subj: NAS ALAMEDA SITE 00024 FOLLOW ON SAMPLING

Ref: (a) July 11, 1997 conference call between U.S. EPA, National Oceanographic and
Atmospheric Administration, Department of toxic Substance Control, U.S. Fish
and Wildlife Service, Tetra Tech Environmental Management, Inc. and the U.S. Navy
regarding NAS Alameda Site 00024

Encl: (1) Summary Table of Site 00024 Sediment Chemistry Data
(2) Map of Site 00024 and approximate shelf location

1. As discussed during reference (a), the Navy is planning to conduct supplemental sediment sampling at Site 24, a newly established site at the pier areas directly south of the Seaplane Lagoon. This site was established because samples collected in November of 1996 contained unusually high levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) and heavy metals. The attached data table compares the concentrations found in this area to ambient concentrations for San Francisco Bay and effects range-low (ER-L)/effects range-median (ER-M) concentrations developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The table illustrates that PAHs are particularly elevated in sample SSH-004, and metals are elevated in sample SSH-003, which were collected at the eastern end of the northern berth
2. This memorandum will document plans discussed during reference (a) for the initial phase of the follow on project. This consists of preliminary sampling using rapid screening techniques to define the extent of contamination. We will follow the health and safety plan that was developed for the sediment sampling conducted in the offshore areas in November of 1996. This sampling plan is designed to provide preliminary identification of suspect areas and to map any concentration gradients.
3. The site had been dredged to accommodate the Navy aircraft carriers. Therefore, the shelf near the piers must be mapped using a depth sounder and global positioning system prior to sampling. The Navy is planning to use rapid screening tools, including x-ray fluorescence (XRF) for heavy metals, UV Florescence Spectroscopy (UVF) for PAHs, and the QwikLite bioassay system to both evaluate qualitatively and confirm the size and location of the suspect area(s).

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4. Screening samples will be collected every 100 feet on a transect that parallels the "shelf" along the outside edge of the two berths. The locations of screening samples will be adjusted in the field depending on the apparent size and shape of any suspect areas. A minimum of 18 screening samples, with an additional 15 samples per suspect area is planned, though the field team is prepared to adjust to any field conditions. The screening will be conducted on July 30 and 31, 1997. You are welcome to visit the site during the screening on July 30 and 31. An 18 foot Boston Whaler will be used to conduct the screening and space will be very limited.
5. Depending of the results of the screening, follow up conformational sediment sampling, including surface and subsurface sampling for bulk chemistry analysis is planned. This sampling event will be designed to verify and quantify the gradients identified during the screening. Before this second mobilization begins, the Navy will provide and discuss a summary of the screening results and a brief work plan and field sampling plan which we plan to conduct in the first week of September.
6. We will discuss of the screening data on a conference call on August 8 from 10:00-12:00. For those who work in the San Francisco area, the conference call will take place at the U.S. EPA conference room 809. The dial in phone for the conference call is 01-800-403-1008, and the participant access code is 636299.
7. The Navy appreciates your cooperation on short notice. Please call me at 415-244-2596, or FAX 415-244-2654 to confirm your availability for this date or if you have questions or comments regarding this matter.

Original signed by:

TERESA S BERNHARD
By direction

Copies to:

NAS Alameda (Attn: Steve Edde)
California Department of Toxic Substances Control (Attn: Tom Lanphar)
California Department of Toxic Substances Control (Attn: Jim Pollisini)
California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Attn: Lyn Suer)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Attn: Anna-Marie Cook)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Attn: Ned Black)
National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (Attn: Laurie Sullivan)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Attn: Jim Haas)
California Department of Fish and Game (Attn: Susan Ellis)
Tetra Tech, Environmental Management, Inc. (Attn: Peter Boucher)

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WRITER: T. BERNHARD/1831.1/x2596

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Activities File: NAS Alameda (File: 7032) mm

ENCLOSURE 1

SUMMARY TABLE OF SITE 00024 SEDIMENT CHEMISTRY DATA

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QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO:

DIANE C. SILVA
RECORDS MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST
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SOUTHWEST
1220 PACIFIC HIGHWAY
SAN DIEGO, CA 92132

TELEPHONE: (619) 532-3676

ENCLOSURE 2

MAP OF SITE 00024

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AVAILABLE.

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