

11011  
Ser 5BMC.DG/0415  
August 13, 1999

Ms. Karen Baker, C.E.G., C.H.G. Chief  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Geology and Corrective Action Branch  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, CA 90630

Dear Ms. Baker:

We received your letter dated July 1, 1999 regarding Site 1, Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Range at the Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) El Toro. You requested that we submit a Closure Plan or a Permit Application along with a RCRA Facility Investigation Work Plan within forty-five days of receipt of your July 1, 1999 letter.

As you are aware, all military operations at MCAS El Toro, including activities at the EOD Range, ceased on July 2, 1999, when MCAS El Toro was officially closed. We can assure you that EOD training operations at the EOD Range have ceased, and that the range is currently inactive. Access to the EOD Range is currently controlled by Station caretaker personnel, as part of their ongoing caretaker responsibilities.

It is my understanding that MCAS El Toro did not operate a RCRA Open Burn/Open Detonation (OB/OD) treatment and disposal facility at the EOD range. MCAS El Toro considered EOD training at the range, in accordance with published guidelines, to be exempt from RCRA permitting requirements, because these actions were not conducted for the purpose of hazardous waste treatment, but rather for the purpose of EOD technicians maintaining proficiency in EOD procedures.

DTSC's Mitigation Branch previously agreed to address any required investigation and cleanup of this site under the MCAS El Toro Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). The EOD training area has been designated as Installation Restoration (IR) Site 1 (See Appendices A and B of FFA). Any investigation or cleanup will be consistent with FFA/CERCLA guidelines.

Please address all future correspondence regarding the past operations of the former MCAS El Toro to:

Commander, Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area  
AC/S Environment & Safety  
MCAS Miramar  
Code 5AU  
P.O. Box 452013  
San Diego, CA 92145-2013

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If you have any questions regarding the IR program at the former Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, please contact Mr. Dean Gould, the new BRAC Environmental Coordinator (BEC) for the former MCAS El Toro, at:

Southwest Division  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
Code 5BMC, Attn: Dean Gould  
1220 Pacific Highway  
San Diego, CA 92132  
(619) 532-4155

JOSEPH JOYCE  
Deputy Base Closure Manager  
MCAS El Toro  
By direction of the Commander

Copy to:  
LtCol Ed Gilhooley, USMC  
El Toro Base Closure Project Manager  
P.O. Box 51718  
Irvine, CA 92619-1718

Commander, Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area  
AC/S Environment & Safety  
MCAS Miramar  
Code 5AU  
P.O. Box 452013  
San Diego, CA 92145-2013

Mr. Kevin Wong  
Hazardous Waste Management Division (WST-4)  
U. S. EPA, Region IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Ms. Florence Gharibian, Chief  
Statewide Compliance Branch  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
1011 North Grandview Avenue  
Glendale, CA 91201

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Ms. Sharon Fair, Unit Chief  
California EPA  
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5796 Corporate Avenue  
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Mr. Tayseer Mahmoud  
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