



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION
EL TORO (SANTA ANA), CALIFORNIA 92709-5010

IN REPLY REFER TO:

6280
1JG/5CC
0 1991

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX
Attn: Mr. John Hamill
1235 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Mr. Hamill:

Enclosed are the minutes from the 18 Nov 1991 Public Forum on the Remedial Investigation at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) El Toro.

If you need further information, please contact Mrs. Chrisa Mitchell, MCAS El Toro Environmental Engineer, at (714) 726-6607 or Mr. Andy Piszkin, Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Project Manager, at (619) 523-1239.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. G. Serafini", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

L. G. SERAFINI, CEC, USN
Environmental Director
Facilities Management Department
By Direction of Commanding General

Encl:
(1) Minutes

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2 Dec 91

Minutes of Public Forum On Remedial Investigation
at MCAS El Toro
Irvine City Hall
18 Nov 1991

Col. L. Fuchs introduced each of the speakers and gave a brief explanation of their roles in the forum. Col. Fuchs also gave an abbreviated history of Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) El Toro including the contamination history behind the groundwater plume.

Andy Bain is a Community Relations Coordinator with Region IX of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He defined the EPA and the clean up process by the Superfund Program. He also explained the community participation in the clean up.

Manny Alonzo is the California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control Remedial Project Manager for MCAS El Toro. He outlined Cal EPA's internal structure since it is a combination of several departments. Manny also explained the Federal Facilities Agreement between the EPA, Cal EPA, and the Navy.

Lt. Commander Larry Serafini is the MCAS El Toro Facilities Management Division, Environmental Director. He explained the DOD's response to CERCLA which is handled in the Installation Restoration Program. LCDR Serafini described the TCE groundwater plume which made MCAS EL Toro an National Priority List (NPL) site. MCAS El Toro is planning to enter into an agreement with the Orange County Water District on their construction of a Desalter Facility to treat the Trichloroethylene (TCE) in the groundwater.

Andy Piszkin is the Remedial Project Manager for MCAS El Toro at the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest Division in San Diego. He brief was on the upcoming Remedial Investigation activities.

After the formal presentation was completed Col Fuchs took questions from the floor. The questions were as follows:

1. Identify off-site locations.

LCDR Serafini showed the estimated location of the TCE plume which is about a mile wide by four miles long and extends from MCAS EL Toro to Culver Drive along Irvine Blvd. He also pointed out where several of the monitoring wells will be installed.

2. Where is JP-5 plume?

The JP-5 plume is from a leaking underground storage tank 398 on base. The plume is completely on base near the control tower.

3. What is pump rate of JP-5 plume?

There is presently a small pump system that is pumping almost pure product into a tanker on site for sale to a local recycler. The pump rate is approximately 0.3 gallons per minute (gpm).

4. Are we finally admitting that it is our plume?

We are a Potential Responsible Party.

5. What is the TCE level in Woodbridge North Lake?

The current TCE level in the well near North Lake is 3 parts per billion (ppb). The TCE level in the lake itself is Non Detectable. The current action limit for TCE contamination is 5 ppb.

6. What is pump rate at ET-1 (OCWD's pump and treat system)?

The existing system pumps approximately 800 gpm.

7. When will we start to receive unvalidated data from the drilling?

The data from the Remedial Investigation should be available in June 1992.

8. When will there be a report on the findings from the Remedial Investigation?

A technical memorandum is scheduled for completion in January 93.

One concerned citizen felt that the logical source of TCE contamination is the abandon landfills on base. He suggested putting a cap on the landfills immediately to prevent any further leaching of the TCE and any other possible hazardous waste in the landfills.

LCDR Serafini thanked him for his concerned and promised that his solution would be taken into account. However, until the Remedial Investigation is completed we will not know for sure where the source or sources of the TCE contamination are located.

Another citizen disagreed with capping the landfills at this time and pointed out that there are several landfills in the area that have not been capped before the remedial investigations were completed.