



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
SOUTHWEST DIVISION  
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND  
1220 PACIFIC HIGHWAY  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92132-5190

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Ser 06CC.DG/191  
February 20, 2000 2001

Ms. Triss Chesney  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, CA 90630-4700

Dear Ms. Chesney:

The Navy will be conducting tests on wells equipped with low-flow pumps this week to evaluate if the samples collected using the existing procedures are representative of the actual groundwater conditions at MCAS El Toro. The tests are in response to concerns expressed by the U.S. EPA during the February 14, 2001 conference call regarding the screened interval length and its affect on samples collected using the low-flow purge method. The following tests are planned for wells located within Site 24:

- Collect passive samples once the existing water in the bladder is removed from the well to determine contaminant levels for stagnant water;
- Use a higher pump rate (e.g., 500 ml/min) to determine the affect of the removal rate on the parameters and contamination level;
- Run the low-flow pump for a longer time period than required (e.g., 90 minutes) and collect samples at equal intervals; and/or
- Conduct purge and sampling as prescribed, remove the low-flow pump, then install a non-dedicated pump and conduct purge/sample according to the three well casing method.

Samples will be collected from wells using the low-flow purge method prior to conducting these tests for comparative purposes. The selection of the wells will be based on wells that have routinely had elevated concentrations over time (e.g., 09\_DGMW75). Changes in stabilization parameters (e.g., temperature, dissolved oxygen) and the sampling results for the tests will be evaluated in comparison to the low-flow purge method parameters and sampling results from the selected wells. Preliminary results from the tests will be presented at the March 2001 BCT meeting at MCAS El Toro. A technical memorandum providing all the results and conclusions will subsequently be submitted.

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In order to minimize schedule delay impact on the Round 13 sampling effort, the Navy has also begun sampling at the Westbay and conventional wells, as there were no outstanding questions with the BCT regarding the sampling of these wells. The sampling of the Westbay wells has not been conducted since August 1999, due to a change in contractors and malfunctioning Westbay equipment. Therefore, the data collected will be helpful in the ongoing evaluation of the offsite plume. Should you have any questions or comments on the groundwater-monitoring program, please feel free to contact Mr. Marc Smits at (619) 532-0793.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean Gould". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "G".

DEAN GOULD  
Base Realignment and Closure  
Environmental Coordinator  
By direction of the Commander

Copy to:

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Logistics Systems Analyst  
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