

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

6 January 2006

Mr. Darren Newton
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
Base Realignment and Closure
7040 Trabuco Road
Irvine, California 92618

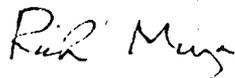
Subject: Draft Proposed Plan, Operable Unit (OU) 2B, Installation Restoration Program
(IRP) Site 2 Ground Water,
Former Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, California

Mr. Newton:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed its review of the subject draft document. EPA has submitted additional comments on the Draft Final Feasibility Study Addendum, requesting inclusion of additional information in order to fully evaluate the various remedial action alternatives developed for IRP Site 2 ground water. EPA withholds concurrence with the preferred remedy presented in this Draft Proposed Plan and does not want the Proposed Plan to be finalized until resolution of our comments on the Draft Final Feasibility Study Addendum has occurred. We are providing the attached comments for clarifying and improving the quality of the Proposed Plan.

If you should have any questions/concerns, please contact me at 415-972-3349.

Sincerely,



Rich Muza, RPM
Superfund Division

received
1/18/06

cc. Gordon Brown, NFECSW SDIEGO
Content Arnold, NFECSW SDIEGO
Frank Cheng, DTSC
John Broderick, RWQCB
Bob Woodings, RAB
Marcia Rudolph, RAB

**COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT PROPOSED PLAN, OU-2B, IRP SITE 2
GROUND WATER**

1. GENERAL – While the document is well-prepared, a general edit prior to being released to the public is recommended.
2. Summary of Site 2 Groundwater Remedial Alternatives, Page 9 – Alternative 3e – Biogeochemical Reductive Dechlorination – is not described here. It is recommended that this omission be corrected in a revised Proposed Plan.
3. Table 3: Comparative Analysis of Alternatives - Site 2 – The “relative performance” ratings for the cost criteria do not correspond to the ratings provided in the Draft Final Feasibility Study Addendum (December 2005) for alternatives 2, 3c, 5, and 6. It is recommended that this discrepancy be resolved.