

Approved AND 002B



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MCAS EL TORO
SSIC NO. 5090.3.A

October 7, 1996



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

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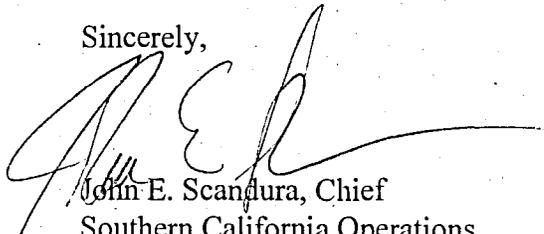
**Draft Final Phase II Remedial Investigation Report Approval:
Communication Station Landfill, Site 17, Operable Unit 2B, Marine Corps
Air Station (MCAS) El Toro**

Dear Mr. Joyce:

The California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) has completed the review of the above subject document dated September 6, 1996, prepared by Bechtel National, Incorporated. The report presents the results of Remedial Investigation conducted at Site 17, the Communication Station Landfill. Site 17 is one of two sites in Operable Unit 2B for the MCAS El Toro.

Cal/EPA is satisfied that comments emanating from our May 16, 1996 letter on the draft report has been adequately addressed in the draft final report. As such, we hereby approve the report provided you address the enclosed comment. If you have any questions, please call Mr. Tayseer Mahmoud at (310) 590-4891.

Sincerely,


John E. Scandura, Chief
Southern California Operations
Office of Military Facilities

Enclosure

cc: See Next Page

Mr. Joseph Joyce
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Page 2

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DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL
Comments on
Draft Final Phase II Remedial Investigation Report For Site 17, OU-2B
Marine Corps Air Station El Toro
Dated September 6, 1996

1. Section 5.3.3.3, Inorganics, page 5-32

This section has been added to include a discussion regarding the dissolution and precipitation of metals as a result of change in groundwater environment (i.e., aerobic vs. Anaerobic zones). The report used the difference in the iron to manganese ratios from three groundwater monitoring wells samples to support a theory that an anaerobic (reducing) condition may exist under the landfill and an aerobic (oxidizing) condition may exist down gradient from the landfill. However, the report did not discuss how nickel reacts as it passes from an anaerobic to an aerobic condition. Is there an Eh-pH diagram that shows why nickel would not precipitate out in an aerobic environment? Is there a possibility that other target metals may not precipitate out? There is a need to show that nickel supports the conceptual model, since only one round of groundwater sampling was used to make the aerobic/anaerobic assumption.