



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE  
PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE WEST  
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MCAS EL TORO  
SSIC NO. 5090.3.A

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January 20, 2016

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Fellow Base Realignment and Closure Cleanup Team (BCT) Members:

SUBJECT: DRAFT TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM, GROUNDWATER FLOW AND  
CONTAMINANT FATE AND TRANSPORT MODELING UPDATE,  
INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM SITES 18 AND 24, FORMER  
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION EL TORO, IRVINE, CALIFORNIA

The U.S. Department of the Navy (Navy) is forwarding for your review and comment a copy of the subject technical memorandum (Enclosure 1), which documents the updates made to the groundwater flow and contaminant fate and transport models for the trichloroethene (TCE) plumes at Installation Restoration Program Sites 18 (Principal Aquifer) and 24 (Shallow Groundwater Unit) at Former Marine Corps Air Station El Toro. Upgrades to the previous (2003 and 2009) versions of the models were made by modifying boundary conditions and hydraulic parameters to improve the system's representation. Please refer to the table provided in the Executive Summary for specifics on each of the upgrades.

Calibration of the models using available hydraulic and TCE concentration data over the period of February 2006 through March 2014 was successful. Simulations indicate that under

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existing extraction conditions, cleanup of TCE-impacted groundwater above the remediation goal of 5 micrograms per liter will occur around 2058. They also predict that TCE may no longer exceed the remediation goal along the western boundary of Former Marine Corps Air Station El Toro by approximately 2037, a timeframe much sooner than predicted by previous versions of the models (sometime after 2048).

Please provide your concurrence or comments, if any, by February 22, 2016. Thank you for your continued support with this program. If you have any questions about the information in this report, please contact me or Mr. Guy Chammas, Navy Project Manager, at (619) 524-4048 or (619) 524-5270, respectively.

Sincerely,



JAMES B. SULLIVAN  
BRAC Environmental Coordinator  
By direction of the Director

Enclosure: 1. Draft Technical Memorandum, Groundwater Flow and Contaminant Fate and Transport Modeling Update, Installation Restoration Program Sites 18 and 24, Former Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, Irvine, California, January 2016

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