



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

N60028_001222
TREASURE ISLAND
SSIC NO. 5090.3.A

5090
Ser 06CA.LL\1023
September 30, 2004

From: Commander, Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
To: Distribution

Subj: AMBIENT SOIL DIOXIN LEVEL AT FORMER NAVAL STATION TREASURE ISLAND, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Ref: (a) Exposure and Human Health Reassessment of 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-*p*-Dioxin (TCDD) and Related Compounds, EPA/600/P-00/001Bb, Draft Final, September 2000
(b) Remedial Action Plan, Tourtelot Cleanup Project, Benicia, California, Earth Tech, Draft, September 2001

1. As the environmental program has moved forward, several Installation Restoration (RI) sites at former Naval Station (NAVSTA) Treasure Island have detectable levels of dioxin in the soil. Dioxins are a by-product associated with combustion processes such as the incineration of refuse, burning fuels, metal smelting, chemical manufacturing, bleaching wood pulp and paper products, production of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastics, and forest fires. Due to these activities, dioxins are widely distributed in the environment.
2. In 2000, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published the results of a nationwide study of ambient dioxin levels in soil. Ambient dioxin levels in soil for urban areas, in terms of 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-*p*-Dioxin (TCDD) toxicity equivalents (dioxin TEQ), range from 7 parts per trillion (ppt) to 20 ppt (Reference (a)). In 2001, the Tourtelot Cleanup Project, located in Benicia, California, used a dioxin ambient cleanup level for soil of 12 ppt (Reference (b)). This level was based on the estimated mean value of the EPA's range of soil dioxin TEQ in urban areas.
3. To assist in the investigation and cleanup of dioxin impacted soil at NAVSTA Treasure Island; the Department of the Navy (Navy) is proposing to set an ambient level of dioxin TEQ in soils at 12 ppt. This ambient level is based on the EPA's 2000 study, the geographic location of NAVSTA Treasure Island within the San Francisco Bay (Bay) urban area, as well as its location adjacent to the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and close proximity to the ocean, and the precedence set in the Bay area for the ambient dioxin TEQ level used at the Tourtelot Cleanup Project in Benicia, California.
4. Please send me comments or concurrence by October 15, 2004. If you have any questions, please contact me at (619) 532-0970.

Sincerely,

LA RAE LANDERS
Lead Remedial Project Manager
By direction

5090
Ser 06CA.LL\1023
September 30, 2004

Copy to:
Mr. David Rist
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Office of Military Facilities
700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200
Berkeley, CA 94710-2737

Mr. Allen Friedman
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Francisco Bay Region
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94612

Ms. Patti Collins
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street, (SFD-8-1)
San Francisco, CA 94105

Mr. Jack Sylvan
Treasure Island Development Authority
410 Palm Avenue
Treasure Island, Building 1, Room 237
San Francisco, CA 94130

Mr. Gary Foote
Geomatrix
2101 Webster Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Mr. Phil Burke
CH2M HILL
155 Grand Avenue, Suite 1000
Oakland, CA 94612

Ms. Marcie Rash (1 CD)
Tetra Tech EM Inc.
135 Main Street, Suite 1800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Mr. John Baur
Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure
4005 Port Chicago Highway
Concord, CA 94520

5090
Ser 06CA.LL\1023
September 30, 2004

Blind copy to:
06CA
06CA.JS
06CA.SA
06CA.JW
05GIH.DS (3 copies)
Read File
Serial File

Writer: L. Landers, Code 06CA.LL, 2-0970

Typist: B. Foster, Code 06BU.BF, 2-0914, MD:\DIOXIN AMBIENT LEVEL\1 OCT 04

ML
06CA.L
BA
06BU.BF