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**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
REGION 2  
290 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

JUN 26 2002

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. Christopher T. Penny  
Project Coordinator  
Installation Restoration Section (South)  
Environmental Program Branch  
Environmental Division,  
Atlantic Division (LANTDIV), Code 182  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
1510 Gilbert Street  
Norfolk, VA 23511-2699

Re: Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Facility (AFWTF) - EPA I.D.# PRD980536221  
Public Review & Comment on Documents developed under the RCRA 3008(h)  
Order on Consent

Dear Mr. Penny:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 2 has completed its review of the Community Relations Work Plan (CRWP), including the Community Fact Sheet (Appendix C of the CRWP). These documents were transmitted by your undated letter to Mr. Raymond Basso of EPA, received on April 2, 2002, in response to EPA's letter of February 20, 2002 on the draft CRWP. The CRWP was submitted pursuant to the January 2000 RCRA 3008(h) Administrative Order on Consent (the Order). The Order addresses corrective action at non-range areas of the AFWTF facility (which pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 260.10 also includes the Eastern Maneuver Area and Camp Garcia). This letter is addressed to you as the Navy's designated Project Coordinator, pursuant to Section IX of the Order.

The CRWP and the Community Fact Sheet (Appendix C of the CRWP) are acceptable, subject to the results of public notice and comment on the CRWP, if the following modifications are made:

- a) In the Community Fact Sheet, the box on page 2 titled "Twelve Sites Will Be Investigated under the Consent Order," the first paragraph must be changed to read: *"Nine SWMUs and three suspected AOCs are required to be investigated under the Consent Order. These SWMUs and AOCs were identified in the RCRA Facility Assessments of the AFWTF and EMA that were prepared for EPA in 1988 and 1995. Actions at an additional three SWMUs (#3, #9, and #11) are deferred since these three SWMUs are part of active*

*military ranges. The twelve sites cover a total of approximately 80 acres. All are located on Navy owned lands, mostly at or near Camp Garcia."*

- b) In the Community Fact Sheet, the box on page 4 titled "Where Can I get More Information," please add a statement in the Section on Public Repositories: *"Files also available at Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board. See point-of-contact information below."*
- c) For the CRWP Mailing List (Appendix B of the CRWP), please add all additional names, for which address are publically available, as requested by EPA's (Mr. Tim Gordon's and Daniel Rodriguez's) E-mails of May 15 and 16, 2002 to Ms. Virginia Farris of your consultant CH2MHILL.

Please make the above modifications to the Community Fact Sheet and the CRWP Mailing List within 14 days of your receipt of this letter, and mail three copies of the revised Community Fact Sheet to my office. Unless advised otherwise in writing by myself, or Mr. Tim Gordon, of my staff, within 21 days of your receipt of this letter, please then mail the revised Community Fact Sheet to all parties currently listed in the CRWP Mailing List. Within 7 days of the mailing of the Community Fact Sheet, please advise me in writing that the Community Fact Sheet has been mailed.

In addition, enclosed is an insert discussing the pending public review period and public availability meeting. EPA requests that this enclosed insert be included with the revised Community Fact Sheet when it is mailed to all parties listed in the CRWP Mailing List.

Also, enclosed for your information (but not to be mailed with the Community Fact Sheet) is a draft version of the Public Notice (PN), which EPA is planning to publish, in Spanish and English, in early August, 2002. The PN is expected to announce that a Public Availability Meeting will be held on Saturday August 17, 2002 [you had recommended to EPA to hold the meeting on a Saturday, based on requests you have received from public individuals/groups]. In order to meet the schedule necessary to hold that meeting by August 17<sup>th</sup>, as previously discussed with Mr. Tim Gordon, of my staff, please submit to Mr. Gordon, by July 26, 2002, draft copies of all text and figures for the proposed posters to be utilized at the Public Availability Meeting.

As discussed previously in EPA's [Mr. Raymond Basso's] letter of February 20, 2002 to you, the documents previously submitted to EPA on September 5, 2001 by CH2MHILL, on behalf of the Navy, are conditionally approved, subject to the results of public notice and public comment on those documents.

Therefore, all documents to be included with the pending public review are now conditionally approved. These include:

- 1) The CRWP revised to reflect the above discussed modifications to the Community Fact Sheet (Appendix C) and Mailing List (Appendix B);
- 2) September 5, 2001 RFI Master Work plan and RFI Site Specific Work Plan;
- 3) September 5, 2001 Work Plan for [Supplemental] Groundwater Baseline Investigation;
- 4) September 5, 2001 Work Plan for Soil and Groundwater Background Investigation; and
- 5) February 19, 2001 Description of Current Conditions Report.

Please insure that by August 1, 2002 a copy of all of the above documents are available at the two public repositories listed in the box on page 4 the Community Fact Sheet, titled "Where Can I get More Information." In addition, please insure that as a background document, a copy of the November 4, 1999 report "Results of the Hydrogeologic Investigation of Vieques Island Puerto Rico," prepared by Baker Environmental Inc, and submitted to EPA to partially satisfy requirements of Section VI.F of the AOC, is also available at the two public repositories. By August 2, 2002, please confirm in writing that all the above documents have been placed in the two public repositories.

Please telephone Mr. Tim Gordon at (212) 637- 4167 if you have questions regarding any of the above.

Sincerely,



Nicoletta DiForte, Acting Chief  
RCRA Programs Branch

Enclosures

cc: Captain John R. Warnecke, Naval Station Roosevelt Roads w/encls.  
Mr. Eugene Scott, PREQB w/encls.  
Mr. Carmelo Vasquez, PREQB w/encls.  
Ms. Madeline Rivera, NAVSTA Roosevelt Roads w/encls.  
Mr. John Tomik, CH2M Hill w/encls.



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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Navy entered into an Administrative Order on Consent (the Order) in January 2000. The Order requires investigation, and if necessary cleanup, of twelve non-range areas at the Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Facility and the Eastern Maneuver Area, located on the eastern end of Vieques island, Puerto Rico. In addition, the Order requires sampling of the ground water along the western perimeter of the Navy owned lands, to determine if any contamination is present there, and if so, whether it could impact areas in the central portion of Vieques island.

Sometime in August, EPA is planning to publish a notice announcing a thirty (30) calendar day public comment period on the work plans for the twelve areas required to be investigated under the Order, as well as those for completing the ground water investigations along the western perimeter of the Navy owned lands. EPA is also planning to hold a public availability meeting to answer questions regarding those work plans. The Agency will announce the time, date, and location for the public availability meeting in the upcoming public notice.