



8/17/05 - 02441

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION  
CENTRO EUROPA BUILDING, SUITE 417  
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SAN JUAN, PR 00907-4127

August 17, 2005

Mr. Jeffrey Harlow  
Western Vieques Remedial Project Manager  
Commander Atlantic Division  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
6506 Hampton Boulevard  
Norfolk, VA 23508-1278

Re: Review of the Draft RI Report for AOC I and the Draft Supplemental Remedial Investigation Work Plan for AOC I at the Former US Naval Ammunition Support Detachment (NASD) Vieques Island, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Harlow:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (EQB) have completed the review of the Draft Supplemental Remedial Investigation Work Plan for Area of Concern (AOC) I, submitted as Appendix G of the Remedial Investigation (RI) Report for Area of Concern (AOC) I, Former Asphalt Plant, in January 2005. The RI report concludes that additional groundwater data is needed in order to assess the special representation of the extent of groundwater contamination.

EPA approves the Draft Supplemental RI Work Plan for AOC I after all agreed modifications documented in CH2M Hill Preliminary – Response to Preliminary Comments on Draft Supplemental RI Work Plan for AOC I, dated March 1, 2005; Final Meeting Minutes – Vieques Technical Subcommittee Meeting, March 7-8, 2005, dated March 21, 2005; and Final Meeting Minutes – Vieques Technical Subcommittee Meeting, March 29-30, 2005, dated June 21, 2005, are incorporated into the supplemental work plan for AOC I. Please submit a revised work plan before proceeding with the field activities at AOC I.

Further review and approval of the Draft RI Report for AOC I will be deferred until the proposed additional supplemental investigation for AOC is completed and a revised RI report is submitted for our review and approval. Also, discussion is still pending on the development of a methodology for the analysis and evaluation of TPH data and its applicability to AOC I.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (787) 741-5201.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Rodriguez', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel Rodriguez  
Remedial Project Manager  
Enforcement and Superfund Branch

cc: Yarissa Martinez, EQB  
Felix Lopez, FWS  
Oscar Diaz, FWS  
Brett Doerr, CH2M Hill