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STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

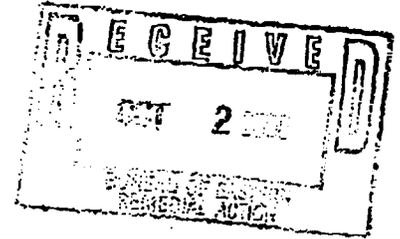
Flanigan Square, 547 River Street, Troy, New York 12180-2216

Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H.
Commissioner

Dennis P. Whalen
Executive Deputy Commissioner

September 27, 2000

Steve Scharf, P.E.
NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
50 Wolf Road, Room 240
Albany, NY 12233



RE: Grumman and Navy Sites
(Sites #130003a/b)
Bethpage, Nassau County

Dear Mr. Scharf:

I have reviewed the final draft version of the Regional Groundwater Feasibility Study (FS). While I may not agree with all of ARCADIS Geraghty & Miller's characterizations of the relative level of protection offered by the different alternatives, the document is suitable for publication and should be presented to the public.

I appreciate the inclusion in Appendix B, with references in the text, of the Time vs. Concentration plots for the Bethpage Water District supply wells relative to the different alternatives. These graphics enable readers to more easily understand the differences in contaminant concentrations and time to achieve maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) that may be obtained by the different alternatives. They illustrate the fact that if the "time to achieve SCGs" comparison is done on a local (per well) basis as opposed to a site-wide basis, the result is different: MCLs may be achieved in some locations after 30 years under some alternatives.

While there are presently no exposures to VOCs via drinking water, the risk of exposure remains in the event that current engineering controls fail. By decreasing the mass of VOCs passing through some of the Bethpage supply wells and the timeframe to achieve MCLs, Alternatives 3, 5, 7, and 8 would decrease the potential impacts in the event that the various treatment and control systems fail. For this reason, these alternatives provide better management of exposure pathways and therefore, I believe, offer the incremental benefit of added protection. (Note that this concept is consistent with the logic expressed in the second sentence of Section 5.3 which correlates potential risk with the concentration of contaminants in the groundwater.)

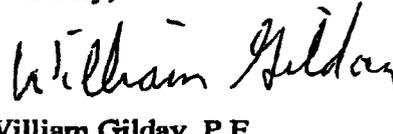
At several locations the final draft states that, although specific wells may attain MCLs under the various remedial alternatives, the off-site containment wells do not generally expedite the timeframe to attain full restoration of groundwater quality. I believe the latter part of this

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statement is neither sensible nor borne out by a perusal of the modeling results. Removal of significant amounts of contaminant mass from the aquifer will enhance the natural attenuation process.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the revised document. I hope to provide comments on the Draft Hydraulic and Groundwater Quality Monitoring Plan-(Appendix H) at a later date. If you have any questions about this correspondence, please contact me at 518-402-7880.

Sincerely,



William Gilday, P.E.
Senior Sanitary Engineer
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation

cc: Dr. G.A. Carlson
Mr. S. Bates
Mr. S. Ervolina (NYSDEC)
Mr. W. Parish (NYSDEC Reg.1)
Mr. C. Hodgman (NCDOH)