



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTER
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND 02841-5

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NAVSTA NEWPORT RI
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IN REPLY REFER TO:
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Ser 913/40E

21 SEP 1992

State of Rhode Island
Department of Environmental Management
Mr. James Fester, Asst. Director for Regulation
291 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

Dear Mr. Fester:

As discussed with you and CAPT Bill Rigby of my staff at your meeting on 28 August 1992, we are concerned about environmental problems at the Navy-owned property leased to the Rhode Island Port Authority resulting from shipyard operations of R. E. Derecktor of Rhode Island, Inc. (Derecktor). Our concerns are evidenced by the enclosed photographs which were taken recently at the site.

Additionally, we are concerned about the large quantities of sand blast debris accumulated on the Narragansett Bay seafloor around the Derecktor dry docks located in Coddington Cove. Recent surveys of the area adjacent to Pier I revealed the presence of significant amounts of sand blast grit containing elevated levels of Copper, Lead and Zinc in the marine sediment. This contamination is likely a result of the sandblasting operations of the shipyard and represents a potential threat to marine life.

We are concerned that the above problems be addressed prior to the introduction of new activity at the site. The Navy is in the process of conducting an environmental assessment of the site to better determine the extent of environmental contamination and required remediation.

If you have any questions, our point of contact on this matter is Rachel Marino at 841-3735.

Sincerely,

N. J. PATTAROZZI
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commander

Cy to: (w/o encl)
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NORTHNAVFACENCOM

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