



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

ENGINEERING FIELD ACTIVITY, NORTHEAST
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND
10 INDUSTRIAL HIGHWAY
MAIL STOP, #82
LESTER, PA 19113-2090

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NAVSTA NEWPORT RI
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IN REPLY REFER TO

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EV2
December 17, 2002

Mr. Dennis Gagne
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region I
1 Congress Street, Suite 1100 (HBT)
Boston, MA 02114-2023

Mr. Terrence Gray
Department of Environmental Management
Division of Site Remediation
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908-5767

Dear Mr. Gagne and Mr. Gray:

SUBJECT: TANK FARMS, NAVAL STATION NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

Thank you for your letters (EPA letter of November 6, 2002, and RIDEM letter of October 8, 2002) in response to our letter of July 17, 2002 and our subsequent meeting at RIDEM offices in Providence, RI on September 19, 2002.

The Navy greatly appreciates your personal attention, your staffs' cooperation and your professional agency willingness to allow cleanup of the Newport Tank Farms to proceed under a State lead scenario using the Rhode Island Remediation Regulations. Based on your responses, we recognize that in order to proceed in this direction several actions must occur. The EPA has requested that the existing FFA be amended to include terms found in the agreement for the West Kingston Superfund Site. We request a copy of that agreement with those terms highlighted for our review and action. RIDEM has requested funding to cover their oversight of the project and the Navy is prepared to meet those requirements in support of our project. The Navy funds RIDEM's oversight costs through the DSMOA process, and RIDEM should include this project in their request at the appropriate time.

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The Navy also recognizes that even under a State lead scenario, these tank farm sites must be closed out under CERCLA, and therefore the risk assessment must indicate that site risks are acceptable. We also understand from EPA's July 29, 2002 letter, that there are areas within the Tank Farm, (but apart from the areas around the tanks themselves), that EPA would like the Navy to investigate in order to determine if any actions are required under CERCLA prior to issuing a No Action ROD. The Navy is willing to do so. In fact a file search to help identify those areas where additional investigations may be appropriate has already taken place, and a meeting to discuss the findings will be scheduled soon.

We look forward to working collaboratively with EPA and RIDEM to reach our common goal of completing cleanup at these Tank Farms in an expeditious fashion. If you have any questions, please contact me at 610-595-0567 extension 143.

Sincerely,



AL HARING, P.E.

Director, Environmental
Restoration Division

Copy to:
CO, NAVSTA Newport, RI