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LETTER FROM U S EPA REGION I REGARDING ADDITION OF NEW STUDY AREA TO
FEDERAL FACILITIES AGREEMENT FOR NAVAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTER
SUPERFUND SITE NS NEWPORT RI
3/2/2012
U S EPA REGION I

File: 2422-3.1
C: wayne ✓



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION I

5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

March 2, 2012

Mr. Timothy A. Reisch
NAVFAC MIDLANT (Code OPNEEV)
Environmental Restoration
Building Z-144, Room 109
9742 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23511-3095

Re: Addition of New Study Areas to the Federal Facilities Agreement for the Naval Education and Training Center Superfund Site

Dear Mr. Reisch:

Thank you for your letter dated January 30, 2012 where you describe the Navy's activities at sites containing asbestos material at the Naval Education and Training Center Superfund Site in Newport, RI. Your letter responds to my letter to Ms. Winoma Johnson of your staff on October 26, 2011. While EPA appreciates the Navy's efforts thus far to remediate contamination, your letter does not directly respond to EPA's request. Specifically, EPA asked the Navy to list sites potentially containing asbestos that may be a threat, or potential threat, to human health or the environment under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and a schedule for the development of a Study Area Screening Evaluation as required by Section 31.5 of the Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA). EPA continues to believe that environmental media (*e.g.*, soil or sediment) contaminated with asbestos should be regulated under CERCLA.

Based on your letter dated January 30, 2012, it appears that the Navy has determined that sufficient information exists to conclude that the site should be evaluated as outlined in the FFA. Therefore, pursuant to Section 31.6 of the FFA, the Navy shall, within 90 days of the date of this letter, submit a timetable for the completion Study Area Screening Evaluation (SASE) Work Plans for the asbestos contaminated sites identified to date. The SASE Work Plan shall include a schedule for the submittal of a SASE Report. Alternatively, the Navy may determine that sufficient risk information exists to proceed to the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study phase. Pursuant to Section 14.11 of the FFA, this option requires submittal of proposed deadlines for all applicable documents listed in Section 14.1 and target dates for documents listed in Section 14.2 within 21 days of the date of this letter.

I look forward to working with you and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management toward the cleanup of asbestos on the base. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 918-1385 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kymerlee Keckler, Remedial Project Manager
Federal Facilities Superfund Section

cc: Pamela Crump, RIDEM, Providence, RI
Winoma Johnson, USN, Norfolk, VA
Darlene Ward, NETC, Newport, RI
David Peterson, USEPA, Boston, MA
Bryan Olson, USEPA, Boston, MA