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February 7, 1995

Halliburton NUS Project Number 9594

Mr. Mark Evans
Northern Division (Code 1823)
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Mail Stop 82
10 Industrial Highway
Lester, Pennsylvania 19113-2090

Reference: CLEAN Contract No. N62472-90-D-1298
Contract Task Order No. 129

Subject: January 30, 1995 Ecological Meeting Minutes

Dear Mr. Evans:

Enclosed are three (3) copies of the January 30, 1995 Ecological Meeting Minutes for your distribution. Four (4) copies have also been sent to Kymberlee Keckler at EPA for her distribution.

If you have questions, I can be reached at (412) 921-8418.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Matthew G. Cochran".

Matthew G. Cochran, P.G.
Project Manager

MGC/sic

Enclosures

c: Mr. Mark Lewis, CTDEP (1 copy)
Ms. Katherine Fogarty, Menzie-Cura (1 copy)
Ms. Kathy Trapp, Halliburton NUS/Aiken (1 copy)
Mr. Corey Rich, Halliburton NUS/Pittsburgh (1 copy)
CTO 129 File

**ECOLOGICAL MEETING MINUTES
NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE NEW LONDON
EPA REGION 1, BOSTON, MA
JANUARY 30, 1995
10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM**

ATTENDEES	AFFILIATION	PHONE #
Kymberlee Keckler	EPA	617-573-5777
Matt Cochran	HNUS	412-921-8418
Dave McDonald	Lockheed / ESAT	617-860-4609
Kathy Trapp	HNUS	803-649-7963
Corey Rich	HNUS	412-921-8244
Diana McPherson	Navy	610 595-0567 EXT 174
Katherine Fogarty	Menzie-Cura	508-453-4300
Charlie Menzie	Menzie-Cura	508-453-4300
Mark Evans	Navy	610-595-0567 EXT 162
Ken Finkelstein	NOAA	617-223-5537
Patti Lynne Tyler	EPA / ESD	617-860-4342

OVERVIEW OF DISCUSSIONS

I. Thames River Ecological Risk Assessment

1. Phase II Draft Remedial Investigation

* General Ecological Risk Format

The format of the ecological risk assessment to be included in the Phase II RI was discussed. The ecological risk assessment will be included as a separate chapter of the Phase II RI report.

* Water Quality, Sediment Quality, And Benthic Community Discussion

Menzie Cura provided an overview of the findings of the Phase II RI sampling effort. Noticeable detections of contamination have been observed in the Thames River concentrated in areas adjacent to the Goss Cove and DRMO. Other less significant pockets of contamination are also present.

2. EPA Request For Whole Sediment Toxicity Testing

* Scope Of Work

EPA has reviewed the Thames River data collected during the Phase II RI field investigation and has initially scoped work for sediment toxicity testing, as identified in the EPA letter to the Navy dated December 22, 1994 (EPA letter). Initially, it was discussed that sampling be conducted after the Phase II RI is submitted which is scheduled for delivery to EPA in March 1995 and will be finalized in October of 1995. However, it was determined that the sampling would be optimized if conducted during the spring, preferably April 1995 or earlier if possible. A Phase II RI addendum could be generated detailing the results of the additional effort.

Six sediment samples will be collected plus a lab control sample for the toxicity testing. Tentatively, it has been recommended in the EPA letter to use amphipods for the testing however, further research will be conducted to see if other species would be more appropriate.

The sediment samples will be located adjacent to specific sources and/or previous sample locations along the Thames River, and will include a downstream and upstream sample location. At a minimum, samples will be collected at the source areas identified in the EPA letter (i.e. Pier 33, DRMO, Goss Cove, Berth 16). The downstream sample will be shifted slightly upstream in relation to the previous Phase II RI downstream sample location. The upstream sample will be in the same location as the previous Phase II RI upstream sample location.

It is not known if a site visit would be required to identify specific sediment sample locations. A review of the bathymetric data (when received) will be conducted first, and if locations cannot be determined based on this data; then a site meeting may be necessary.

EPA had also requested that the sediment samples be analyzed for Acid Volatile Sulfide (AVS) and Simultaneously Extracted Metals (SEM); in addition to toxicity testing.

It was decided to generate a letter work plan for review to identify the additional Thames River sampling activities. A week turnaround time will be given for EPA review. This plan may be attached to the

upcoming work plan addendum for the Downstream / OBDA sampling.

Procurement and scheduling of capable laboratories to perform the necessary analyses was discussed. Further investigation of potential laboratories is being conducted.

3. Discussion and Interpretation of Clam and Mussel Data

Menzie Cura had indicated that analytical results of Thames River shellfish data obtained from the State of Connecticut were within the same range as analytical results of other shellfish data used for comparison in the ecological risk assessment. It was decided to revisit the clam and mussel data results after the additional Thames River sediment sampling is conducted and evaluated.

4. Additional Data / Studies to Address Risks to Human Health

EPA indicated that the evaluation of child exposures to the Thames River would be expected in the Phase II RI risk assessment, if access to the Thames River for children is possible.

II. Area A Downstream / OBDA ecological study

A tag map will be prepared detailing locations and detections of previous sampling efforts in the Area A Downstream / OBDA. The map will be prepared for the February meeting which is discussed further in the sediment triad approach section (see item 3).

1. Results of Sampling of Pond Near Building 166 (Upper Rock Lake)

The analytical results from the Upper Rock Lake sampling effort was reviewed. It was decided to eliminate the lake from further consideration as a reference area for the Area A Downstream / OBDA ecological study.

2. FETAX labs

Potential FETAX labs were discussed. Further investigation of laboratories capable of performing this type of work is being conducted.

3. Data Evaluation Procedures

* Sediment Triad Approach

A meeting will be conducted to discuss the sediment triad approach. The meeting will be conducted in February. It is not known if the meeting will be conducted via teleconference or face-to-face. If the meeting is conducted at the Subase, then it is likely that potential reference areas will be investigated during this visit.

III. Area A Landfill / Wetland Interface sampling results

1 & 2 Nonvalidated Results and Impacts on Landfill Cap Design

The preliminary results of the Area A Landfill / Wetland Interface sampling were reviewed. The consensus was that the PCB results do not appear to be of levels of concern to affect the landfill cap design effort.

ACTION ITEMS

Matt will hold solicitations for sediment toxicity analyses until receiving additional information on potential laboratories capable of performing this work from EPA.

Mark will obtain bathymetric data from Dick Conant at the Subase.

Mark will have Dick Conant perform a site reconnaissance of the Niantic pond, and the pond at the Arboretum. This information will be used to evaluate these ponds as reference areas.

HNUS, Menzie Cura, and EPA will look into other species besides amphipods as possible alternate species for sediment toxicity testing.

Patty will set an agenda for the sediment triad approach meeting to be held in February.

Matt will prepare a tag map detailing past sampling results in the Area A Downstream / OBDA.

Patty will forward a list of potential laboratories to perform analyses for ecological efforts.