

FOSTER WHEELER ENVIRONMENTAL CORPORATION
U.S. NAVY ENGINEERING FIELD ACTIVITY NORTHEAST
REMEDIAL ACTION CONTRACT (RAC)
CONTRACT NO. N62472-99-D-0032
NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE - NEW LONDON - GROTON, CT

ANNOTATED RESPONSES TO USEPA REVIEW COMMENTS

The following are responses to USEPA review comments on the Draft Long Term Wetland Monitoring Plan Area A Downstream/OBDA, dated May 2001, for the Naval Submarine Base New London. USEPA's comments are provided in italic type followed by Foster Wheeler's responses in bold type.

Reviewer: K. Keckler - USEPA

June 14, 2001

General Comment: Some plant common names are followed by scientific names while others are not. Please be consistent.

Response: The document has been changed. All plant common names are followed by their scientific names.

Comment 1: p. 1, §1.0 Fifth paragraph, first sentence reads "All reseeded areas were allowed to equilibrate or "settle" for one growing season." One growing season has not elapsed between the date of seeding and the date of the monitoring plan.

Portions of the sixth paragraph read as if woody plants have not been placed as of the date of the monitoring plan. Please change to reflect that woody plants have been placed.

Response: Text has been changed in both cases.

Comment 2: p. 2, §2.0 Second paragraph discusses a wetland and "areas" that did not exhibit contamination. The last sentence then reads "These wetlands are not discussed further in this Wetland Restoration Plan." Please clarify whether the "areas" are wetlands.

Response: The "areas" are wetlands and the text has been changed for clarification.

Comment 3: p. 3, §2.1 Last sentence reads that "Woody material surrounding Upper Pond includes red maple, gray birch, black birch, sweet pepperbush, highbush blueberry (Vaccinium corybosum) and maple-leaved viburnum (Viburnum acerfolium)." Please indicate that this is the planted woody material.

Response: Text has been changed.

Comment 4: p. 4, §2.3 First full sentence reads "Red maple, black gum, sweet pepperbush, spicebush, and highbush blueberry." Please complete.

Response: Sentence has been completed to indicate that these plant species were planted after restoration.

Comment 5: p. 5, §2.7 Second to last sentence reads “Post remediation conditions approximately these pre-remedial conditions.” This should read “Post remediation conditions approximate pre-remedial conditions.”

Response: Text has been changed.

Comment 6: §4.4 - It is unclear how Sections 4.4.1 and 4.4.3 fit within Section 4.4. I recommend making Sections 4.4.1 and 4.4.3 individual sections (i.e., 4.5 and 4.6).

Response: Document has been reformatted as recommended.

Comment 7: Appendix D - It is unclear if the “Y” symbol in Table D-1 is intended to indicate that proposed functions and values have been attained or that they are intended to be attained. Consider revising to indicate pre-remediation status and post-remediation attainment status.

Response: Table D-1 is intended to show which of the functions and values assessed by Niering and Brawley prior to remediation are planned to be restored after remediation. This table also demonstrates the planned increase in the number of functions and values from pre-remediation to post-remediation conditions. However, a functions and values assessment will not be conducted until the end of the third growing season, in accordance with the Long Term Monitoring Plan. At that time, the actual functions and values attained in each wetland will be determined and reported.