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MCRD PARRIS ISLAND
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LETTER REGARDING U S EPA REGION IV RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF
UNAUTHORIZED SOIL DISTURBANCE ACTIVITIES AT SITE 3 CAUSEWAY LANDFILL
MCRD PARRIS ISLAND SC
8/15/2005
U S EPA REGION IV



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4

**Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960**

August 15, 2005

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

4WD-FFB

Colonel J. R. Wingard, USMC
Marine Corps Recruit Depot
NREAO
PO BOX 5028
Parris Island, SC 29905-0028

Subject: Site/SWMU 3 Causeway Landfill Incidences of Unauthorized Activities

Dear Colonel Wingard,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) received two letters from the U.S. Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) dated July 8 and July 18, 2005, notifying the EPA of unauthorized soil disturbance activities at the Site/SWMU 3 Causeway Landfill, and communicating your intent to improve upon internal procedures, respectively. This is written in response to your letters.

EPA agrees that improvements must be made and supports the Corps efforts to proceed immediately. Many good ideas were presented in your plan and your commitment to making improvements is obvious. At the same time, EPA also recognizes the fact that two incidences have occurred at the same site, by the same personnel, within a year of each other (see your Nov 9, 2004 Letter, and these letters). Additionally, it has become apparent that specific monitoring and reporting requirements may not have been met, in accordance with the Land Use Control Assurance Plan (LUCAP) for MCRD and Land Use Control Implementation Plans (LUCIP). This brings into question the current effectiveness of Land Use Controls (LUCs) as part of associated remedies. EPA recommends that the Partnering Team be utilized to further develop and refine the layered set of internal controls through a collaborative approach, ensuring that improvements are made which will meet or exceed regulatory requirements.

Currently, these issues need to be addressed in and/or discussed in relation to at least five regulatory documents under way or forthcoming, being the Five Year Review, Site 3 Final ROD, Site 3 Final Land Use Control Remedial Design, Site 1 Long Term Monitoring Plan, and Site 1 Construction Completion Report. Therefore, in addition to the Corps' plans for improvements, final corrections should be negotiated by the Partnering Team and addressed in the appropriate documents. EPA expects that the Corps will move forward with immediate needs, and anticipates that the Corps will be able to make adjustments if the Partnering Team determines they are beneficial and if your budget allows. If this does not appear to be a plausible path forward for addressing both Corps and regulatory concerns, please notify EPA immediately.

Furthermore, in response to these letters, EPA offers the following for your immediate consideration, and will address other issues and concerns as the Team's work proceeds:

- 1) EPA supports comments provided by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) on August 4th, 2005. Additionally, EPA also recommends inclusion of personal protective equipment and air monitoring requirements on the BMP and Utility maps.
- 2) Your letters did not clarify if an actual digging permit is currently required or not. If not, consider this as part of your Depot Order. Other Agencies have such procedures which could easily be adopted.
- 3) Your letters seemed to indicate that the personnel involved in the unauthorized activities were marines. I am sure that appropriate disincentives are available for use. However, you might also consider, for purposes of your Depot Order, a requirement to utilize similar disincentives for future contractors, civilians, etc. For example, for contracts a contractual requirement could be added such that one (or two) unauthorized incident(s) would result in termination of the contract.
- 4) Your signs might be more specific, perhaps say "No digging without a permit..." or "No digging without formal approval..."
- 5) EPA has worked with many different parties to develop GIS systems for use with LUCs, and property transfers. Communicating with them may provide insight into how to expedite expansion of your GIS system. Points Of Contact (POC) and numbers can be provided. Furthermore, if EPA can be of assistance in clarifying or prioritizing what is needed from your NMCI, please say so.
- 6) Begin immediately to implement the quarterly inspections and annual reporting as required by the LUCAP and LUCIPs, and likely to be required by future LUC RDs.
- 7) Establish due dates and POCs for the action items proposed in your improvement plan letter. These are needed immediately for the 5 Year Review and soon for other regulatory documents.

In closing, it is important to EPA that the spirit of partnering be maintained. Much progress has been made to date, and will continue to be made, if we continue our good faith

efforts. However, please be aware that future violations of LUCs may subject the MCRD to enforcement actions.

If there are any questions regarding these comments, I can be reached at 404-562-9969.

Sincerely,

Lila Llamas, Senior RPM
Federal Facilities Branch
Waste Management Division

cc: Tim Harrington, MCRD
Art Sanford, NAVFAC
Stacey French, SCDHEC
Don Hargrove, SCDHEC