



STATE OF MAINE

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

JOHN R. McKERNAN, JR.
GOVERNOR

DEAN C. MARRIOTT
COMMISSIONER

DEBRAH RICHARD
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

October 26, 1994

Lt. Jim Conroy
Northern Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
10 Industrial Highway, Mail Stop #82
Lester, PA 19113

RE: Consumption Rates to be Used in the Recalculation of Risks from the Offshore Human Health Risk Assessment for Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Kittery, Maine.

Dear Jim:

Based on Department of Human Services (DHS) review of the Final Human Health Risk Assessment for Offshore Media for Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the Department provides the following methodology for the recalculation of risks for the Lower Piscataqua data set based on modifying the consumption rates of biota (lobster, flounder, mussels) to more accurately reflect site specific conditions. These modifications were discussed at the meeting held on October 13, 1994 at the Shipyard and the teleconference held on October 17, 1994. These recalculations will be performed by the Navy and will be used by DHS to evaluate human health risks based on the revised risk assessment.

Based on established DHS policy, the risk assessment for lobster should be calculated in terms of meals consumed per year for meat, tomalley, and whole lobster.

Based on established DHS policy, the consumption rates for finfish (flounder) should be calculated using the daily consumption rate of 32.4 grams of fish per day based on an 8 oz. fish meal per week, and should also be calculated using EPA's Region I Interim Default Exposure Parameters for the High End Exposure.

Based on established DHS policy, the consumption rates for mussels should be calculated using the daily consumption rate of 32.4 grams of mussels per day, based on 2 pounds of mussels per meal (8 oz. of mussel meat) per week, and should also be calculated using EPA's Interim Default Exposure Parameters for the High End Exposure.

In addition to recalculating consumption rates for DHS review, it is understood that the Navy will: remove arsenic risk from the risk assessment; replace the inorganic mercury reference dose with the methyl mercury reference dose; and utilize new EPA Region One

AUGUSTA
STATE HOUSE STATION 17
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826
OFFICE LOCATED AT: RAY BUILDING, HOSPITAL STREET

PORTLAND
312 CANCO ROAD
PORTLAND, ME 04103
(207) 879-6300 FAX: (207) 879-6303

BANGOR
106 HOGAN ROAD
BANGOR, ME 04401
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PRESQUE ISLE
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK
PRESQUE ISLE, ME 04769
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 764-1507

guidance concerning PAHs and the 95 % UCL, outlined in EPA Region One Risk Updates, number 2, dated August 1994.

If you have any comments or questions, please call me at 207-287-2651. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Nancy Beardsley
Remedial Project Manager
Office of the Commissioner

pc: Ernie Waterman, USEPA
Jim Tayon, PNS
John Dreisig, NH DPHS
Wendy Heiger-Bernays, MEDEP
Louise House, ATSDR
Lebelle Hicks, MEBOH
Vicki Smith, ATSDR
Lani Graham, MEBOH
Mark Hyland, MEDEP