



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION I
JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203-0001

August 9, 1996

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

Re: Navy's Response to Comments on
Draft Groundwater Investigation and Monitoring Plan
April 1996

Dear Jim:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Navy's responses to the comments EPA submitted on the Draft Groundwater Investigation and Monitoring Plan (April 1996). EPA found the Navy's responses to comments satisfactory. However, we do continue to recommend the following.

Specific Comment No. 4 (Page 1-4, Section 1.3, part 4): The Plan should acknowledge that additional rounds of water-levels may be required to properly characterize groundwater flow patterns and dynamics.

Specific Comment No. 5 (Page 1-4, Section 1.3, part 4): The Plan should include provisions to install additional monitoring wells, if necessary, to characterize the extent of potential LNAPL contamination, before designing a removal system. This would allow the development of a better design, potentially reducing the costs of remediation significantly.

Specific Comment No. 6 (Page 3-1, Section 3.1): The Navy is strongly encouraged to install piezometers to characterize groundwater levels and flow patterns more completely than can be done with water levels measured only at perimeter monitoring wells.

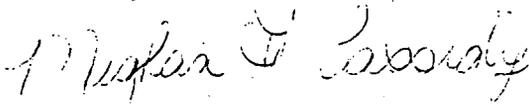


Specific Comment No. 10 (Page 4-1, Sampling and Analysis): Although we understand that the Navy wants to limit the number of parameters tested for at this stage of the project, we continue to suggest that the design could be expedited if data for design of the treatment system were collected now. One possible way of doing this would be to review the data collected from the first round of sampling, and determine whether or not the design could be expedited by sampling specific wells for design-related parameters as part of the second round of sampling.

EPA also requests that the Navy forward a schedule for the groundwater monitoring program to our office. This will ensure that EPA can provide oversight during the first sampling event.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (617)573-5785.

Sincerely,



Meghan F. Cassidy
Remedial Project Manager

cc: Fran Endyke/PNS
Nancy Beardsley/ME DEP
Andrea Sewall/CDM FPC
Carolyn Lepage/Lepage Environmental
RAB Members