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LETTER REGARDING U S EPA REGION I COMMENTS ON OPERABLE UNIT 6 (OU 6)
WORK PLAN, STORM SEWER CAMERA INVESTIGATION AND HUMAN HEALTH RISK
ASSESSMENT NSY PORTSMOUTH ME
12/5/2002
U S EPA REGION I



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NEW ENGLAND - REGION I
1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100 (HBT)
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

December 5, 2002

Mr. Frederick J. Evans, P.E.
Remedial Project Manager
Engineering Field Activity Northeast
10 Industrial Hwy., Mail Stop #82
Lester, PA 19113-2090

Re: **Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine**

Dear Mr. Evans:

The US EPA has received and reviewed the below recent documents with little or no comment. Any specific comments are included below.

Operable Unit 6 Work Plan, letter dated 25 November 2002

EPA concurs with the Navy proposal to prepare a decision tree in lieu of a work plan at this time for the rationale cited in your letter. However, the decision tree should be general enough to guide the project team yet also allow it to apply its best professional judgement on what path to take in the future consistent with site conditions at the time. One caution is also that in our past experience, much effort has been at times expended reaching consensus upon elaborate decision trees (which attempt to anticipate all potential outcomes) when it would have been more expedient to simply reach consensus on site execution strategy for existing conditions at that time.

Letter Report Storm Sewer Camera Investigation

EPA notes the report documents numerous breaks and groundwater infiltration; we have no comments to this report at this time.

Final Technical Memorandum, Development of Facility-Specific Human Health Risk Screening Levels for Intertidal Surface Water and Sediment

EPA comments were resolved at the draft final report stage, no other comments at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the above documents. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at barry.michael@epa.gov or 617.918.1344.

Sincerely,


Michael S. Barry
Federal Facilities Superfund Section

cc. Ken Finkelstein/NOAA
Carolyn Lepage/Lepage Environmental
Iver McLeod/ME DEP
Ken Munney/USFWS
Marty Raymond/PNS
RAB Members

[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible. It appears to be a multi-paragraph letter or report, possibly containing a list of items or a detailed description of a project. The text is oriented vertically on the page.]