



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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NSY PORTSMOUTH  
5090.3a

ANGUS S. KING, JR.

GOVERNOR

May 3, 1999

EDWARD O. SULLIVAN

COMMISSIONER

V. T. Williams  
Captain, USN  
Commander,  
Portsmouth Naval Shipyard  
Kittery, Maine

Re: Letter of Concurrence, Interim Record of Decision for Operable Unit 4, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine

Dear Capt. Williams:

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) has reviewed the Draft Final Interim Record of Decision (IROD) for Operable Unit 4, dated March 1999.

Based on that review the Maine Department of Environmental Protection concurs with the selected interim remedial action which consists of monitoring offshore areas described in the IROD for metals (chromium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, and zinc), total polychlorinated biphenyls (tPCB), polyaromatic hydrocarbons (anthracene, fluorene, phenanthrene, and pyrene), pesticides (aldrin, hexachlorobenzene, 4,4'-DDD, 4,4'-DDE, and 4,4'-DDT), and dioxins. A long-term monitoring plan will be developed and protective levels will be developed for contaminants of concern. The interim remedial action is outlined below:

- Monitor offshore media in the areas offshore (Areas of Concern or AOCs) of PNS that were potentially affected by onshore IRP sites to determine whether concentrations of Chemicals of Concern in the offshore AOCs are at acceptable levels.

This concurrence is based upon the State's understanding that:

- Interim offshore monitoring will be conducted in accordance with an approved monitoring plan that will specify the media, location, analytes, procedures, and frequency of sampling,
- The MEDEP will participate in the review of the Interim Monitoring Plan for OU4 to the extent provided for in CERCLA,
- The Contaminants of Concern include metals (chromium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, and zinc), total polychlorinated biphenyls (tPCB), and polyaromatic hydrocarbons (anthracene, fluorene, phenanthrene, and pyrene),

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- The Navy will also monitor for the pesticides aldrin, hexachlorobenzene, 4,4'-DDD, 4,4'-DDE, and 4,4'-DDT at all monitoring stations and reference stations. In addition, the Navy will develop interim remedial goals for DDT and its congeners.
- The Navy will monitor for dioxins in the vicinity of the DRMO, Clark's Cove, Sullivan's Point, Dry Docks 1 and 2, and the reference stations,
- During the interim remedy, current environmental conditions in the offshore AOCs will be determined by comparing the concentrations of Contaminants of Concern and other analytes in site media with interim remediation goals that will be developed to meet the interim remedial action objectives,
- The offshore AOCs to be sampled include the Back Channel AOC, Jamaica Cove AOC, Clark Cove AOC, Sullivan Point AOC, DRMO Storage Yard AOC, and Dry Docks AOC,
- The offshore AOCs at PNS include intertidal mudflat, pelagic, eelgrass, salt marsh, channel bottom/subtidal, and rocky intertidal habitats,
- The offshore media to be sampled consist of sediment, juvenile lobster (*Homarus americanus*), and mussels (*Mytilus edulis*),
- Several interim offshore monitoring stations will be located near seep locations in order to evaluate potential seep impacts to the offshore.

Please note that the State's concurrence with the interim remedial action is conditional on our acceptance of the interim monitoring plan. The MEDEP looks forward to working with Navy and EPA to resolve the environmental problems posed by the Shipyard. If you need additional information do not hesitate to call myself or members of my staff.

Sincerely,



Brooke Barnes  
Acting Commissioner  
Maine Department of Environmental Protection

pc:

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