

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



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April 11, 2000

Mr. Fred Evans
Department of the Navy
Northern Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
10 Industrial Highway, Mailstop 82
Lester, PA 19113-2090

re: Follow Up to March 24, 2000 DEP Comments on Navy Response to Comments, Draft Feasibility Study for Operable Unit 3, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine

Dear Fred:

In Comment 2 of the MEDEP's March 24, 2000 Comment letter the State requested that the Navy provide additional information on several comments. Several of the comment numbers listed were incorrect. The original comment stated,

"The following responses should be rewritten to clarify the response, provide additional information and/or include the information that is referenced within the response: 11, 13, 17, 18, 21, 30, 61, 78, and 100."

The comment should have stated,

"The following responses should be rewritten to clarify the response, provide additional information and/or include the information that is referenced within the response: 29, 31, 45, 47, 53, 58, 61, and 78." I have deleted comments 82 and 100 as the MEDEP has determined additional information is not required for those comments.

In the following paragraphs I will discuss the additional information the MEDEP is seeking. In most cases I refer to the March 24 MEDEP comment and repeat the comment.

- RTC 29. (See MEDEP 3/24 Comment 11)

"The text was taken from the RFI Data Gap Report."

This response does not address MEDEP's comment. Does the Navy believe that the information provided in the RFI Data Gap Report is still accurate? If so, then please address MEDEP's differing interpretation. If the text in the RFI Data Gap Report is wrong or outdated it should not be used and it should be replaced with the correct information.

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- RTC 31 (See MEDEP 3/24 Comment 13)

“The source of the information will be cited.”

This is not an acceptable response. The source should be cited within the Response to Comments as well as in the Final FS.

- RTC 45 (See MEDEP 3/24 Comment 17)

It appears that the Navy’s response does not address the first part of MEDEP’s comment (“It is more appropriate to compare groundwater concentrations with screening levels...”). The Response to MEDEP Comment 37 does not address it, Overall Response No. 5 does not seem to address it, and the specific Response to EPA Comment was inadvertently omitted. This highlights the problems of referring to other responses as a response to a comment.

Please specifically address MEDEP’s concern as noted in the first part of Comment 45.

- RTC 47 (See MEDEP 3/24 Comment 18)

The Navy should still discuss how they intend to address the possibility of full drums in the landfill that may leak in the future.

- RTC 53 (See MEDEP 3/24 Comment 21)

This comment addressed the issue of the potential presence of DNAPLs at the JILF. As discussed in the April 4, 2000 technical meeting the Navy will further explain their rationale for believing DNAPLs are not an issue at OU3.

- RTC 58 (see MEDEP 3/24 Comment 22)

Upon researching the report referenced by the Navy, the information requested on the ranges of the parameters used in Monte Carlo simulations was found in Appendix E.6 of the Onshore/Offshore Contaminant Fate and Transport Modeling Phase I Report. This reference should be cited after the third sentence of the third paragraph, as the simulations are critical supporting data.

- RTC 61

This response referred to “the Navy’s response to MEDEP Comment No. 4 (dated 3/26/99) on the Revised OU3 Risk Assessment.”

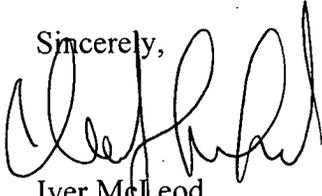
The Navy response for the Revised OU3 Risk Assessment comment should be included, not just referenced, in the Draft OU3 FS Response to Comments.

- RTC 78

The Navy responded by referring to Overall Responses Nos. 5 and 6. Such a response does not directly address the issue which was the MEDEP's disagreement with the wording of the RAO's and that they did not seem to follow EPA guidance. Please be specific in addressing this comment.

Please feel free to contact me at (207) 287-8010 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Iver McLeod
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pc:

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