



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

April 21, 1997

Captain Chamberlin
Northern Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
10 Industrial Highway
Mail Stop #82
Lester, PA 19113-2090

OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Re: Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) Rule at the South Weymouth Naval Air Station

Dear Captain Chamberlin:

Thank you for your response dated March 25, 1997 addressing our request for the Department of Defense (DoD) to provide funding for technical assistance at the South Weymouth Naval Air Station. As you know, our request was pursuant to the proposed Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) Rule.

It is the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) understanding that after DoD finalizes the TAPP Rule, the military services, including the Navy, will publish their implementing guidance. The EPA expects that once the implementing guidance for this rule is issued the Navy will work with the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) to determine the applicability of the TAPP to the South Weymouth Naval Air Station (SOWEY NAS).

EPA strongly supports the involvement of technical advisors representing affected communities surrounding military installations requiring environmental clean up. We believe that technical advisors help to secure community acceptance of environmental restoration activities. In the case of SOWEY NAS, several communities and citizens with diverse interests/opinions have a stake in the outcome of environmental restoration and reuse issues. Based on this fact, EPA believes that the provisions of the TAPP Rule to provide independent technical assistance is in the best interest of the affected citizens surrounding the SOWEY NAS. The EPA believes that this advisor would help citizens better understand the scientific and engineering issues underlying the SOWEY NAS environmental restoration program.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. We look forward to working with you and the RAB as soon as your guidance is available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John P. DeVillars".

John P. DeVillars
Regional Administrator

cc: Al Haring, Northern Division, U.S. Navy
Franco LaGreca, Northern Division, U.S. Navy
Mark Krivansky, Northern Division, U.S. Navy
Captain Duetsch, SOWY NAS
✓ Tom Papoulias, SOWEY NAS
Mary Sanderson, OSRR @ EPA-New England
Patty Marajh-Whittemore, OSRR @ EPA-New England
Albe Simenas, MA DEP
Honorable Robert L.Hedlund, United States Senate