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Action/following



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1
JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203-0001

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OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

February 23, 1998

Ms. Mitzi Pratt, Chair
Gay Head Conservation Commission
Town of Gay Head
65 State Road
Gay Head, MA 02535

Subject: Radiation Testing on Nomans Land Island off the Southern Coast of Gay Head

Dear Ms. Pratt:

Thank you for your letter dated January 29, 1998, where you expressed concerns about the possible presence of depleted uranium on Nomans Land Island. EPA shares these concerns.

In our comment letter dated November 21, 1997, on the draft Environmental Baseline Survey for Transfer (EBST) summary document (enclosed), EPA reiterated its recommendation for further investigation (e.g., radiological survey) to determine whether "depleted uranium rounds are present on the island." The EPA is presently awaiting a response from the Navy. I would be pleased to share the Navy's response - and their plans for further action - with you upon receipt.

The U.S. Navy is the lead agency for environmental investigation and cleanup at Navy Superfund sites. To discuss the Navy's position on this issue, please contact Ms. Dawn Kincaid, Head of Compliance Management, Department of the Navy, Northern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 10 Industrial Highway, Mail Stop #82, Lester, PA 19113-2090. Ms. Kincaid's telephone number is (610) 595-0567, ext. 127.

The EPA Office of Radiation and Indoor Air has done radiation testing at other federal facilities. If the Navy does not conduct the screening as requested, EPA has the capability to conduct this work.

If I can be of further assistance or if you would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to call Jim Cherniack, the EPA radiation specialist (617-565-3611), or Patty Marajh-Whittemore, the EPA project manager (617-223-5582). 3234

Sincerely,

John P. DeVillars
Regional Administrator

Enclosure

bcc: Mary Sanderson/EPA
Jim Cherniack/EPA
Patty Marajh-Whittemore/EPA
✓ Dawn Kincaid/Navy Northern Division