

01.01-05/31/2000-00118



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

ATLANTIC DIVISION
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND
1510 GILBERT ST
NORFOLK, VA 23511-2699

TELEPHONE NO

(757) 322-4758

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5090

18225:TAR:clm

MAY 31 2000

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region III
Federal Facilities Branch
Hazardous Site Cleanup Division
Attn: Mr. Todd Richardson (Mail Code 3HS50)
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Re: St. Juliens Creek Annex, Fire Training Area - Site 15

Dear Mr. Richardson,

The Navy is in the process of obtaining information pertaining to the underground storage tanks (USTs) identified as an area of concern (AOC) in the RCRA Facility Assessment (RFA); specifically information regarding the closure and/or regulatory compliance of these units. One of the UST locations identified in this AOC is Building 271, which is also the location of a Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) identified in the RFA. This SWMU, number 27, has since been designated by the Navy as Installation Restoration (IR) Site 15, the Fire Training Area.

The RFA identified this SWMU as consisting of two fire training areas, both located east of Building 271, the St. Juliens Creek Annex Fire Station. One of the areas consisted of a burn area for wooden pallets soaked in diesel fuel and extinguished with water, the other area was a steel-lined burn pit that was filled with diesel fuel, ignited, and extinguished with carbon dioxide.

Documents reviewed while obtaining information for the UST at Building 271 discuss the previous investigation and remediation of an open top UST routinely filled with diesel fuel and motor oil and set afire for fire training exercises. Under the UST program, the Navy removed and disposed of this UST and the surrounding soils, then backfilled the excavated area. As this descriptive information contained in the enclosed *Soil Boring Site Check Report* matches that of SWMU #27, the Navy concludes that the contamination identified at this unit has been addressed under the Navy's UST program.

In addition, a product recovery program has been implemented at this site. The personnel at the Fire Station continue to use a portion of this area for fire-extinguisher training; however, the

Quality Performance ... Quality Results

source is now a propane burner mounted on a concrete pad. The propane burner has been in use since the removal of the open top UST in 1993. The Navy recommends that all future actions at Building 271 continue to be conducted under the regulatory oversight of the UST program, per the recommendations of the enclosed *Site Characterization Report*, and that IR Site 15 be documented as requiring No Further Action (NFA) under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

As we are meeting at the St. Juliens Creek Annex on June 8, 2000 to discuss other CERCLA related issues, the recommended Site 15 NFA determination will be added to the agenda for discussion. If you require additional information, please contact me at (757) 322-4758.

Sincerely,



T. A. REISCH
Remedial Project Manager
Installation Restoration Section (North)
Environmental Programs Branch
Environmental Division
By Direction of the Commander

Copy to:

CNRMA (Jeff Harlow, Regional Environmental Group, Yorktown)

VDEQ (Mr. Paul Kohler)

Administrative Record File (St. Juliens Creek Annex, Chesapeake, VA)