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NCBC GULFPORT
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LETTER AND CONCURRENCE FROM MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY REGARDING SIXTY PERCENT REMEDIAL DESIGN SITE 8 NCBC GULFPORT MS
2/17/2004
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DAVID RONALD MUSGROVE, GOVERNOR
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
CHARLES H. CHISOLM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

17 February 2004

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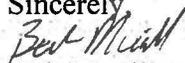
Re: 60% Remedial Design for Site 8, Herbicide Orange Storage Area and Off Base Area of Contamination, Draft, May 2003.

The Mississippi Office of Pollution Control (OPC) has reviewed the above referenced document. This document has also been evaluated by the Navy, Air Force and EPA. Comments and proposed changes to the plan were discussed in detail at the recent Tier 1 Meeting (held January 13 and 14, 2004). Some changes in the plan will also be necessary due to interests expressed by base personnel (road widening and routing, etc.) at this meeting.

No further comments from OPC are submitted at this time, as major concerns have been addressed either in writing (by other reviewers) or verbally during meetings associated with this project. It should be reiterated that the remedial goals for off base sediments (given as 38.0 ppt on page 4-1 and elsewhere in the document) will be a risk based value determined by the outcome of the Ecological Risk Assessment that will be necessary for these areas as part of a Tier 3 evaluation under the Brownfields Program. The primary screening number of 38.0 ppt for the off base areas of concern is not applicable. This section (as well as other sections in the document that address the remedial goal in off base areas of concern) needs to be reworded to reflect this.

At this point in the process, initial ecological and human health screening values (2.4 ppt and 4.26 ppt, respectively) apply for sediments and soils in off base areas that contain an ecological pathway. These will no doubt be altered by the outcome of a site specific Ecological Risk Assessment. The Ecological Risk Assessment and application of initial screening levels should be in conducted accordance with EPA guidance.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Bob Merrill

cc/ Michelle Thornton, USEPA