

N60508.AR.000836  
NAS WHITING FIELD  
5090.3a

LETTER AND COMMENTS FROM FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION REGARDING INDUSTRIAL AREA GROUNDWATER INVESTIGATION  
INTERIM REPORT NAS WHITING FIELD FL  
11/1/1996  
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

# Department of Environmental Protection

09.01.00.0084

00392

Lawton Chiles  
Governor

Twin Towers Building  
2600 Blair Stone Road  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400

Virginia B. Wetherell  
Secretary

November 1, 1996

Mr. Jeff Adams  
Department of the Navy  
Southern Division  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
2155 Eagle Drive, PO Box 190010  
North Charleston, SC 29419-9010

file: indus\_gw.doc

RE: Industrial Area Ground Water Investigation Interim Report; NAS Whiting  
Field

Dear Jeff:

I have reviewed the subject document dated October 1996 (received October 10, 1996) and offer the following comments which should be considered when preparing the final draft and formulating recommendations based on the report:

1. There are a number of typographical errors which I have reviewed with Gerry Walker of ABB. I have also reviewed each of my following comments with Mr. Walker.
2. On Figure 3-1, a large number of water level measurements are not utilized in preparing the figure. Why were they not utilized?
3. In Section 4.1 (Summary and Conclusions), I view the data concerning the number of instances where Federal or State MCLs are exceeded in a different perspective. For the North Field Maintenance Hanger, for example, using the data from Table 3-3 yields a total of 39 instances where the MCLs are met or exceeded. The report indicated that only 8 *different* VOCs that met or exceeded the MCLs. While the statement in the report is true, I think a better understanding of the data is obtained when the type and *number* relationships are considered. Similar statements can be made for the conclusions for the Mid Field and South Field data.
4. In Section 4.2, the possibility of commingled plumes is stated, and I agree. It seems that, based on the well locations on Figures 3-1, 3-2 and 3-3, data from wells between the North Field and the Mid Field area are lacking; or, are there no wells in that area? If wells exist in the area, this information belongs in the report and pertinent data from those wells

*"Protect, Conserve and Manage Florida's Environment and Natural Resources"*

Printed on recycled paper.

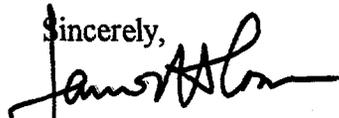
Mr. Jeff Adams  
November 1, 1996  
Page two

(if available) should also be included. If there are no wells there, should we not consider installing them?

5. As I have previously stated, I believe that the ground water in the unconfined Sand and Gravel Aquifer at Whiting Field to a great extent reflects the surface topography. Given that this is the case, it seems reasonable to conclude that the ground water regime on the eastern portion of the base and the western portion of the base resembles a mirror image around a ground water divide which itself is an expression of the topography. If these assumptions are true and based on our recent experiences while investigating the ground water on the western side of the base where we noted deep contamination as the sample points approached Clear Creek, it seems reasonable that some additional investigation on the eastern portions of the base, perhaps including off of the base property, should be considered. I believe that we should investigate this area to the degree that we have evaluated the ground water divide and obtained ground water samples to the extent that we are satisfied that contamination, in a manner similar to that at Clear Creek, has not migrated to the east; or if it has, we have delineated it to the extent that we can make the necessary decisions based on our charge.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this document. We have made significant progress in understanding the ground water contamination at NAS Whiting Field. I suggest that we discuss the report and our future investigative efforts at the next Partnering meeting on November 21. If you have questions or require further clarification, please contact me at (904) 921-4230.

Sincerely,



James H. Cason, P.G.  
Remedial Project Manager

cc: Craig Benedikt, USEPA Atlanta  
Tom Moody, FDEP Northwest District  
James Holland, Naval Air Station Whiting Field  
Gerald Walker, ABB Environmental Services, Tallahassee

TJB  JJC  ESN 