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From: Commanding Officer, Engineering Field Activity West
To: Distribution

Subj: ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT, NAVAL AIR STATION (NAS), ALAMEDA, CA

Ref: (a) EFAWEST ltr 09ERGK/L5031 of 27 October 1994

Encl: (1) Ecological Meeting Minutes for 9 November 1994

1. Reference (a) scheduled a meeting on 9 November 1994 to discuss comments on the Draft Ecological Assessment and begin scoping future ecological work. Enclosure (1) is the minutes for the 9 November meeting.
2. A meeting will be held on 17 January 1995 to discuss future work to fill data gaps. Your presence and input at this meeting will be greatly appreciated. An agenda for the 17 January meeting will be provided in mid December.
3. If you have any questions regarding this matter, I can be reached at (415) 244-2559, FAX (415) 244-2553.

Original signed by:

GEORGE KIKUGAWA
By direction

Distribution:

California Department of Toxic Substances Control (Attn: Tom Lanphar)
California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Attn: James Nusrala)
California Department of Fish & Game (Attn: Michael Martin)
US Environmental Protection Agency (Attn: James Ricks)
US Environmental Protection Agency (Attn: Clarence Callahan)
US Environmental Protection Agency (Attn: Barbara Smith)
US Fish & Wildlife Service (Attn: Steve Schwarzbach)
US Department of the Interior (Attn: J. Bailey/J. Timp)
US Army Corps of Engineers (Attn: Sharon Moreland)
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (Attn: Denise Klimas)
Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Attn: Nancy Yee)
Bay Conservation and Development Commission (Attn: Steve McAdam)
San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge (Attn: Elaine Harding-Smith)

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Sierra Club San Francisco Bay (Attn: Jim Royce)
Laura Collins
Leora Feeney
Roberta Hough, RAB Natural Resources Focus Group Chairperson
Ron Basarich, RAB Reuse Focus Group Chairperson
Chris Bacina, RAB Early Actions Focus Group Chairperson
Pamela McCallum, RAB Organizational Focus Group Chairperson
William Smith, RAB Technology Focus Group Chairperson
Corrine Stefanich, RAB Public Relations Focus Group Chairperson
Saul Bloom, RAB Member

Copy to (w/encl):

NAS Alameda (Attn: LCDR Mike Petouhoff)
NAS Alameda (Attn: Sherri Withrow)
NAS Alameda (Attn: Teresa Bernhard)
NAS Alameda (Attn: Ann Klimek)
NADEP Alameda (Attn: Paul Pentony)
COMNAVBASE San Francisco (Attn: Randy Friedman)
Radiological Affairs Support Office (Attn: LCDR L. L. Fragoso)
PRC Environmental Management, Inc. (Attn: Duane Balch/Susan Willoughby/Dave Ceppos)
PRC Environmental Management, Inc. (Attn: June Mire)
PRC Environmental Management, Inc. (Attn: Steve Clark)
Montgomery Watson (Attn: Ken Leung)

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MEETING MINUTES

ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

NOVEMBER 9, 1994

NAS ALAMEDA

9:00 a.m.

ATTENDEES: Tom Lanphar, Cal EPA - DTSC	510 540 3809
James Nusrala, Cal EPA - RWQCB	510 286 0301
Barbara Smith, U.S. EPA	415 755 2366
Clarence Callahan, U.S. EPA	415 744 2314
Jim Hass, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	916 979 2110
George Kikugawa, EFA - West	415 244 2559
Jim Polisini, Cal EPA - DTSC	916 323 3734
Ann Klimek, NAS Alameda	510 263 3729
Teresa Bernhard, NAS Alameda	510 263 3723
June Mire, PRC EMI	415 222 8282
Steve Clark, PRC EMI	503 227 7516
Dave Ceppos, PRC EMI	916 852 8300
Susan Willoughby, PRC EMI	916 852 8300

I. OPERABLE UNIT 4 ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Response to Comments

June Mire provided a summary of the major comments on the Operable Unit (OU) 4 ecological assessment (EA) from NOAA, U.S. FWS, U.S. EPA, DTSC, and RWQCB. The major comments needing response are as follows:

- Sources of contamination and pathways to five sites was not well defined; the five sites include:

Western Bayside (WBS), Oakland Inner Harbor (OIH), Seaplane Lagoon (SPL), Runway Wetland, and West Beach Landfill Wetland (WBL)
- No conceptual model was provided. The exposure pathways, endpoints and exposure point concentrations should be provided.
- Species lists need to be updated. Threatened and endangered species survey needs to be done.
- Use of ERL's and ERM's should be evaluated because new values are available. Two sets of values were referenced; Long and Markel or MacDonald. The original document used Long and Morgan values. In a presentation to the RAB, June had already replaced the Long and Morgan values with Mac Donald values. The Long and Markel values will

Enclosure (1)

be reviewed and used as appropriate. In addition NOAA commented that a NOAEL (No observed adverse effects level) should be used instead of an ERL.

- In comparing data to ERL's and ERM's, the mean and maximum concentrations should both be used.
- The wetlands value was not stated appropriately, and needs to be restated.

In addition to these major comments, which were common to all agencies, there are other specific comments that will be addressed in the Navy's written response to comments.

The Navy will provide written response to comments; following that, a meeting will be held to discuss the strategy for document revision. The document revision will be based on a mutual agreement as a result of working meetings.

By the end of January, the response to comment period will close. Those who have further comments will be invited to join the working meetings in progress where all input will be welcomed.

Outstanding Issues

June Mire presented three issues that were raised in the comment period, and for which the Navy had not reached a decision, or a resolution, until the day of this meeting. Those issues are as follows:

1. Tracing the source(s) of contamination from the base to the marine sediments in regions of the shoreline that were not previously sampled will require additional sediment sampling.
2. The RWQCB requested the skeet range be investigated to evaluate the extent of lead contamination in the sediments.
3. Stormwater and runoff have not been investigated, and agencies would like to see results of stormwater analysis as it is relevant to the ecological assessments.

In response to these outstanding comments, the Navy has determined that (1) additional sediment sampling will be conducted in the areas of the shoreline where no samples were previously collected, and, (2) that the sediments near the skeet range will be investigated by the Navy. The Navy will look into the stormwater sampling issue to determine who is conducting this kind of work.

Follow On Work and Filling in Data Gaps Based on EPA and DTSC Guidance

A January 17 meeting is proposed at the offices of Cal EPA - DTSC at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the conceptual model development and the endpoint receptors for the aquatic ecological assessment; also, the basewide considerations will be discussed so that the terrestrial ecological assessment and the aquatic ecological assessment are

fully integrated.

Clarence Callahan noted that the work on the ecological assessment should be conducted in accordance with DTSC guidance because EPA's guidance has not finished undergoing review.

II. TERRESTRIAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT

Steve Clark provided a brief discussion on the approach to be taken in preparing the scoping assessment for the terrestrial OU's at NAS Alameda. He indicated that a qualitative ecological assessment will be conducted in accordance with DTSC guidance such that the need for future work will be identified.

Conceptual models for each operable unit (OU's 1, 2 and 3) will be developed. The existing site history and analytical database will be used. Also, information and data from the surrounding areas will be reviewed to provide a comprehensive evaluation of pathways, habitats and receptors.

Several comments were made as follows:

- The scoping assessment should take into account bats and their habitat.
- Jim Polisini suggested PRC review existing EAs from Treasure Island, Hunter's Point, or Moffett to help focus the NAS Alameda EA.
- The list of potential ecological receptors developed during the terrestrial scoping assessment should include threatened and endangered species as well as others.

Closure and Action Items

The meeting ended with a review of action items and important dates as follows:

1. Formal Response period to close January 31, 1995
2. January 17, 1995 meeting to discuss OU-4 conceptual model and future work to fill data gaps.
3. June Mire will send meeting agenda out on December 17, 1995.
4. Ann Klimek will send copies of IT Corporation's storm sewer work plan to PRC.