

Mr. Dean Gould
July 27, 2000
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cc: Mr. Glenn Kistner
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U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX
Superfund Division (SFD-8-2)
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San Francisco, California 94105-3901

Mr. John Broderick
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Department of Toxic Substances Control

M60050.000500
MCAS EL TORO
SSIC # 5090.3



Winston H. Hickox
Agency Secretary
California Environmental
Protection Agency

Edwin F. Lowry, Director
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, California 90630

Gray Davis
Governor

July 28, 2000

Mr. Dean Gould
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
Marine Corps Air Station El Toro
Base Realignment and Closure
P.O. Box 51718
Irvine, California 92619-1718
via facsimile (619) 532-0780

REQUEST FOR EXTENSIONS TO THE FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT (FFA)
SCHEDULE FOR OPERABLE UNIT (OU) 1, INSTALLATION RESTORATION SITE
(IRP) 18 AND OU 2A, IRP SITE 24, MARINE CORPS AIR STATION (MCAS) EL TORO

Dear Mr. Gould:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received your letter dated July 21, 2000 requesting extensions of the deadlines set forth in Appendix A of the FFA for MCAS El Toro via facsimile. The extension request is made pursuant to Section 9.2 (g) of the FFA.

As indicated in your letter and the associated enclosure, the Navy requests a three-week extension for submitting the draft final Proposed Plan and draft Record of Decision for the above operable units. The letter requested that the submittal date for the draft final Proposed Plan change from July 21, 2000 to August 11, 2000 and the submittal date for the draft Record of Decision change from November 27, 2000 to December 18, 2000.

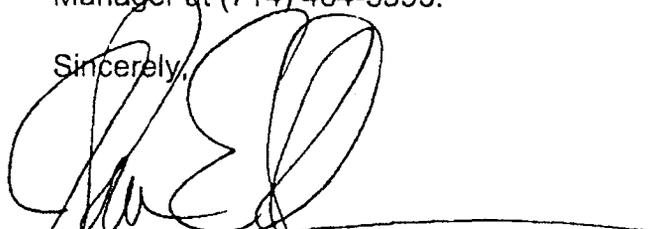
DTSC understands that the United States Department of Justice represents the Department of the Navy in settlement agreement negotiations with the local water districts. As the final settlement agreement is an important element of the Proposed Plan and Record of Decision, DTSC understands that the extension is necessary to accommodate negotiations that would achieve the final settlement. DTSC has been informed that the negotiating parties have agreed to September 1, 2000 as a target date for conclusion of these settlement negotiations.

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DTSC respects the need for good faith negotiations so that the parties may reach a mutually agreeable settlement. DTSC nonetheless remains concerned that the negotiations have delayed the timely remediation of the regional ground water contamination caused by MCAS El Toro's operations. This remediation is mandated by the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and applicable state laws and is required to be completed within schedules specified under the FFA. As such, DTSC reluctantly grants the Navy's extension request. Should DTSC receive another FFA schedule extension request for these operable units, it will, in consultation with the other regulatory agencies who are signatories to the FFA, evaluate regulatory options pursuant to the FFA, applicable state laws, and CERCLA.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Triss Chesney, Remedial Project Manager at (714) 484-5395.

Sincerely,



John E. Scandura, Chief
Southern California Branch
Office of Military Facilities

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