



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION
EL TORO (SANTA ANA), CALIFORNIA 92709-5001

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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23 Aug 1988

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Mr. Steven Lingle
Director, Hazardous Site Evaluation Division
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M. Street S. W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Mr. Lingle:

Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) El Toro was recently proposed by your agency for inclusion on the National Priorities List (NPL). After a thorough review of the Hazard Ranking System (HRS) package, which was used to nominate the Air Station for the NPL, we have discovered numerous technical problems which overstate the situation at El Toro and, in fact, result in too high an HRS score for the Air Station. The enclosure, which contains our comments on the proposed addition of MCAS El Toro to the NPL, discusses these technical inaccuracies in great detail.

In addition to addressing the technical problems, the enclosure also proposes revised HRS scores. By correcting the technical errors and recomputing the total score, we have determined that the actual HRS score for MCAS El Toro should be well below the 28.50 cutoff point. Therefore, we believe, based on correct technical data, that MCAS El Toro should not be proposed for the NPL.

Please give these comments your urgent attention. If further information is needed, contact Ensign Michael Rehor, Environmental Director for MCAS El Toro, at (714) 651-2821.

Sincerely,

D. V. SHUTER
Commanding General

Encl:
(1) Hazard Ranking System Technical Review (2 copies)

Copy to:
EPA Region IX (Jerry Clifford)(1 copy)

**ENCLOSURE (1)
CAN BE LOCATED
UNDER DOCUMENT NUMBER
M60050.000897**