



Department of Toxic Substances Control



Winston H. Hickox
Agency Secretary
California Environmental
Protection Agency

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

Gray Davis
Governor

December 15, 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

FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT (FFA) SCHEDULE FOR OPERABLE UNIT (OU)-1,
INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM (IRP) SITE 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 December 15, 2000 requesting an extension of a deadline for Sites 18 and 24 as forth in Appendix A of the FFA for MCAS El Toro. The extension request is made pursuant to Section 9.2 (g) of the FFA.

As indicated in your letter and associated enclosure, a six-month extension is needed to submit the draft Record of Decision (ROD) for Sites 18 and 24. The letter requests that the submittal date for the draft ROD change from December 18, 2000 to June 18, 2001.

DTSC is concerned about the numerous delays associated with these sites. DTSC understands that the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) represents the Department of the Navy (DON) in settlement agreement negotiations with the local water districts. Additionally, finalization of this settlement agreement is needed to issue the Proposed Plan and subsequently prepare the draft ROD. According to the last extension request, dated July 21, 2000, the negotiating parties agreed to September 1, 2000 as a target date for conclusion of those settlement negotiations. DTSC understands that this target date was not met. As a result, this extension is necessary to accommodate continuing settlement negotiations.

DTSC respects the need for good faith negotiations so that the parties may reach a mutually agreeable settlement. Additionally, DTSC appreciates the willingness of the DOJ and DON to coordinate bi-weekly conference calls to keep the regulatory agencies

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apprised of negotiation progress. Nonetheless, DTSC remains concerned that the negotiations continue to delay the timely remediation of the regional groundwater contamination cause by operations at MCAS El Toro. As such, DTSC reluctantly grants the extension requested by the DON.

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

cc: Mr. Glenn Kistner
Remedial Project Manager
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX
Superfund Division (SFD-8-2)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105-3901

Mr. John Broderick
Remedial Project Manager
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region
3737 Main Street, Suite 500
Riverside, California 92501-3339

Mr. Gregory F. Hurley
Restoration Advisory Board Co-chair
620 Newport Center Drive, Suite 450
Newport Beach, California 92660-8019

Ms. Polin Modanlou
MCAS El Toro Local Redevelopment Authority
10 Civic Center Plaza, 2nd Floor
Santa Ana, California 92703

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cc: Mr. Steven Sharp
Orange County Health Care Agency
2009 East Edinger Avenue ..
Santa Ana, California 92705