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MCAS EL TORO  
SSIC # 5090.3

Mr. James Bennett  
Executive Officer  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Santa Ana Region  
6809 Indiana Avenue, Suite 200  
Riverside, CA 92506

Dear Mr. Bennett:

As requested by members of the Board on 11 September 1987, regarding Item 18 on your agenda of that day (status of compliance with Clean Up and Abatement Order Number 87-97), this letter will serve to reiterate the information I provided in my oral presentation.

It is the position of the United States Marine Corps that if it is determined that the source of TCE contamination is Marine Corps Station El Toro, we will initiate whatever action is necessary and appropriate to identify and remediate the contamination.

As I told you, we are meeting this week with the Orange County Water District Board, for the purpose of agreeing on a procedure for the adequate study and identification of sources of contamination. It is our understanding that the Board will proceed to study the potentially contaminated area outside the base perimeter, while MCAS El Toro proceeds with its own perimeter investigation. In the event the District's study identifies contamination which has emanated from the Air Station, we would then reimburse the District the cost of such study and proceed to agree upon a method of mitigation.

I again wish to assure you that there is no intent on the part of the Marine Corps to avoid responsibility to study or remediate the effects of contamination which are determined to have come from a source on the Air Station. We do wish, however, to proceed in a logical and sound engineering fashion to adequately determine the true source or sources and the extent thereof. We look forward to continuing work with both the District and your Board in a responsible and cooperative effort to deal with this problem.

Sincerely,

*S. R. Holm*

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