

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

18 May 2006

Mr. Darren Newton  
BRAC Environmental Coordinator  
Base Realignment and Closure  
7040 Trabuco Road  
Irvine, California 92618

Subject: Draft Contaminant Distribution in Groundwater & Microcosm Study Findings  
Report, Installation Restoration Program (IRP) Site 2  
Former Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California

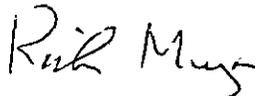
Mr. Newton:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the subject draft document dated April 2006. This technical memorandum addresses issues involving groundwater contamination at IRP Site 2 for input into the final remedy decision for this media. EPA has one comment to offer on this document.

Section 3.2, Page 9 – What was the basis for the initial concentrations of PCE, TCE, and perchlorate that the ground-water slurries were spiked at (ie., 650 ug/l, 250 ug/l, and 200 ug/l, respectively)? None of these contaminants have been detected in ground water at IRP Site 2 at these equivalent levels (see page 13 for maximum levels detected). A common issue in regards to the efficacy of biodegradation is the levels of contaminants present as too high of a concentration of contaminants could impede degradation. It is recommended that this issue be addressed in the Technical Memorandum.

If you should have any questions/concerns, please contact me at 415-972-3349.

Sincerely,



Rich Muza, RPM  
Superfund Division

received  
5/30/06

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