

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

2 February 2009

Marine Corps Air Station El Toro  
Base Realignment and Closure  
Attn: Ms. Debra Theroux  
Deputy Base Closure Manager  
7040 Trabuco Road  
Irvine, California 92618

Subject: Proposal for Closure of Miscellaneous Site of Concern (MSC) B3 Colocated with  
Installation Restoration Program (IRP) Site 16  
Former Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, California

Ms. Theroux:

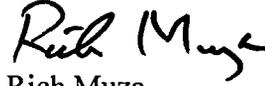
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the letter proposal for the closure of MSC B3 which is colocated with IRP Site 16. We have no specific comments on the plans. Therefore, we concur with the approach as presented with the conditions provided below.

While the EPA strives to support the Navy's goals for cleaning up the former MCAS El Toro under both the Federal Superfund and State Corrective Action programs, in this instance the corrective action to be performed will have a temporary impact on a Superfund remedy in place and defined by EPA to be operating properly and successfully at IRP Site 16. Of particular concern to EPA is the destruction and post-corrective action replacement of three ground-water monitoring wells located in the source area of the IRP Site 16 TCE plume. Since the Superfund remedy for IRP Site 16 is monitored natural attenuation, EPA deems these monitoring wells to be a significant component of that remedy. As such, EPA will not concur with the Finding of Suitability to Transfer for this parcel until we have been provided with a report that includes 1) well logs and construction details for all replacement monitoring wells and the comparison of the results of a round of ground-water quality sampling from the replacement monitoring wells to the TCE trend from the destroyed monitoring wells and 2) details on the post-corrective action site regrading efforts to assure proper drainage in the TCE plume source area as mandated by the Record of Decision for IRP Site 16.

**received**  
2/9/09

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rich Muza". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent "R" and "M".

Rich Muza  
Remedial Project Manager  
Federal Facilities and Site Cleanup Branch

cc. Content Arnold, NFECSW SDIEGO  
Quang Than, DTSC  
John Broderick, RWQCB  
Bob Woodings, RAB Co-Chair  
Marcia Rudolph, RAB Subcommittee Chair