Department of Toxic Substances Control

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March 05, 2001

Commanding Officer
Department of the Navy
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Southwest Division
1220 Pacific Highway
San Diego, CA 92132-5190
Attention: Richard Mach

DRAFT OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2000 FIFTH QUARTERLY GROUNDWATER SAMPLING REPORT FOR PARCEL B, HUNTERS POINT SHIPYARD, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Mr. Mach:

California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has reviewed the Draft October to December 2000 Fifth Quarterly Groundwater Sampling Report for Parcel B, Hunters Point Shipyard. The date of the report was January 19, 2001 and was prepared by TetraTech EM Incorporated for the Department of the Navy.

Comments

1. The third paragraph of section 2.2, Groundwater Sampling Procedures states that disposable bailers were employed when the use of a submersible pump was not possible or if pump failure occurred. According to the monitoring well sample sheets in Appendix B, pump malfunction occurred while purging IR18MW100B. This well and another B zone well, IR18MW101B, were the only two wells in which a submersible pump were used for purging. A disposable bailer was used for both purging and sampling the remaining wells, and a peristaltic pump was also used in three of the wells for comparison with the bailed wells. DTSC recommends that a spare pump be available for use in the event of malfunction of the primary pump. As stated before, DTSC recommends that dedicated bladder pumps be installed in the monitoring wells to minimize water agitation that may result in non-representative

samples and to minimize the loss of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs).

2. The monitoring well sampling sheet for IR10MW12A indicated that "lots of roots" were found apparently in the bailer during the initial five gallons of well purging. The next five gallons of purge water indicated that a "few roots" were found. These comments suggest that the well integrity has been compromised. DTSC recommends that the Navy investigate the reason for the presence of this material in the purge water and describe the measures taken to insure the well will be repaired and, if necessary, replaced.

3. DTSC recommends that the location of the following monitoring wells be shown on the various maps in the report: IR18MW100B, IR18MW101B, IR25MW16A, IR26MW43A, and PA24MW02A.

4. Please give reference(s) to support the statement in the second paragraph of section 3.2.3 that beryllium occurs naturally in the native rock and fill materials of HPS and that Naval or other tennant activity would not be the source of beryllium.

5. DTSC recommends that water level measurements be taken for all new monitoring wells and that at least initially all of them be included in the groundwater potentiometric contour map.

If you have any questions, Please contact me at (510) 540-3822.

Sincerely,

Chein Ping Kao, P.E.
Senior Hazardous Substance Engineer
Office of Military Facilities

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