



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

April 1, 1993

Mr. Stephen Chao
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Western Division
900 Commodore Way, Bldg. 101
San Bruno, CA. 94066

Re: Final West Side Groundwater Site Characterization Report, dated March, 1993

Dear Mr. Chao,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed and approves the subject document. Three technical issues warranted comment. Items 2 and 3 below are presented solely for informational purposes.

1. Comments were previously submitted to the Navy from EPA expressing concern over the existence of only one B3-aquifer zone background well [W09-05(B3)] and an estimated 4 parts per billion trichloroethylene detection. The Navy responded (October 16, 1992 response to agency comments) by proposing a historical search for B3-aquifer zone background wells. No information has been presented in this report describing any survey of public and private water supply wells in the vicinity of NAS Moffett Field. How will the results of this survey be presented and how will those results be incorporated into the West Side Groundwater Site Characterization Report?
2. The inferred paleochannels (Figures 3.6-2 through 3.6-5) at Sites 8, 9, 12, and 14 differ slightly from the modeled sand channels presented in Figures 5.2-3 and 5.2-4. Have any additional CPT or boring logs been proposed for confirmation of the modeling results? Data should be obtained from NASA/Ames in the vicinity of Sites 8 and 12 to facilitate a better understanding of contaminant transport through this area. The current proposal by the Navy and NASA/Ames for additional work in this area may supply the necessary information.
3. Section 1.6.2 states that "Tank 32 is an inactive 2,000-gallon standby fuel tank that is still leaking." Figure 1.6-10 shows the location of leaking Tank 14. In a telephone conversation on March 17, 1993, status of these tanks was discussed with Don Chuck (NAS Moffett Field - Public Works). He stated that Tank 32 is still in the ground, however, the liquids had been removed. He could not verify whether any leakage had occurred prior to removal of liquids, but did state that this is not a 2,000-gallon tank as previously understood; it is a 5,000-gallon

capacity tank. Don also stated that Tank 14 had already been removed.

Modification of this report is not necessary at this late stage; nevertheless, it is recommended that the Navy prepare a letter to accompany this report explaining the current tank status. If a report is being prepared to document these tank removals, then the letter should direct the characterization report reader to the appropriate report. Please call me at 415-744-2383 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Gill
Remedial Project Manager
Federal and Technical Programs Branch

cc: Elizabeth Adams (RWQCB)
Joseph LeClaire (Montgomery Watson)
Fred Molloy (SAIC)
Cyrus Shabahari (DTSC)

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