



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

July 29, 1997

Mr. Stephen Chao  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
Engineering Field Activity, West  
900 Commodore Way, Bldg. 210  
San Bruno, CA. 94066-2402

Re: Destruction of C Aquifer Monitoring Wells

Dear Mr. Chao,

In response to your letter dated July 1, 1997, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requests that the Navy not destroy any C aquifer wells at Moffett Field.

Volatile organic compound (VOC) contamination upgradient of Moffett Field in the C aquifer (MEW's "B3" aquifer) has been detected in the past. Historically high concentrations of VOCs have also been detected in both the shallow (A) aquifer zone (e.g., W9-18 = 6400ppb, WU4-3 = 6700ppb; 1992 data) and the intermediate (A2) aquifer zone (e.g., W9-20 = 10,000ppb, WU4-4 = 13,000ppb, WU4-6 = 13,000ppb; 1992 data) of the west side aquifer. These levels show that a potential for contamination of deeper aquifer zones exists at Moffett Field. Destroying the C aquifer monitoring wells will prevent the Navy from determining if contaminant migration has occurred. We are encouraged that the Moffett Field C aquifer presently appears to be unimpacted. But the existence of historically detected VOC concentrations and the fact that at least two deep aquifer wells have recently gone artesian (one near Highway 101 and one in the grassy runway area) suggests that vertical pathways to the deep aquifer may exist. We believe continued C aquifer monitoring is necessary, particularly since the regional remediation system has not started treatment yet.

We request that further discussion on this issue be held in the near future and would like to work with you in either selecting existing C aquifer wells for repair or possibly select locations for new wells. As mentioned in our phone call of July 25, 1997 (Gill, Chou, Rochette

to T. Mower), we would like to discuss this issue with you at a future RPM meeting. If you have any questions, please call us (Loren Henning at 415-744-2243 or Michael Gill at 415-744-2385).

Sincerely,



Loren Henning  
RPM, MEW Sites



Michael D. Gill  
RPM, Moffett Field

cc: Ingrid Chen (Raytheon)  
J. Chou (DTSC)  
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