



OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE

201 WEST PRESTON STREET • BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201 • AREA CODE 301 • 383-3123

TTY FOR DEAF: Balto. Area 383-7555
D.C. Metro 565-0451

Adela Wilbeck, R.N., M.S., Secretary

William M. Eichbaum, Assistant Secretary

October 3, 1984

Commanding Officer
Naval Ordnance Station
Indian Head, Maryland 20640

Dear Sir:

It has been reported to me that representatives of the Naval Ordnance Station met with members of my staff on Tuesday, ~~September 25, 1984~~ to discuss your proposals for the cleanup of a mercury spill at the Indian Head facility that occurred on August 3, 1984.

Based on the information presented and after consultation with technical staff of the Waste Management Administration, there appears to be no objection to treatment of spilled mercury with powdered sulfur at the release site in order to immobilize the free mercury in the soil. However, once the mercury is immobilized, removal of this contaminated soil must continue until either background levels of naturally occurring mercury have been attained or there is no detectable level of mercury in the soil.

A Complaint and Order is being issued to the Naval Ordnance Station under separate cover to affect further cleanup of spilled mercury in accordance with the Administration's duty to assure no threat to the public health or environment from any release of toxic materials.

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If you have any questions in this matter, please contact Mr. Harold Dye, Inspector, Hazardous Waste Inspection Team, Waste Management Administration at (301) 383-6650.

Sincerely,



Ronald Nelson, Director
Waste Management Administration

RN:dl

Enclosure

cc: Mr. John Koontz
Mr. Arthur Caple
Mr. Harold Dye, Jr.