



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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Parris N. Glendening
Governor

Jane T. Nishida
Secretary

July 25, 2000

Mr. Shawn Jorgensen
Environmental Engineer
Indian Head Division
Naval Surface Warfare Center
ATTN: Code 046C, Building D-327
101 Strauss Avenue
Indian Head MD 20640-5035

Re: Draft Remedial Investigation Report for Site 47 – Mercuric Nitrate Disposal Area,
NSWC Indian Head, Maryland, May 2000

Dear Mr. Jorgensen:

Enclosed are comments from the Federal Facilities Section of the Maryland Department of the Environment's Waste Management Administration on the above-referenced document.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (410) 631-3791.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. DeTore', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Curtis DeTore
Remedial Project Manager
Federal/NPL Superfund Division

CD:bjm

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Dennis Orenshaw
Mr. Robert Sadorra
Mr. Richard Collins
Mr. Karl Kalbacher

**Maryland Department of the Environment
Waste Management Administration
Environmental Restoration and Redevelopment Program
Federal Facilities Section**

Comments on:

Draft Remedial Investigation Report for Site 47 – Mercuric Nitrate Disposal Area,
NSWC Indian Head, Maryland, May 2000

General Comment

As discussed in our partnering meeting, we need to better define the groundwater flow pattern in this area and install an upgradient monitoring well.

Specific Comments

1. Section 2.2, page 2-2, first paragraph, first sentence
Please add the volume and the molar strength of the nitric acid that the mercuric nitrate was dissolved into this sentence.
2. Section 3-2, page 3-3, last bulleted point
Please clarify against what wall this sample is to be taken. The text states northern wall, but no wall is evident on Figure 3-1.
3. Section 3-4, page 3-4, second paragraph, fourth sentence
This sentence should be revised to read “Eh and pH normally are....”
4. Section 3.5, page 3-4, first paragraph, first sentence
This sentence should be revised to read “...near the southwest corner....”
5. Table 3-4
Please indicate to which sampling event, July 99 or Jan 00, each of the data sets corresponds.
6. Figure 3-1
 - Change the sample location reference numbers on this figure to match the text (i.e. R147SS01 should be RI47SS01).
 - The text descriptions of RI47SS03 and RI47SS04 are not accurately portrayed on this figure. Please correct this oversight in the final version of the document.
 - Please add graphics showing the ditch in which sample RI47SS04 was collected.
7. Section 6.4, page 6-4, first paragraph, third sentence
This sentence should be revised to read “Figures 6-7 through 6-8 show....”

8. Section 6.4, page 6-4, second paragraph, second sentence
This sentence should be revised to read "A wide array of VOCs were detected, particularly carbon tetrachloride at a concentration of 286,340 ug/l and chloroform at a concentration of 57,570 ug/l."
9. Figures 6-1 through 6-8
Change the sample location reference numbers on these figures to match the text (i.e. R147SS01 should be RI47SS01).
10. Section 9.1.1, page 9-1, second paragraph, third sentence
This sentence references a figure X. Please change this reference to the correct figure number in the final document.
11. Section 9.1.1, page 9-1, second paragraph, fourth sentence
This sentence states that the drainage ditch is about 1 to 2 feet with mowed grassy banks. Please specify if these numbers refer to length, width or depth.
12. Section 9.1.1, page 9-2, fourth paragraph, fifth sentence
This sentence states that the eastern painted turtle is an amphibian. This is incorrect. The eastern painted turtle is a reptile.
13. Section 9.1.2, page 9-3, first paragraph, second sentence
This sentence should be revised to read "...downgradient sample RI47SD04...."
14. Section 9.1.3.1, page 9-3, second paragraph, first sentence
This sentence should be revised to read "Receptors at the site include invertebrates, birds...."