



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
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Governor

Kendl P. Philbrick
Acting Secretary

Michael S. Steele
Lt. Governor

January 5, 2004

Mr. Walter Legg
Engineering Field Activity Chesapeake
Washington Navy Yard, Building 212
1314 Harwood Street SE
Washington DC 20374-5018

Re: Draft-Final Proposed Plan for Operable Unit 3, Natural Attenuation Institutional Controls and Monitoring, Former Naval Surface Warfare Center White Oak, Silver Spring, Maryland, dated December 2003

Dear Mr. Legg:

The Federal Facilities Section of the Maryland Department of the Environment's Waste Management Administration has reviewed the above-referenced document. This document presents a preferred remedial alternative for groundwater at Operable Unit 3 of the former Naval Surface Warfare Center White Oak.

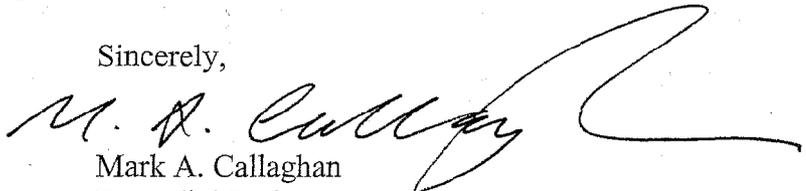
Operable Unit 3 consists of the groundwater underlying and the surface water adjacent to Sites 1 and 2, the Parking Lot Landfill and the Apple Orchard Landfill, respectively. The proposed plan recommends natural attenuation with long-term monitoring and institutional controls to address groundwater contamination at Operable Unit 3.

The Navy maintains that the prior capping of the sources for the existing groundwater contamination combined with the natural attenuation of groundwater contaminants and institutional controls on the use of site groundwater will effectively mitigate risk associated with exposure to groundwater. Long-term monitoring will be performed to verify the effectiveness of the preferred alternative. Surface water has not been impacted at this site; therefore, the Navy believes that no further action is warranted specifically for this media.

Mr. Walter Legg
Page Two

The Federal Facilities Section has no further comments on the above-referenced document. If you have any questions, please contact me at (410) 537-3440.

Sincerely,



Mark A. Callaghan
Remedial Project Manager

cc: Mr. Bruce Beach
Mr. Scott Nesbit
Ms. Kathy Landkrohn
Mr. Jonas Jacobson
Mr. Karl Kalbacher