



**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 625 • Baltimore MD 21230-1719  
410-537-3000 • 1-800-633-6101

N60921.AR.000441  
NSWC WHITE OAK  
5090.3a

Section: 04.01  
Site 20903-5640 (White Oak)  
Doc. #: 0006

00519

Parris N. Glendening  
Governor

Richard F. Pecora  
Secretary

Kathleen Kennedy Townsend  
Lt. Governor

Merrylin Zaw-Mon  
Deputy Secretary

October 1, 2002

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

Re: Draft-Final Site 11 Groundwater Data Gap Report, Former Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) White Oak, Silver Spring, Maryland, dated July 2002

Dear Mr. Legg:

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

If you have any questions, please contact me at (410) 537-3440. Please be advised that our new address is as follows: 1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 625, Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1719.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Callaghan  
Remedial Project Manager  
Federal/NPL Superfund Division

MAC:bjm

cc: Mr. Bruce Beech  
Mr. Scott Nesbit  
Mr. Richard Collins  
Mr. Karl Kalbacher

*"Together We Can Clean Up"*

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

Comments on:

Draft-Final Site 11 Groundwater Data Gap Report, Former Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) White Oak, Silver Spring, Maryland, dated July 2002.

General Comments:

Figures should be provided within this document that delineate and reveal the extent of the groundwater plumes for volatile organic compounds, chromium and perchlorate within each significant vertical horizon.

Specific Comments:

1. Section 3.2.3 Perchlorate, page 3-5.

The current detection limit for perchlorate within this study is 5 µg/l. The Navy should be aware that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has made recent progress in achieving lower detection limits. Therefore, for future groundwater sampling events, the Navy should endeavor to analyze for perchlorate using a detection method that is sufficient to report an advisory level or a maximum contaminant level should one be developed.

2. Section 3.3.6 Data Gap 6 – Projection of Contaminant Concentration trends over time, page 3-9.

Until a national or State standard is developed for perchlorate, the Maryland Department of the Environment is recommending an advisory level that has been applied in Maryland of 1 part per billion for perchlorate in finished drinking water. The Navy should evaluate contaminant concentration trends over time based on this advisory level.

3. Table 3-6 Cleanup Rate Projections

Please refer to comment number 2.