



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

DEC 17 2002

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Christopher T. Penny
Project Coordinator
Installation Restoration Section (South)
Environmental Program Branch
Environmental Division,
Atlantic Division (LANTDIV), Code 182
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
1510 Gilbert Street
Norfolk, VA 23511-2699

Re: Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Facility (AFWTF), Vieques Island, PR
Comments received during the public comment period from August 7, 2002
to November 8, 2002; EPA I.D.#: PRD980536221

Dear Mr. Penny:

Enclosed please find all comments received by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 2 during the public review and comment period from August 7, 2002 to November 8, 2002, regarding the investigation work plans developed pursuant to the January 2000 RCRA Administrative Order.

Comments were received from the following, and are enclosed:

1. Center for Public Environmental Oversight, letter dated November 7, 2002 with 5 enclosed sets of comments.
2. Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (EQB): 2 sets of comments.
 - a) Letter from Director, Land Pollution Regulation Program, dated November 6, 2002; and
 - b) Email of November 7, 2002 from Ms. Yarissa Martinez, transmitting 43 pages of comments from EQB's consultant.
3. Comments from Rafael Cruz Perez, P.E., on behalf of the Commissioner of Vieques and Culebra. Faxed to EPA on November 8, 2002 by EQB.

4. Fellowship of Reconciliation, Task Force on Latin America and the Caribbean, unsigned letter dated November 8, 2002 from John Lindsay-Poland. Emailed to EPA on November 9, 2002 by John Lindsay-Poland.
5. Arc Ecology, letter dated November 8, 2002.
6. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service - 2 comment letters:
 - a) dated November 7, 2002, and
 - b) dated November 20, 2002.
7. Comments from Jorge Fernandez and Lirio Marquez, Advisers, Puerto Rican Independence Party, Emailed to EPA on November 9, 2002 [in Spanish, translation prepared for EPA is also enclosed].
8. Centro de Investigaciones Arqueologias, Bieque, letter dated October 31, 2002 [in Spanish, translation prepared for EPA is also enclosed].
9. Fax from Linden P. Martineau received on November 13, 2002.
10. 4 comments by Ms. E A. Mills submitted at the August 15, 2002 Public Availability meeting.
11. 1 comment by Ricardo R. Jordan submitted at the August 15, 2002 Public Availability meeting.
12. 11 pages of hand-written comments [unsigned], submitted by Ms. Stacie Notine and received by EPA on November 14, 2002.

As had been discussed with you prior to commencement of the public comment period, the Navy agreed to assist EPA in drafting responses to the comments received. Accordingly, EPA requests that the Navy prepare written draft responses to all comments included under items 1, and 2 above [comments from Center for Public Environmental Oversight and the PR EQB]. Please submit those draft responses to EPA within 45 days of your receipt of this letter. Also, please concurrently E-mail to Mr. Tim Gordon, of my staff, an electronic file containing your draft responses to items 1 and 2 above.

If you have questions regarding the above, please telephone Mr. Gordon at (212) 637- 4167.

Sincerely,



Adolph S. Everett, P.E.
Acting Chief
RCRA Programs Branch

Enclosures

cc: Captain John R. Warnecke, **NAVSTA** Roosevelt Roads w/o encl.
Ms. Madeline Rivera, NAVSTA Roosevelt **Roads** w/encl.
Ms. Virginia Farris, **CH2MHILL** w/encl.
Mr. John Tomik, **CH2MHILL** w/o encl.