



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

October 16, 1998

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:
DW-8J

Ms. Christine Freeman
Environmental Protection Department
Naval Surface Warfare Center
300 Highway 361
Crane, Indiana 4752-5000

RE: Compost Soil Test Plot
Bioremediation Facility SWMU 33/00
Naval Surface Warfare Center
Crane, Indiana
IN5 170 023 498

Dear Ms. Freeman:

At the October 8, 1998, Face-to-Face Contractor Meeting the Navy and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) discussed the options for the finished compost soil reuse. The U.S. EPA hereby approves the creation of a test plot to establish the best placement methods and vegetation to be used. Our approval includes the following provisions:

1. The oldest (i.e., coldest soil) meeting residential cleanup goals shall be used.
2. The location of the test plot will be located within the Mine Fill A Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) Area. The exact dimensions and location will be decided by the Navy.
3. The location of the test plot shall not allow erosion to any surface water.
4. Erosion controls within Mine Fill A shall be used until vegetation is established.
5. The Navy will approve the final seed mix appropriate for the soil type and location.
6. The Navy is responsible for implementation plans, the test period, and final acceptance of sufficient vegetation growth, to show the seed mix and compost will establish healthy growth.
7. No food chain vegetation (human and mammal) shall be used. Only grasses or native plants (including yuccas) may be used.

8. The Navy may experiment on smaller plots to establish what temperature of compost soil is required to begin vegetation growth.

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9. The Navy shall submit a report on the test findings, with photo documentation, on how the test plot was created; where; and the results of the vegetation growth. This report is to support further decisions on later Institutional Controls which may be established.

We hope this establishes a mechanism where the Navy implements this activity based on performance, thereby reducing any need for Agency approvals of any specific Navy contractor plans. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (312) 886-6146.

Sincerely,



Carol Witt-Smith
Corrective Action Expert
WMB, IL/IN/MI Section

cc: NSWC Core Team: Tom Brent (NSWC), Bill Gates (SOUTHDIV)
NSWC Management Team: Jim Hunsicker (NSWC), Jim Ferro (SOUTHDIV), Hak Cho (USEPA), Mark Shultz (Great Lakes)
NSWC Project Team: Dave Beall (MK), Brent Robinson (NSWC), Mario Mangino, Dan Mazur (USEPA WMB)

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