



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

SEP 27 2000

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

DW-8J

Mr. Tom Brent
Naval Surface Warfare Center
EPD, Code 095 B-3260
300 Highway 361
Crane, IN 47522-5001

Re: Base-Wide Background Soil
Investigation Report Comments

Dear Mr. Brent:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has reviewed the Base-Wide Background Soil Investigation Report dated July 2000.

Attached you will find U.S. EPA's comments. Please revise the report to address these comments.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (312) 886-7890.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Ramanauskas".

Peter Ramanauskas
Environmental Engineer
WMB, Corrective Action Section

Enclosure

F:\USER\PRAMANA\Crane\Background Soil\Background Soil Report Comments.wpd

cc: Core Team Members: Bill Gates, SOUTHDIV (w/ encl)
Doug Griffin, IDEM (w/ encl)

Project Team Members: Allen Debus, USEPA (w/ encl)

USEPA Comments
Basewide Background Soil Investigation Report, Revision 0, July 2000
Naval Surface Warfare Center
Crane, Indiana

Comment 1:

Referring to Section 2.7.2.2., third paragraph, soil boring BG2SBL03 does not exist in Appendix B. Should this be BG1SBL03?

Comment 2:

Section 3.7.2. indicates that the 'J' qualifier is "added as a matter of routine to all results between the soil-adjusted IDL and the laboratory reporting limit." However, Section 7.2.1. of the QAPP states that "Analytes exceeding soil-adjusted, sample specific IDLs but less than RLs will be considered to have been detected, but the results will be qualified by the laboratory with a 'B' qualifier..." Clarify.

Comment 3:

Sample location BG1SBL02 is missing from Table 3-5.

Comment 4:

Section 4.2 makes reference to a non-existent Figure 4-2.

Comment 5:

The statement in the fourth paragraph of Section 4.3, "All of entries in Table 4-12 are less than unity" is not accurate. There are no values shown in Table 4-12 that are less than one.

Comment 6:

In Appendix C, there are several inconsistencies evident in many of the soil reports. For instance, while the listed qualifier codes indicate rampant lab and field blank contamination, the cover "internal correspondence" letter indicates blank contamination of far less proportion. Is this due to an error in data validation or a misreading of the data validation reports? An example would be the case of zinc in SDG-C8305, dated 2/21/00, which has been coded 'B' in certain samples even though the "internal correspondence" report indicates that zinc was not apparently detected in blank samples.