



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

N00164.AR.000678
NSWC CRANE
5090.3a

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

October 30, 2001

DW-8J

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

Re: Letter of Approval
Phase II Ground Water RFI Report
SWMU #30 - Landfarm
INS 170 023 498

Dear Mr. Brent:

We have reviewed and hereby approve the Draft Phase II RCRA Facility Investigation Report submitted for Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) #30 (Landfarm) dated May 2001.

This SWMU consists of approximately 18 miles of roadside where, in December 1983, the Navy obtained a sludge application permit to spray sludges from its wastewater treatment plant along the roadside near the western boundary of the facility. In April 1988, the Navy was issued a permit to apply the sludge to a 2.5 acre site which became known as the Landfarm. The U.S. EPA became concerned that the sludges applied at the Landfarm should be characterized as F006 listed hazardous waste. In 1995, U.S. EPA renewed and modified the NSWC Crane hazardous waste operating permit to include the Landfarm as SWMU #30 to settle the enforcement issue concerning F006. The corrective action schedule required NSWC Crane to investigate if the previous application of sludges possibly contaminated with plating wastes had adversely affected the shallow ground water regime. Five rounds of ground water data collection taken between October 1999 and October 2000 have shown no statistically significant impacts to ground water quality from this SWMU. The results of the Landfarm work will be used to determine the need for activity along the 18 miles of roadside.

Based on the results of ground water data found in the Report, the Navy's contractor has recommended no further action at this SWMU for all media. Should the Navy wish to proceed in this manner, the U.S. EPA recommends that the Navy proceed with drafting a risk screening document for this SWMU as part of an official no further action request (as was done for previous SWMUs such as the Lithium Battery Site). Please refer to the *Technical Guidance on Risk Screening Documentation for Removal of Solid Waste Management Units from Further Corrective Action Activity, Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane, Indiana* dated August 1999 for

more information. The U.S. EPA also recommends that the Navy take soil/sludge samples from the Landfarm site in order to identify any potential risks that may be present due to the soil/sludge exposure pathway. The samples should be surface soil samples (0 to 1 foot) tested for total metals and compared to the Basewide Background Soil Investigation levels, and risk based screening levels for soils (human health and ecological). This would determine what, if any, institutional and/or engineering controls might be necessary for the SWMU should soil/sludge sampling show elevated levels of constituents.

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

Sincerely,



Peter Ramanauskas
Environmental Engineer
WMB, Corrective Action Section

FAUSER\PRAMANAUS\Cranel\Landfarm\Landfarm RFI Report Approval.wpd

cc: Core Team Members:

Bill Gates, SOUTHDIV
Doug Griffin, IDEM

Project Team Members:

Allen Debus, USEPA
Mario Mangino, USEPA
Dan Mazur, USEPA
File