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LETTER AND APPROVAL FROM U S EPA REGION V REGARDING RCRA FACILITY
INVESTIGATION REPORT FOR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNIT 1 (SWMU1)NSA
CRANE IN
6/21/2005
U S EPA REGION V

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

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June 21, 2005

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: Letter of Approval
Final RFI Report – October 2004
SWMU #1 – Mustard Gas Burial
Grounds

Dear Mr. Brent:

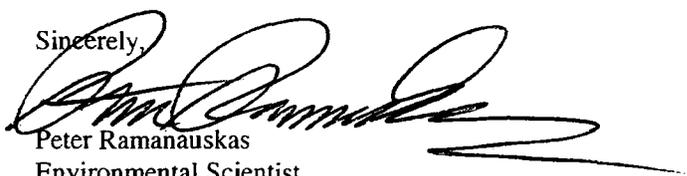
The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has reviewed the Navy's Response to Comments and revised Final RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) Report for Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) #1 – Mustard Gas Burial Grounds (MGBG) dated October 2004. The RFI evaluated human health and ecological risks present from metals, volatile organic chemicals (VOC's), semivolatile organic chemicals (SVOCs), energetics, pesticides, herbicides, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in soils, groundwater, surface water, and sediments at SWMU #1. Additional targeted chemicals in groundwater and soil included mustard gas, mustard gas degradation products, and select radionuclides. Metals, VOCs, the herbicide 2,4-D, and PAHs were detected and retained as chemicals of potential concern (COPCs) in MGBG soils. Metals, VOCs, SVOCs, energetics, and pesticides were detected and retained as COPCs in MGBG groundwater. VOCs, SVOCs, the pesticide Heptachlor, and HMX were retained as ecological COPCs in MGBG sediment. No chemical constituents of concern were detected in surface water samples. Mustard gas, mustard gas degradates, and radiological contaminants were not detected, although background concentrations of radionuclides were observed.

The MGBG is an inactive site. The conclusions of the RFI show no current unacceptable risks to human health or ecological receptors. Carcinogenic and non-carcinogenic risks are present to hypothetical future construction workers, adult, and child residents based on exposure to groundwater in future excavation projects or via ingestion. The risk is due to the presence of VOCs and metals. There are no unacceptable ecological risks at the MGBG.

The RFI report is approved. The Navy has submitted a Corrective Measures Study (CMS) in which multiple remedial alternatives for SWMU #1 groundwater are evaluated. This report is currently under U.S. EPA review. The selected remedy will ensure risks to hypothetical future human receptors at SWMU #1 are properly managed.

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

Sincerely,



Peter Ramanauskas
Environmental Scientist
RCRA Corrective Action Section

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cc: Core Team Members:

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