



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

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NWS EARLE
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AUG 6 - 1996

Mr. Greg Goepfert
Environmental Engineer
Naval Weapons Station Earle
Code 043, Bldg. C-54
201 Highway 34 South
Colts Neck, NJ 07722-5014

Re: Review of the Navy's *Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis and Action Memorandum* for the Proposed Removal Action at Sites 24 and 25, NWS Earle, Colts Neck, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Goepfert :

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Navy's *Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis and Action Memorandum* for Sites 24 and 25 at NWS Earle which was submitted for review on July 11, 1996. We concur with the Navy's decision to remove metal bullets from these sites to prevent future contamination of surface soils (via surface water runoff) or groundwater (via leachate from soil). Of minor concern, we note that the "cleanup numbers" discussed in the two documents are not "ARARs," but instead are guidelines. Consideration should also be given to the EPA guidance criteria of 500 ppb for lead.

We are very supportive of the Navy's efforts through this removal action to address environmental concerns at NWS Earle. If you have any questions, please call me at (212) 637-4320.

Sincerely yours,

Jeffrey Gratz, Project Manager
Federal Facilities Section

cc: J. Kolicius, Navy-Northern Div. ✓
B. Marcolina, NJDEP