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NWS EARLE
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State of New Jersey

Christine Todd Whitman
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection

Robert C. Shinn, Jr.
Commissioner

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
NO: P 479 208 776

JUN 03 1998

John Kolicius
Northern Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
10 Industrial Highway, Mail Stop 82
Lester, PA 19113

Dear Mr. Kolicius:

Re: Review of Draft Feasibility Studies for
OU-5 (Site 13) and OU-6 (Sites 3 and 10)
Naval Weapons Station Earle
Colts Neck Twp., Monmouth Co.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has reviewed the above referenced reports, prepared by Brown & Root Environmental on behalf of the Naval Weapons Station Earle, both dated December 1997. These reports are approved pending incorporation of the following comments.

OU-6

1. Section 1.3.2.4, p. 1-25: - This section of the subject document discusses the findings of previous investigations conducted at the sites. It appears that the figure, which shows the concentrations above Screening Levels for Site 3, has been omitted. This figure should be included in the revised document.
2. Figure 1-4, p.1-25: - The ground water contour map for August 7, 1995 for Site 3, shows that MW3-04 was dry during the monitoring period. It should be noted that when this well has water in it the levels of contamination of xylene have been documented at levels of 470 ppb. This fact is not discussed or evaluated.
3. Section 3.0, p. 3-1: - A remedial action alternative which incorporates the concepts of Asource@ control [through capping and institutional controls] and natural remediation should be evaluated by the contractor. Natural remediation is not synomous with ANo further Action@. Natural remediation requires that some type of bioremediation is occurring at the site and that levels of contamination are showing decreasing trends. Natural remediation also requires the contractor to conduct a pilot study to determine that the appropriate conditions at the site are facilitating natural remediation.
4. A contingency option should be included which would be instituted in the event that the contaminant levels are not decreasing.

OU-5

See Comment #4 for OU-6

If you have any questions, please call me at (609)-633-7327.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Marcolina".

Bob Marcolina, Case Manager
Bureau of Federal Case Management

c: Russ Turner, Brown & Root Environmental
Bill Roach, EPA
Greg Geopfert, NWS Earle
Lester Jargowsky, Monmouth County Health Dept.