



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL WEAPONS STATION EARLE
201 HWY 34 SOUTH
COLTS NECK, NEW JERSEY 07722-5001

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NWS EARLE
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IN REPLY REFER TO
5090
Ser 043/200
July 9, 1998

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region II
Mr. Barry Tornick, Chief
New Jersey Section, RCRA Programs Branch
290 Broadway (19th Floor)
New York, New York 10007-1866

Subj: TECHNICAL NOTICE OF DEFICIENCY, SUBPART X APPLICATION,
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY I.D. NO. NJ0170022172

Dear Mr. Tornick:

On May 18, 1998, you were provided with a letter proposing to perform groundwater and soil sampling at the Naval Weapons Station Earle open burning/open detonation (OB/OD) facility. The letter stated that under separate cover, sample locations and specific analytical methods would be presented for your review. The sampling locations and specific analytical methods are presented in this letter.

Soil and groundwater will be analyzed for all compounds identified in our letter of May 18, 1998. A quantitative method (i.e., 8270C) has been identified for the analysis of resorcinol; for trinitroresorcinol, a standard method is not available. Therefore, gas chromatography and a mass spectrograph will be used to identify the presence, and amount (if any) of this compound in soil and groundwater samples. Nitrocellulose, nitroguanidine and picric acid will be analyzed using a method devised by the U. S. Army Toxic and Hazardous Materials Agency (USATHAMA). This analytical procedure will be provided by the end of July 1998.

A summary describing sampling locations, analytical methods, reporting and method detection limits is provided:

Groundwater

Four groundwater monitoring wells located at the OB/OD Area will be sampled for Appendix IX constituents, with the only exception being dioxins and furans. One field chosen duplicate groundwater sample will be taken. Figure E-1-5 is provided as enclosure (1), which shows the locations of the four monitoring wells to be sampled (MW-2-1, MW-2-3, MW-2-5, MW-2-7).

5090
Ser 043/200
July 9, 1998

Enclosure (2) includes a list of groundwater analysis methods. Enclosure (3) includes report limits and method detection limits (MDLs) for parameters to be analyzed in groundwater. Report limits and MDLs are not yet available for nitrocellulose, nitroglycerine, and nitroquanidine, as a New Jersey approved laboratory for these analyses has not yet been identified. At the time a laboratory is identified, information on analytical methods, report limits, and MDLs will be provided.

Surface Soils

Five composite surface soil samples will be taken at the OB/OD area, three (3) from the OB area and two (2) from the OD area. Each composite sample will consist of four grab samples. Sample locations will be biased toward areas of visibly impacted soils. These locations will most likely be near the open burning pans and the OD pit. In addition, one field chosen duplicate sample will be taken for analysis. The exact locations of all samples taken will be recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) instrument.

Enclosure (4) provides a list of soil analyses methods, including report limits and MDLs for semi-volatile organic analytes (SVOAs), total metals, explosives compounds listed under method 8330, and target detection limits for dioxins/furans. Report limits and MDLs are not yet available for nitrocellulose, nitroglycerine, and nitroquanidine, as a New Jersey approved laboratory for these analyses has not yet been identified. At the time a laboratory is identified, information on analytical methods, report limits, and MDLs will be provided.

Your review and approval of this sampling and analysis plan is requested. Upon your approval, final contractual arrangements will be made such that sampling can begin. We would like to schedule a mutually convenient sampling date in late August 1998. You will be provided with at least two weeks advance notice of the date when sampling will take place so that your quality assurance personnel may have an opportunity to witness the sampling event.

Please advise Mr. Gregory J. Goepfert, Environmental Engineer, if you require any further information regarding this plan. He may be contacted at (732) 866-2515.

5090
Ser 043/200
July 9, 1998

Sincerely,



A. L. HERMANNI
By direction of the
Commanding Officer

Copy to: New Jersey Dept. of Environmental Protection
(J. Scott, Bureau of Haz. Waste Eng.) w/enclosures
(R. Marcolina, Federal Case Manager) w/o enclosures
NORTHDIV (P. Burgio, Code 18) w/enclosures
NORTHDIV (J. Kolicus, Code 18) w/o enclosures
WPNSTA Earle Base Civil Engineering Dept., (Code 09) w/o enclosures
WPNSTA Earle EOD Detachment, (LT. Lehardy) w/o enclosures
Ralph Basinski, Tetra Tech, NUS Environmental w/o enclosures