



State of New Jersey

Department of Environmental Protection
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Richard J. Codey
Acting Governor

Bradley M. Campbell
Commissioner
Tel. # (609) 292-2885
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September 12, 2005

Ms. Michele DiGeambeardino
Remedial Project Manager
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
10 Industrial Highway
Code 1821, Mail Stop 82
Lester, PA 19113-2090

Dear Ms. DiGeambeardino:

Re: Draft Record of Decision (ROD) for Operable Unit #7
Site 26 PCE Plume
Naval Weapons Station Earle

Colts Neck Twp., Monmouth Co.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has reviewed the December 2004 draft ROD prepared by Tetra Tech NUS, Inc. on behalf of Naval Weapons Earle for Operable Unit #7 (Site 26 PCE Plume).

The ROD has chosen Natural Attenuation, Institutional Controls and Long Term Monitoring as the remedial alternative for this site. This includes establishing a Classification Exception Area (CEA) to provide official notice that ground water constituent standards will not be met for a specified duration and that the use of groundwater in the affected area will be prohibited until such time that the groundwater constituent standards are met. A notification will be placed in the Base Master Plan noting the PCE exceedances found in the groundwater.

This particular Operable Unit was originally part of Operable Unit #3 in which an Air Sparging/Soil Vapor Extraction Unit (AS/SVE) was installed to address a TCE and DCE plume. As the AS/SVE unit was operating, a PCE plume was found that is partially commingled with the TCE/DCE plume. The PCE was found to come from a different source (on the same site) than the TCE plume. The PCE plume originates from Building GB-2. The TCE/DCE plume originates from Building GB-1. The AS/SVE system was installed in January 2001 and has succeeded in removing the bulk of both plumes. Downgradient sentry wells have been installed to verify the plume has not migrated. To date, VOCs have not been detected in the sentry wells. Quarterly groundwater monitoring and annual evaluation of the AS/SVE system is ongoing.

The NJDEP concurs with the chosen remedial alternative for Operable Unit #7. We appreciate the opportunity to participate in the remedial decision making process.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Bob Marcolina, of my staff at (609)-633-7237.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bradley M. Campbell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Bradley M. Campbell
Commissioner

c: Jessica Mollin, EPA
Larry Burg, NWS Earle
Lester Jargowsky, Monmouth Co. Health Dept.
Bob Marcolina, BCM