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LETTER REGARDING THE TRANSMITTAL OF THE THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT FOR
REPORTING PERIOD JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2009 NWS EARLE NJ
10/26/2009
TETRA TECH



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PHIL-23288

October 26, 2009

Project Number 112G02091

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Mid-Atlantic
Northeast IPT
9742 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23511-3095

Attn: Mr. Roberto Pagtalunan, P.E.

Reference: CLEAN Contract No N62470-08-D-1001
Contract Task Order (CTO) No. WE15

Subject: Submission of Third Quarterly Report
Reporting Period July 2009 through September 2009
Naval Weapons Station Earle, Colts Neck, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Pagtalunan:

Tetra Tech NUS, Inc. (Tetra Tech) is pleased to submit the enclosed Quarterly Report for the Reporting Period July 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009. The report details the Installation Restoration Program (IRP) activities conducted during the subject period at the Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Earle, located in Colts Neck, New Jersey.

In accordance with your request, copies of this report are being forwarded under cover of this letter to Ms. Jessica Mollin at EPA Region 2 and Ms. Erica Bergman at NJDEP.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this document. Should you have any questions or require additional copies please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mary M. Mang, CHMM
Environmental Project Manager

MMM/pg

Enclosure

c: Eric Helms (NWS Earle) (2 copies)
Jessica Mollin (EPA) (3 copies)
Erica Bergman (NJDEP) (3 copies)
Garth Glenn (Tetra Tech, Norfolk) (no enclosure)
John Trepanowski (Tetra Tech, King of Prussia)
Bonnie Capito (NAVFAC Lant) (no enclosure)
Glenn Wagner (Tetra Tech, North Shore)
File

**Naval Weapons Station Earle
Colts Neck, New Jersey**

**Quarterly Report
Reporting Period July 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009**

This report details the Installation Restoration Program (IRP) activities conducted by the Navy during the period of July 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009 at the Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Earle located in Colts Neck, New Jersey.

SITE-WIDE

On October 1, 2008, the Navy submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) the *Site Management Plan (SMP)* for Fiscal Years 2008 through 2012. The Navy uses the report as a management tool for planning environmental investigation and remedial response activities at the NWS Earle Environmental Restoration sites during the planning period. The Navy had previously submitted the Draft Site Management Plan for Fiscal Years 2007 through 2011 for NWS Earle to the EPA and NJDEP on March 22, 2007. To date, the Navy has received no comments from EPA or NJDEP on the Fiscal Years 2007 through 2011 SMP. During the reporting period, Tetra Tech and the Navy continued with preparation of the Draft SMP for Fiscal Years 2009 through 2013.

On April 2, 2009, a meeting was held at the NJDEP office in Trenton, New Jersey. Meeting attendees included representatives from NJDEP and Tetra Tech. Navy and EPA representatives participated in the meeting via conference call. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss groundwater sampling at Site 7 and the preparation of responses to comments raised on the various Draft Groundwater Classification Exception Area (CEA) Documentation reports for Sites 6 (OU 9), 13 (OU 5), 17 (OU 9) and 26 (OU 3 and OU 7) and proposed submissions for Sites 4 and 5 (OU 1), Sites 3 and 10 (OU 6), and Site 19 (OU 2). Based on this meeting, the Navy agreed to sample Site 7 groundwater for certain volatile organics (see Operable Unit 10). Agreement on the submission of reports detailing groundwater sampling results compared to site background results was also reached for certain sites where site inorganic concentrations in groundwater may be impacted by background conditions. CEA related documentation that was prepared or sampling conducted during this reporting period, are presented in the following site-specific sections.

The draft *Biennial Certification Report for a Groundwater Classification Exception Area (CEA) at Area of Concern (AOC) R-6/7 and R-12* was submitted to NJDEP on May 15, 2009. No review comments have been received to date.

OPERABLE UNIT 1 (SITES 4 and 5)

ECOR Solutions, Inc. (ECOR) conducted annual long-term monitoring at Sites 4 and 5 during the last week of October/first week of November 2008. During the previous reporting period, the Navy provided ECOR with review comments on the draft report of results. ECOR completed preparation of the final report, which was submitted to NJDEP and EPA on May 29, 2009.

OPERABLE UNIT 2 (SITE 19)

On behalf of the Navy, ECOR collected annual groundwater, surface water and sediment samples at Site 19 during the last week of October/first week of November 2008. During the previous reporting period, the Navy provided ECOR with review comments on the draft report of results. ECOR completed preparation of the final report, which was submitted to NJDEP and EPA on May 29, 2009.

Based on the April 2009 meeting with NJDEP, Tetra Tech prepared a *Technical Memorandum for Site 19 Groundwater*. The memorandum summarized the long-term monitoring results and compared them to site background results. Based on this comparison and current levels of site-related compounds, the report recommended that a groundwater CEA and long-term monitoring are no longer required for Site 19. On behalf of the Navy, Tetra Tech submitted the memorandum to NJDEP and EPA on June 19, 2009. As outlined in correspondence dated September 22, 2009, EPA did not agree and indicated that long-term monitoring is still warranted at Site 19.

OPERABLE UNIT 3 (SITE 26)

The Navy conducted no new sampling or reporting activities at OU 3 during the reporting period.

The *Addendum to the Draft Classification Exception Area (CEA) Documentation Report for Site 26* was submitted to NJDEP in November 2006. Comments were received from the NJDEP on June 25, 2008 and are being addressed.

OPERABLE UNIT 5 (SITE 13)

On behalf of the Navy, ECOR collected annual groundwater samples at Site 13 during the last week of October/first week of November 2008. During the previous reporting period, the Navy provided ECOR with review comments on the draft report of results. ECOR completed preparation of the final report, which was submitted to NJDEP and EPA on May 29, 2009.

NJDEP comments on the CEA Investigation Report were received on June 25, 2008 and are being addressed.

OPERABLE UNIT 6 (SITES 3 and 10)

On behalf of the Navy, ECOR collected annual groundwater samples at Sites 3 and 10 during the last week of October/first week of November 2008. During the previous reporting period, the Navy provided ECOR with review comments on the draft report of results. ECOR completed preparation of the final report, which was submitted to NJDEP and EPA on May 29, 2009.

OPERABLE UNIT 7 (SITE 26 PCE PLUME)

The Navy did not conduct any new activities at OU 7 during the reporting period.

OPERABLE UNIT 8 (SITES 1 and 11)

On behalf of the Navy, Tetra Tech collected groundwater samples from the Site 1 monitoring wells and two background wells in accordance with the *Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) for Site 1 Groundwater*. Samples were collected during the week of July 7, 2009, and submitted to CompuChem Laboratories for analysis. The *Draft Site 1 Groundwater Sampling Report* was prepared and summarized the sampling methodology, findings and conclusions. The report was submitted to the NJDEP and EPA on September 17, 2009. The Navy is currently waiting for any review comments or concurrence on the sampling recommendations.

The Addendum to the *Draft CEA Documentation Report for Site 1* was submitted to NJDEP in November 2006. The Navy received NJDEP review comments on June 25, 2008. Work on the revised report is on hold pending EPA and NJDEP review of the September 2009 sampling report.

Site 11 is a no further action site.

OPERABLE UNIT 9 (SITES 6, 12, 15, and 17)

The *Addendum to the Draft Classification Exception Area (CEA) Documentation Report for Site 6* was submitted to NJDEP in November 2006. Comments were received from the NJDEP on June 25, 2008 and are being addressed.

The *Addendum to the Draft Classification Exception Area (CEA) Documentation Report for Site 17* was submitted to NJDEP in November 2006. Comments were received from the NJDEP on June 25, 2008 and are being addressed.

OPERABLE UNIT 10 (SITE 7)

On behalf of the Navy, Tetra Tech collected groundwater samples from two new locations at Site 7 in accordance with the *Sampling and Analysis Plan for Site 7 Groundwater*. Samples were collected during the week of July 7, 2009, and submitted to Empirical Laboratories for analysis of specific volatile organic compounds. The *Site 7 Groundwater Sampling Report* was prepared and summarized the sampling methodology, findings and conclusions. The report was submitted to the NJDEP and EPA on September 3, 2009. The Navy is currently waiting for any review comments or concurrence on the sampling recommendations.

During the reporting period, the initial draft *Record of Decision (ROD) for Site 7, Operable Unit 10* was prepared and submitted to the EPA and NJDEP for review and comment. The initial draft ROD was prepared in accordance with Navy guidance for *Improved Records of Decision (IROD)* and submitted on August 26, 2009. The Navy received review comments from EPA and NJDEP and revised the ROD in accordance with EPA guidance. As part of the review and comment resolution, the Navy and Tetra Tech project personnel participated in several phone conversations/conference calls with the EPA project manager. The draft ROD was submitted to EPA and NJDEP on September 25, 2009.

SITES 9, 41, and 46

On May 6, 2009, the Navy submitted the *Draft Record of Consensus Agreement for No Further Action, Sites 9, 41 and 46* to the EPA and NJDEP for review and comment. The purpose of the document was to summarize historical investigation methodologies and findings conducted at each of the sites and provide the Navy's recommendations and basis for no further action. To date, EPA has provided the Navy with

some verbal communication regarding their review. The Navy is waiting for final EPA review comments and direction regarding the type of decision document required for these three sites.

SITE 16/EPIC SITE F (BUILDING C-50 DIESEL FUEL LINE)

As tasked by the Navy, Tetra Tech completed an optimization review of the Site 16/F bioslurper system that is currently used as part of the long-term remedy, to recover floating product within the Site 16/F source area. During the reporting period, the Navy and Tetra Tech completed their review and preparation of the *Bioslurper Optimization Report*. The Navy will submit the report to NJDEP.

The Navy submitted the *Final Bioslurper Status Report (March 2009 – May 2009)*, that outlines the quarterly monitoring results, to the NJDEP on July 29, 2009.

Work on the draft *Biennial Certification Report for a Groundwater CEA at Site 16/F* is currently on hold pending NJDEP resolution of comments on the most recent bioslurper status and monitoring report.