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LETTER DISCUSSING A STUDY ENTITLED A MANAGEMENT REVIEW OF THE
SUPERFUND PROGRAM NWS EARLE NJ
8/18/1989
U S EPA REGION II



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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AUG 18 1989

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPON

Lewis D. Walker
Deputy Assistant Secretary
OASA (I & L) Room 2E577
Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20310-0103

*This same letter
went to AF, Navy,
DOE*

Dear Mr. Walker:

As you may know, EPA recently released a study entitled "A Management Review of the Superfund Program." A copy of the study is enclosed for your review. The study provides an assessment of the program after nine years of experience and includes a long-term strategy for Superfund.

To summarize, the strategy consists of eight major elements. The first three elements are the environmental goals of the cleanup process: making sites "safer" and "cleaner" as well as monitoring and maintaining sites to ensure they remain safe. The additional five elements are the means EPA will use to achieve "safer" and "cleaner" sites: more enforcement to get more PRP cleanups, greater development and use of permanent and innovative technologies, more efficiency in program operations, greater public participation, and greater cooperation with State agencies and natural resource trustees.

The purpose of this letter is to involve you in the implementation of the recommendations of the Management Review. Specifically, in the first element of the strategy, the EPA Administrator directed that there be a quick assessment of NPL sites to determine whether actions are needed to render sites safe from immediate hazards to public health and the environment. EPA has set a goal of conducting removal assessments at all "unaddressed" NPL sites (both proposed and final) by the end of FY 1989 (unaddressed sites are sites which have had neither removal nor remedial activity).

I anticipate that most of your facilities have already received some substantive action under the Installation Restoration Program and a removal assessment will not be necessary. However, if any of your facilities are "unaddressed," please assist us in meeting our goal by conducting removal assessments at these facilities by

September 30, 1989. Please provide a copy of the removal assessment as well as notice of any subsequent removal actions planned at the facility to the appropriate EPA Regional office so that EPA can review and comment on any removal activities.

If you have any questions concerning the removal assessments, please contact me or Chris Grundler of my staff at 475-9801.

Sincerely,

for Elaine Stanley
Bruce M. Diamond, Director
Office of Waste Programs
Enforcement

Enclosure

cc: Henry Longest, OERR
Richard Sanderson, OFA