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LETTER REGARDING IEMA INCIDENT 20080817 FORT SHERIDAN IL
7/2/2008
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND
MIDWEST
201 DECATUR AVENUE, BUILDING 1-A
GREAT LAKES, ILLINOIS 60088-2801

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Ser EV/ 0412
JUL 02 2008

Mr. Edward Osowski, Senior Emergency Responder
Emergency Operations Unit
Office of Emergency Response
1021 North Grand Avenue East
Post Office Box 19276, Mail Drop #29
Springfield, IL 62794-9276

Dear Mr. Osowski:

SUBJECT: IEMA INCIDENT 20080817, FT. SHERIDAN RELEASE, HIGHLAND
PARK, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

This letter is in response to the letter received from your office dated June 11, 2008 in regards to the release of a petroleum product at Fort Sheridan, Building 336. The release occurred during the demolition of Building 336 by a contractor working for Forest City Military Communities (FC), our operator of military family housing under lease on subject property.

The following is a summary of the incident based on the information available at this time:

- At approximately 1045, on June 9, 2008, FC's demolition subcontractor, Lenzini Excavating (LE) began to remove the concrete slab of building 336 in the area know as Bole's Loop.

At 1115, LE noticed a significant amount of what appeared to be a petroleum contaminant in the sub base of the slab. They contacted our General Contractor, Curran Contracting (CC), to notify them of the potential situation. LE was instructed to cease operations until review of the site was performed.

At 1200, the Sr. Superintendent from CC arrived on site and verified the potential condition. FC was notified shortly after the conditions were verified by Curran. FC mobilized their subcontractor to stand-by for a response action and while they brought in their environmental contractor MACTEC.

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At 1400, MACTEC arrived on the scene and assessed the site. At 1445, FC with MACTEC identified an immediate concern for a potential release to Bartlett Ravine and potentially Lake Michigan. FC proceeded to dig a trench and berm the area in order to prevent further spread of the contamination. At approximately 1615, FC, and MACTEC, notified the Navy of the incident. At that time, the Navy took over the response action.

- Notifications were made to IL EMA, Lake County Emergency Management Agency, Naval Station Great Lakes and the Highwood Fire Department
- Following notification by FC and MACTEC of the release, Navy environmental personnel (Mark Schultz and Howard Hickey) drove to the site to assess the situation. The Navy determined that further emergency response action was needed and initiated a 2 tiered action.

The Navy immediately notified the Navy spill response personnel and requested they initiate emergency measure to contain the contaminated material flowing down the hillside to Bartlett ravine. Booms and adsorbent pads were placed at the bottom of the hill, where the hill meets Bartlett Ravine, and also along the hillside flow paths. Water samples were also taken at locations along the hillside and in Bartlett Ravine. The results, attached, indicated that no contamination was released to the ravine or the Lake. These actions were completed by 1800 on June 9.

By 1930, the Navy had a contract in place to continue the response action and had briefed the contractor. The response contractor was to stabilize the area, removed visible contaminated water and soil and to develop an investigation plan to determine the source of the material.

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By 0800, June 10, the Navy contractor was mobilized and on scene as well as navy personnel, Brian Conrath of the IEPA (Mr. Conrath was on site for a project scoping meeting and was not specifically called in for the spill incident). Also, on scene were FC personnel and Army representatives who manage the environmental action at Ft. Sheridan for the Army.

Between June 10 and June 12, the area was stabilized, 2 roll-off pans were filled with excavated contaminated soils, approximately 40 cubic yards, and approximately 1450 gallons of potentially contaminated water was contained in a potable tank. Samples were taken to support the investigation and waste disposal.

- Sample results indicate the material is diesel fuel #2 or fuel oil #2 and non-hazardous. Sample data is attached.
- Currently, the source of the material is still unknown. A walk down of the area and review of available information has not revealed a potential source for the material. However, several ASTs were removed from the site prior to the start of demolition work.

At this time, the waste material is awaiting disposal pending final waste characterization and profiling. The Navy anticipates having the material disposed by July 7. In addition, the Navy's contractor is developing an investigation plan to determine the extent and source of the material. Detailed summaries of the incident, from the Navy and Forest City as well as all sample results received to date, have been attached to this letter.

The Navy requests that this site be handled under the Federal Facilities Unit, with DSMOA Funding. Mr. Brian Conrath is our Project Manager for sites at Great Lakes, and Ft Sheridan.

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The Navy currently has several similar sites under our Environment Restoration Program which funds state support through DSMOA.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like additional information or would like to visit the site. I can be reached at (847) 688-2600, extension 243 or (847)0815-6719 (cell).

Sincerely,



HOWARD M. HICKEY
Environmental Restoration
Product Line Coordinator, EV3

Enclosures: 1. E-mail from Forest City Military Communities, LLC, incident description
2. Incident Description from NAVFAC MW, dated June 16, 2008, Sample results

Copy to: IEPA, Emergency Operations Unit, Des Plaines Office
Brian Conrath, IEPA, Federal Facilities Unit
U. S. Army, Remedial Project Manger for Ft. Sheridan
Forest City Military Communities, LLC