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LETTER AND THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
RESPONSES TO COMMENTS REGARDING THE DRAFT FIVE YEAR REVIEW REPORT NS
NEWPORT RI (PUBLIC DOCUMENT)

10/03/2014

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT



RHODE ISLAND

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908-5767

TDD 401-222-4462

3 October 2014

Mr. James Gravette
NAVFAC MIDLANT (Code OPTE3)
Environmental Restoration
9742 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23511-3095

Re: Navy's Responses to Comments on the Draft Five-Year Review Report
Naval Station Newport, RI

Dear Mr. Gravette,

The Office of Waste Management at the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) has conducted a review of the Navy's responses to RIDEM's comments on the *Draft Five-Year Review (FYR) Report* dated June 2014 for Naval Station Newport, RI. As a result of this review, this Office has generated the attached follow-up comments on the *Draft FYR*.

If you have any questions in regards to this letter, please contact me at (401) 222-2797, extension 7020 or by e-mail at pamela.crump@dem.ri.gov.

Sincerely,

Pamela E. Crump, Sanitary Engineer
Office of Waste Management

cc: Matthew DeStefano, RIDEM
Richard Gottlieb, RIDEM
Lisa McIntosh, W&C
Darlene Ward, NSN
Deb Moore, NSN
Roberto Pagtalunan, NAVFAC
Kymberlee Keckler, EPA Region I
William Lovely, EPA Region I
Mark Kaufmann, Resolution
Cindy Castleberry, Resolution

**RIDEM's Follow-up Comments (10/3/14)
to the Navy's Responses (9/19/14)
on the Draft 5-Year Review Report (6/13/14)
Naval Station Newport, RI**

Specific Comment 13: p. 31, Section 2.4.2.3, Sediment, Porewater and Biota.

RIDEM requested that Navy discuss the sediment and biota results of the 2013 annual monitoring report for McAllister Point Landfill. In particular, RIDEM requested that the increase in concentrations of PCBs in biota be discussed. Additionally, RIDEM requested graphs depicting concentrations over time in sediment, porewater, and biota to assist in interpreting monitoring results.

The Navy agreed to update this section of the Report to include a review of the 2013 monitoring data and some additional discussion of RG exceedances at individual monitoring locations. The Navy also agreed to provide trend graphs in the draft 2013 annual monitoring report. However, it is unclear as to whether the Navy agreed to discuss the increase in concentrations, particularly PCBs, in biota in the Report. Please confirm.

Specific Comment 16: p. 33, Section 2.5.1, Question A.

RIDEM requested, regardless as to whether monitoring frequency is reduced, that future groundwater sampling events correspond with porewater sampling events (at the same frequency) so that potential off-site migration of arsenic may be evaluated.

The Navy responded that groundwater monitoring frequency will not be reduced at this time. However, the Navy did not address whether future groundwater samples will be collected at the same time as porewater samples. Please confirm.

Specific Comment 18: p. 37, Section 2.5.4, Summary of the Technical Assessment.

Please note that Specific Comment #2 was erroneously referenced in RIDEM's original comment. Specific Comment #7 should have been referenced instead. This comment was intended to point out the lack of fencing on the revetment side of the McAllister Point Landfill. However, as discussed in the Navy's response to Specific Comment #7, this issue was addressed with RIDEM at the September RPM meeting and the sentence "*Access to the shoreline adjacent to the landfill is not completely restricted*" has been removed from the Report to avoid confusion. No further revisions to the Report are necessary in regard to this comment.