



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1
1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

N62661.AR.001528
NAVSTA NEWPORT RI
5090 3a

June 10, 2002

James Shafer, Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Department of the Navy
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Northern Division
10 Industrial Highway
Code 1823, Mail Stop 82
Lester, PA 19113-2090

Re: Response to EPA Comments on the Draft Technical Memorandum - Sediment Predesign Investigations at the Old Fire Fighting Training Area - Naval Station Newport

Dear Mr. Shafer:

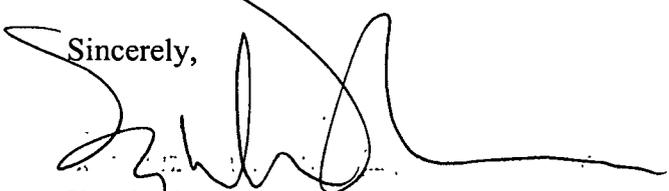
I am writing in response to your request for EPA to review the responses to my comments on the Draft Technical Memorandum Sediment Predesign Investigation for Old Fire Fighting Training Area dated May 15, 2002. Detailed comments are provided in Attachment A.

Although the predesign investigation provided additional information about contaminant concentrations in the oyster beds and eelgrass areas, there are still many outstanding issues regarding the extent of remedial action in these areas. EPA is willing to work with the Navy - either as part of the Sediment Predesign Investigation or another document - to resolve these issues.

EPA is pleased to see that the majority of the responses to specific EPA comments indicated that a revision would be made or that the Navy agreed with the comment. If the Sediment Predesign Investigation Report is not revised, the Navy responses should be included with the report in the document repositories.

I look forward to working with you and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management toward the cleanup of the Old Fire Fighter Training Area. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 918-1385 should you have any questions or wish to arrange a meeting.

Sincerely,



Kimberlee Keckler, Remedial Project Manager
Federal Facilities Superfund Section

Attachment

cc: Paul Kulpa, RIDEM, Providence, RI
Melissa Griffin, NETC, Newport, RI
Bart Hoskins, USEPA, Boston, MA
Chau Vu, USEPA, Boston, MA
Jennifer Stump, Gannet Fleming, Harrisburg, PA
Ken Finkelstein, NOAA, Boston, MA
Steven Parker, Tetra Tech-NUS, Wilmington, MA

ATTACHMENT A

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Comment

Comment #6 (p.2-4, §2.2.2) It is inappropriate to reduce the ingestion rates of 100 mg/day and 50 mg/day for child and adult residential exposure to sediment or raise the PRGs for beach sediment. These ingestion rates are reasonable and are already half the recommended ingestion rates that are suggested for residential exposure to soil and dust (200 mg/day and 100 mg/day for child and adult, respectively).