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NSY PORTSMOUTH  
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LETTER REGARDING REVIEW OF PROCESS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF OFFSHORE  
PRELIMINARY REMEDIATION GOALS NSY PORTSMOUTH ME  
6/30/1998  
U S EPA REGION I



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1

JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203-0001

June 30, 1998

Mr. Fred Evans  
Department of the Navy  
Northern Division  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
10 Industrial Hwy., Mail Stop #82  
Lester, PA 19113-2090

Re: Review of Process for Development of Offshore Preliminary Remediation Goals  
Portsmouth Naval Shipyard  
Kittery, Maine

Dear Fred:

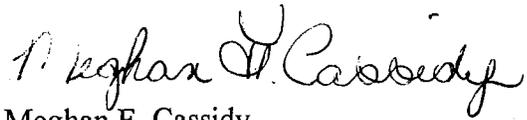
The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) attended a technical meeting at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard on May 21, 1998. During this meeting, Greg Tracey (SAIC) presented a technical approach for the development of offshore Preliminary Remediation Goals (PRGs) for Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. This process will allow for the development of site-specific PRGs by integrating EPA's Equilibrium Partitioning approach with the confirmation of observed adverse effects detected during the offshore ecological risk assessment. This process will allow for the development of candidate PRGs while additional data needs are filled with the offshore interim monitoring. Once this additional data is collected and evaluated, final PRGs will be developed.

During the May 21st presentation, an example of candidate PRGs were developed for fluorene and pyrene but the ultimate PRG may be better defined as total PAHs since the recent literature indicates that setting sediment PRGs for individual PAHs compounds may not be protective of aquatic organisms and that a cleanup level for total PAHs would be more protective. This can be better addressed once data from the interim monitoring plan is evaluated.

Based on the process presented at the May 21st meeting, the technical approach for developing interim, risk-based candidate PRGs appears technically sound and appropriate. EPA looks forward to reviewing the offshore interim monitoring plan and working towards collecting additional data so as to develop final PRGs for the offshore communities surrounding Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (617)573-5785.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Meghan F. Cassidy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Meghan F. Cassidy  
Remedial Project Manager

cc: Marty Raymond/PNS  
Iver McLeod/ME DEP  
Carolyn Lepage/Lepage Environmental  
Ken Finklestein/NOAA  
Ken Munney/U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Patti Tyler/EPA  
RAB Members