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NSY PORTSMOUTH
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LETTER REGARDING U S NAVY RESPONSE TO CITY OF PORTSMOUTH CONCERNS NSY
PORTSMOUTH ME
3/13/2001
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD
PORTSMOUTH, N. H. 03804-5000

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5090
106.3/046
13 MAR 2001

The Honorable Evelyn Sirrell
Mayor of Portsmouth
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Dear Mayor Sirrell,

Thank you for your letter of February 23, 2001 in which you submitted the City of Portsmouth's input regarding the Navy's Proposed Remedial Action Plan for the Jamaica Island Landfill. Your comments will be addressed by the Navy and formally responded to in the Responsiveness Summary of the official Record of Decision for Operable Unit 3.

The Shipyard, in coordination with both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP), has conducted extensive studies which now form the basis for the Proposed Remedial Action Plan for the Jamaica Island Landfill. All the information has been shared with the Shipyard Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). The RAB is made up of citizens from our local communities as well as the Navy, EPA, MEDEP, and New Hampshire and Maine Natural Resource trustees.

You, or a member of your staff, may be interested in attending our next RAB meeting on March 15, 2001 at the Courtyard Marriott, in Portsmouth beginning at 7 p.m. On that occasion we will be providing detailed information about the decision process the Navy followed in developing our Proposed Remedial Action Plan and address any questions the members may have. This discussion will hopefully address the concerns you raised in your comments. It would be a great opportunity for you or a member of your staff to come and hear the discussion among the RAB members and get additional information on this complex issue.

In reading your letter, it has become clear to us that we have not been doing as well as we had hoped in communicating with you regarding the remedial action plan for the Jamaica Island Landfill. Because of this, we respectfully invite you, your City Manager, and your technical staff to join us here at the Shipyard for a short briefing that we might bring you up-to-date on the actions relating to the landfill. We hope that you can support such a meeting. If so, we ask that you contact Mr. Alan Robinson in our Public Affairs Office to schedule a convenient date and time. He can be reached at (207) 438-1140.

Very respectfully,


V. T. WILLIAMS
Captain, USN
Shipyard Commander