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NSY PORTSMOUTH
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LETTER INFORMING THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF
UPCOMING PROJECTS AT NSY PORTSMOUTH ME
7/18/2001
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD



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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5090

~~Ser. 106, 3/117~~

18 JUL 01

Mr. Mark Hyland
State of Maine
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0017

Dear Mr. Hyland:

The purpose of this letter is to keep the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) informed of two significant projects that require coordination with both the MEDEP and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Between November 2001 and April 2002 the Shipyard intends to dredge accumulated sediments from around its piers and drydocks. The Shipyard and its contractors have been working with Mr. Doug Burdick of the MEDEP to obtain the necessary Natural Resources Protection permit for this operation. We have also been working with Mr. Eric Hamlin of the MEDEP in order to find the most appropriate disposition for the estimated 36,000 cubic yards of dredge spoils this project will produce.

The Navy is scheduled to install a landfill cover system on the Jamaica Island Landfill beginning in the fall of 2002. This will be a significant undertaking requiring a large amount of materials to construct. One of the options the Shipyard has been examining is the beneficial reuse of the dredged material as part of the landfill cover system on the Jamaica Island Landfill. Beneficially reusing the dredged material in the landfill cover system would have the advantage of minimizing the impact of both the dredging project and the landfill cover system construction on the surrounding community by reducing the truck traffic necessary for the dredged material and landfill cover system materials.

In order to investigate the possibility of beneficially reusing the dredge spoils, the sediments in the proposed dredging locations were sampled under a MEDEP approved sampling plan designed to comply with 06-096 CMR 418, Solid Waste Management, Rules: Beneficial Use of Solid Wastes. A copy of this sampling plan is provided as enclosure (1) for your information. The analytical results from the samples taken in accordance with this sampling plan are provided in enclosure (2).

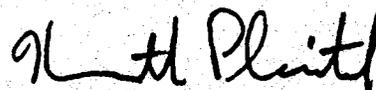
Another question which needs to be answered is whether the dredge materials are suitable for inclusion in the landfill cover system. The Shipyard has discussed this with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers team designing the landfill cover system. They requested that some geotechnical tests be performed on the dredge material to assist them in evaluating its usefulness in the landfill cover system. These tests (Grain Size Analysis and Atterberg Limits) were performed in conjunction with the beneficial reuse sampling and the results are included in enclosure (2). As the design progresses, the design team will use this information to evaluate the feasibility of beneficially reusing the dredge materials in the landfill cover system. As the design for the landfill cover system for the Jamaica Island Landfill moves forward and further information develops, the Shipyard will continue to keep you informed.

A meeting to discuss these questions will take place on July 18, 2001 with MEDEP representatives, Appledore Engineering, Inc. (the Navy's dredging project design consultant) and the Navy.

The requisite Natural Resource Protection Application for the dredging project will be submitted shortly.

If additional information is required please contact me at (207) 438-3830.

Sincerely,



KENNETH W. PLAISTED
Head, Environmental Division
By direction of the
Shipyard Commander

Enclosures: 1. Sampling Plan for Dredging Project
2. Analytical Results

Copy to:

Meghan Cassidy - US EPA
Fred Evans - EFANE
Eric Hamlin - MEDEP (Portland)
Doug Burdick - MEDEP (Portland)
Iver McLeod - MEDEP (Augusta)
Denise Messier - MEDEP (Augusta)