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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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December 12, 1986

ER86/1121

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bruce Blanchard, Director
Office of Environmental Project Review

FROM: Patricia Sanderson Port
Regional Environmental Officer, San Francisco

SUBJECT: Preliminary Natural Resources Survey,
Ordot Landfill Site, Ordot, Guam

Pursuant to your request, a preliminary natural resources survey has been conducted for the subject site. Reports have been provided by FWS and GS.

The investigation reveals no evidence that the Ordot Landfill is adversely impacting listed or candidate endangered species, or migratory birds. However, anadromous fishes of the Lonfit and Pago Rivers may be affected by elevated concentrations of harmful substances in leachates draining out of the landfill.

A groundwater research synopsis prepared by William Zolan (Water and Energy Research Institute, University of Guam) in July 1986 stated:

> The principal finding of this study is that landfill operations are directly affecting the groundwater quality downgradient from the landfill site. This also applies to the water quality of surface seeps and streams which flow directly into the Lonfit River. All wells downgradient from the landfill show the effects of landfill leachate.

The report identifies elevated concentrations of the following parameters in downgradient monitoring wells with respect to control wells and streams: total dissolved solids, chlorides, sulfates, total nitrogen, calcium, potassium, COD, total hardness, sodium, alkalinity, mercury, nickel, chromium, copper, lead, and zinc. Zolan's report also noted that vinyl chloride was found in all wells and surface leachate waters. Chloroform, trichloroethylene, tetrachloroethylene, and carbon tetrachloride were also discovered in downgradient monitoring wells. However, river water samples were void of these volatile organic substances. Tests for pesticides were negative.

cc: Bonne Stumpell

Additional leachate studies are underway by both the University of Guam and the Guam Environmental Protection Agency.

We recommend that no formal damage assessment be initiated. The FWS plans to conduct a one-time sampling of anadromous fishes from two stations within the Lonfit and Pago Rivers for tissue analysis of organochlorides and metals. This analysis will help determine if anadromous fishes are being adversely affected by the operation of the Ordot Landfill.

In addition, EPA has contracted with Camp, Dresser and Mckee to conduct a Remedial Investigation of the site. The USGS is likely to be involved in this study, and will be reviewing the effort. Upon completion, the Department will be able to determine whether any resources under our trusteeship have been affected, and to what degree.

12/17

Does not appear that DA be conducted; however, relevant studies are underway that could affect decision

~~I concur:~~ _____ 12/17/86
Bruce Blanchard Date

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