New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
Office of the Director, 12th Floor
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Joe Martens
Commissioner

November 5, 2014

Lora Fly
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Midlant
9742 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23511-3095

Re: Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant- Bethpage
Nassau County
Site No. 130003B

Dear Ms Fly:

This letter is being sent in follow up to the conference call you held on October 22, 2014 with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the New York State Department of Health (DOH) informing the agencies of the analytical results from the monitoring wells installed earlier this year in the area where an additional hot spot had been suspected. Since this work was intended to confirm a hot spot that had been suspected in the vicinity, the presence of elevated levels was not unexpected, however we were somewhat surprised by the magnitude. However, we are very concerned that the Navy did not immediately bring this to our attention rather than wait until October, when the initial sampling in March identified the problem and the levels were then confirmed by the June sampling. The Navy instead delayed any formal notice to DEC until the preliminary results from the third sampling event in September again confirmed the levels. This delay is in the Navy's formal notice is unacceptable.

The 2001 Operable Unit 2 Record of Decision requires, among other obligations, additional groundwater investigation to determine if there are any other areas of elevated groundwater contamination and, if identified, requires additional remediation of any identified hotspots. The ROD identifies 1 ppm as a hot spot that needs additional remediation. These results certainly meet this criteria and we are notifying you that additional remediation is required on an expedited basis.

Given the magnitude of these findings, the Navy must immediately begin design of a groundwater extraction system to address this contamination, given it is upgradient of two operating public supply wells (Bethpage Water District Wells 6-1 and 6-2). This work is covered by the March 2005 Federal Facilities Site Remediation Agreement between DEC and the Navy under which the Navy agreed to implement both the DEC and Navy Operable Unit 2 RODs. Please provide a workplan for the design and installation of groundwater collection and treatment system to contain this hotspot area within 60 days of the date of this letter, given that the Navy has been aware of this need since the Spring. DEC will require monthly conference calls with the Navy to discuss your progress in developing and implementing this workplan.

Please contact me if there are questions regarding this letter. Technical questions can be addressed to Steven Scharf, the DEC Project Manager by email at steven.scharf@dec.ny.gov .

Sincerely

Robert W. Schick, P.E., Director
Division of Environmental Remediation

ec:

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