**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND, MID-ATLANTIC
9324 VIRGINIA AVENUE NORFOLK, VA 23511-3095

5090
OPTE3/18
MAR 17, 2015

James B. Harrington, P.E.
Director, Remedial Bureau A
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
Remedial Bureau A, 12th Floor
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233-7015

Dear Mr. Harrington,

Subj: NAVAL WEAPONS INDUSTRIAL RESERVE PLANT (NWIRP) BETHPAGE (130003B), Operable Unit (OU)-2 REMEDY

Thank you for your letter of February 11, 2015 regarding the need to address the hotspot in the OU-2 plume that is located near Bethpage Water District (BWD) Plant 6. Since 2012, the Navy has been installing vertical profile borings (VPBs) and monitoring wells to delineate the hot spot. Information on this hot spot was initially submitted to NYSDEC in February 2014 in reports for VPBs 137, 138 and 139.

Since 2011, BWD has been successfully treating the water with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) at concentrations greater than 1 ppm. As you know, the Navy has compensated BWD for the treatment system upgrades at Plant 6 that allows them to treat these higher levels of VOCs. In addition, the Navy is compensating BWD for operation and maintenance costs associated with VOCs. The Navy is currently working with BWD to extend the operation of Well 6-2 beyond that which is necessary for providing water to their customers. This work is being done as a pilot test that is anticipated to begin in May 2015. It is our understanding that Nassau County Department of Health will only allow the Navy to use Well 6-2 as a remediation well when water is not being distributed to BWD's customers.

While in certain circumstances, the Federal Facility Site Remediation Agreement and Navy OU-2 ROD require the Navy to undertake additional response actions as necessary to address "hot-spot" contamination, the extent and magnitude of the contamination must first be ascertained in order to determine the appropriate response action, including the proper location for a mass removal system.

As detailed in our Strategic Plan (Enclosure 1), the Navy is continuing to delineate the areal extent of the hot-spot. In the interest of accelerating the schedule for the potential installation of an additional stand-alone treatment plant, the Navy is identifying potential land parcels. To allow adequate buffer from the community, we anticipate that a minimum open space of 2 acres is required. To utilize this land, acquisition or long term operational leases will be required. Any work undertaken by the Navy is subject to authorization and the availability of funds, which is, in turn, subject to a determination that the contamination has migrated, at least in part, from the NWIRP.

As requested, the Navy has contacted Ms. Rosalie Rusinko and discussed potential modifications of the FFSRA, if appropriate, to address the ongoing cleanup efforts for the site. Northrop Grumman, as a potentially responsible party under CERCLA and former owner and operator of both the NWIRP and NG properties, is obligated not only to share the financial responsibility but to actively participate in response action implementation.

The Navy is committed to working with you, and welcomes NYSDEC's continuing input towards the mutual goal of ensuring continued safe drinking water in this area. If you have any questions, please contact the Navy's remedial project manager, Lora Fly, at (757) 341-2012.

Sincerely,

Nina M. Johnson

NINA M. JOHNSON
Northeast IPT
Environmental Business Line
Team Leader
By direction of the
Commanding Officer

Encl: USN Strategic Work Plan, Operable Unit No. 2 Groundwater, NWIRP Bethpage, NY

Copy to:
NAVAIR, William Cords
NYSDEC, Henry Wilkie
USEPA Region II, Carol Stein
Northrop Grumman, Ed Hannon
Public Repository