



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

February 4, 2022

Sent via Electronic Mail
Read Receipt Requested

Rear Admiral Timothy J. Kott
Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam
Commander, Navy Region Hawaii
850 Ticonderoga St, Ste. 110
Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-5101
timothy.j.kott@navy.mil

Re: Notice of Inspection at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam

Dear Rear Admiral Kott:

Thank you for your January 26, 2022, email letting us know you are preparing a response to our January 24th request for the investigation report, scope of work for the third-party contract, and relevant updates concerning the drinking water crisis and the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility. We appreciate receiving the scope of work for the contract and look forward to receiving the additional information and updates by February 7, 2022.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will continue to work closely with the Navy and the Hawaii Department of Health (HDOH) as part of the Interagency Drinking Water System Team on restoring safe drinking water to the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) community. We similarly will continue to work with the Navy, Defense Logistics Agency, and HDOH under the existing Administrative Order on Consent on efforts to ensure that the groundwater aquifer is protected and the Facility is operated and maintained in an environmentally protective manner.

We also want to let you know that as part of our ongoing regulatory and oversight responsibilities and due to recent events, EPA will be conducting an underground storage tank inspection (RCRA Subtitle I, 40 C.F.R. Parts 280 and 281) and a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) and Facility Response Plan (FRP) inspection (Clean Water Act Section 311; 40 C.F.R. Part 112) at JBPHH the week of February 28, 2022. The focus of the inspections will be on, but not limited to, the underground and aboveground tanks and associated fuel transfer piping, etc.

Please share, as soon as possible and in advance of EPA's inspection, the most current SPCC Plan and FRP being implemented at JBPHH. Electronic copies may be sent to Mr. Pete Reich of my staff at reich.peter@epa.gov. For the larger FRP file, please provide a file sharing system or link such as DoD Secure Access File Exchange (SAFE) where he can access and download the FRP. EPA's regulations on confidential business information are found in Part 2, Subpart B of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Please identify any information that you claim is confidential business information. If you

make a confidentiality claim, and if EPA determines that the information you designated meets the criteria in 40 C.F.R. Section 2.208, we will disclose the information only to the extent, and by means of the procedures, specified in 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If you do not make a claim of confidentiality, we will assume that you are waiving confidentiality and the information you provide may be made public without further notice. If the Navy determines that information requested is classified in accordance with E.O. No. 13526, EPA will work with the Navy to protect such information. EPA has a “need to know” the information it requests.

Finally, we are aware that the Navy may have many demands for information such as the recent document production orders issued to the Navy by the HDOH hearing officer in the ongoing UST permit proceedings. EPA is interested in receiving copies of that material as well and asks that the Navy provide EPA with copies of the material when it is produced.

EPA is available prior to the inspection to go over the documentation that will be needed and to answer any questions you or your staff may have. Please provide a point of contact and direct questions and comments to Pete Reich of my staff at (415) 972-3052 or reich.peter@epa.gov, and Rebekah Reynolds in our Office of Regional Counsel at (415) 972-3916 or reynolds.rebekah@epa.gov.

We appreciate your cooperation and attention to this upcoming inspection.

Sincerely,

Amy C. Miller-Bowen, Director
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division

cc: Karnig Ohannessian, U.S. Navy
Kathleen Ho, Hawaii Department of Health