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14 June 2000

Lt. Silvia M. Riechel,
Department of the Navy
COMC (Code 35), Washington Navy Yard
1322 Patterson Avenue, S.E., Suite 3000
Washington DC 20374-5066



Re: Navy Assessment and Control of Installation Pollutants Program (NACIP)
at MCB, Camp Lejeune, N. Carolina

Dear Lieutenant Riechel,

The ATSDR Public Health Assessment, CERCLIS No. VC 61700 22586 document notes on page 22 "In July 1984, as part of the Navy Assessment and Control of Installation Pollutants (NACIP) Program, MCB Camp Lejeune conducted water quality sampling in wells on base." It went on to note that 20% of the wells at Hadnot Point and one of seven at Tarawa Terrace were contaminated with various VOC's. These wells were abandoned in 1985.

The ATSDR report also cites, "In 1982, MCB Camp Lejeune performed routine sampling of treated drinking water for THM's, a procedure to test for chlorination disinfection by-products." The analysis was later expanded to include the VOC's TCE and PCE.

This scenario seems to be long on time and short on action. The Safe Drinking Water Act was enacted in 1974 and MCB is getting around to routine testing for THM's in 1982, a period of eight years. And then it takes another two years until 1984 when NACIP begins to take action.

Perhaps OSAG will advise what levels of testing for THM's and VOC's were in place from 1960 onward, what were the maximum contaminant levels for VOC's in place at MCB after 1960, what role did NACIP play in the monitoring effort, when was this organization established, what naval department controls NACIP, and what was/is its mission.

Most of the explanatory toxicology, epidemiology work seems to have been done by ATSDR and EPA rather than NACIP

Regards

MAJOR, USMC (Ret)

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