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Department of the Army
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: Mr. Cary Jones, Chief
Environmental Restoration Division,
Directorate of Military Programs
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

Re: North Carolina Cooperative Agreement (CA) Application-FY 96-FY 97

Dear Mr. Jones:

In response to reference (a), we have reviewed the subject agreement and find the funding requested for the State of North Carolina technical support and oversight of the Installation Restoration programs at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune (MCB CLJ) and Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point (MCAS CP), to be insufficient to provide the required State involvement of the programs, as specified in the Defense and State Memorandum of Agreement (DSMOA).

Funding provided to the State of North Carolina Installation Restoration Program for oversight, has allowed MCB CLJ and MCAS CP, both NPL facilities, to expedite the timeline from study to cleanup. For example, the Installation Restoration program at MCB CLJ has demonstrated extraordinary success with the remediation of more than 200 acres of base property in less than 30 months permitting reuse of the land for military training missions. This has resulted in a cost savings of over \$5M over the course of the past four years.

The State of North Carolina comments on all proposals for study, design, and cleanup prior to implementation; a reduction in current funding will strongly affect the State's ability to attend review meetings and provide adequate review and oversight. State involvement early in the program has avoided stipulated penalties, delays in cleanup and has allowed for considerable cost savings.

We strongly request the funding allocation for the State of North Carolina be reconsidered. Funding requirements for work at MCB CLJ and MCAS for FY 96 and FY 97 total nearly \$13M. Therfore, we urgently request the level of DSMOA

North Carolina Cooperative Agreement (CA) Application-FY 96-FY 97

funding to the State of North Carolina, not be reduced below the FY 94 and FY 95 levels. Any reduction would adversely affect the ability of the State of NC to provide adequate technical review and support to the MCB CLJ and MCAS CP programs.

Sincere

P. A. RAKOWSKI, P.E. Head Environmental Programs Branch Environmental Quality Division By direction of the Commander

Copy to:

CMC (Ms. Kelly Dryer, Code LPL)

CNO (Mr. Dave Olson, N45)

NAVFAC HQ (Mr. Ted Zagrobelny, N41)

MCB Camp Lejeune (Mr. Neal Paul)

MCAS Cherry Point (Mr. George Radford)

EPA Region IV, Mr. Jon Johnson, Federal Facilities Superfund Section

North Carolina Dept. of Environment, Health & Natural Resources (Mr. Jack Butler, Superfund Section

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