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**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

MARINE CORPS BASE  
PSC BOX 20004  
CAMP LEJEUNE, NORTH CAROLINA 28542-0004

IN REPLY REFER TO:

6286

EMD

13 MAY 1998



Ms. Carole Hossom  
Environmental Health Scientist  
Federal Facilities Assessment Branch  
Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Health Assessment and Consultation  
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry  
1600 Clifton Road (E-56)  
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

Dear Ms. Hossom:

A Public Health Assessment for Marine Corps Base (MCB), Camp Lejeune was performed by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry in 1995. It identified groundwater contamination at the Base as a potential health hazard. In response to this assessment, an annual program to monitor active drinking-water supply wells was enacted. Furthermore, it was established that the supply wells in or near (within a 1,500-foot radius) Installation Restoration (IR) sites would be sampled on a semi-annual basis. IR sites are those contaminated sites undergoing remedial investigations and activities based on the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation Liability Act protocol.

Enclosed is a copy of the results from the annual monitoring activities conducted on January 12, 1997. The wells were sampled for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) by Research and Analytical Laboratories, Inc., according to EPA Test Method 524.2. The minimum detection limit that the laboratory can obtain for each VOC analyzed by this method is 0.5 ml. This detection limit is higher than the North Carolina Administrative Code, Title 15A, Chapter 2, Subchapter 2L groundwater quality standards for several of the VOCs. The compounds meeting this criteria are: bromoform, carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, 1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane, 1,2-dichloroethane, 1,2-dichloropropane, and vinyl chloride.

Each supply well contained contaminant concentrations below the laboratory's minimum detection limit with the exception of seven wells. The wells with elevated levels of VOCs are listed in the executive summary of the attached document. The majority of these compounds can confidently be attributed to laboratory contamination or to the chlorination system associated with one well. However, samples collected from three wells (706, TC700, and LCH4007) contained contaminants such as benzene, a common petroleum component, and 1,2-dichloropropane, a metal degreasing solvent. The presence of these compounds could not be readily explained. Each detection of benzene and 1,2-dichloropropane were above state groundwater quality standards; a benzene hit at well 706 was above federal drinking water standards.

Upon receipt of the analyses from the January sampling event, MCB, Camp Lejeune moved to have these three wells resampled for confirmation that the initial round of data was not skewed as a result of field or laboratory errors. Furthermore, well 706 was temporarily taken off-line. The resampling event, conducted on April 8, indicated that all VOCs from the well LCH4007 sample were below the

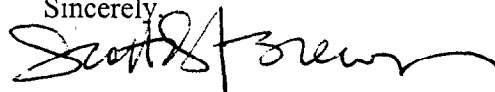
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laboratory's minimum detection limit. Benzene concentrations in wells 706 and TC700 were still above state groundwater quality standards, but below federal drinking water standards.

In addition to supply well 706, MCB, Camp Lejeune has temporarily deactivated TC700 from service. It is the Base's intention to keep these two wells off-line to the public water supply system until semi-annual groundwater sampling events at these locations deem it safe to reconnect the wells to the water distribution system. MCB, Camp Lejeune will also place well LCH4007 in the semi-annual sampling program to ensure that if 1,2-dichloropropane reappears, it is detected at the earliest possible date.

If you have questions or comments, please contact Mr. Brian Marshburn, Installation Restoration Division, Environmental Management Department at (910) 451-5068

Sincerely,



**SCOTT A. BREWER, PE**  
**Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff**  
**Environmental Management**  
**By direction of**  
**the Commanding General**

- Enclosures:
1. Sampling and Analysis of Groundwater Wells at the Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina and the Marine Corps Air Station, New River, Jacksonville, North Carolina (Contract N62470-96-B-4842), January 1998, Research and Analytical Laboratories, Inc., Kernersville, North Carolina
  2. Sampling and Analysis of Groundwater Wells at the Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina and the Marine Corps Air Station, New River, Jacksonville, North Carolina (Contract N62470-96-B-4842), April 1998, Research and Analytical Laboratories, Inc., Kernersville, North Carolina

Copy to:

AC/S Facilities (C. Baker)

✓ COMLANTNAVFACENGCOM (Code 1823, K. Landman)(w/o encl)

CMC (LFL, K. Dreyer)(w/o encl)

NEHC (Y. Walker)(w/o encl)

EPA, Region IV (G. Townsend)(w/o encl)

NCDEHNR-Central, Superfund Section (D. Lown) (w/o encl)

NCDEHNR-WiRO, Groundwater Section (C. Stehman)(w/o encl)