



State of North Carolina  
Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources

James B. Hunt, Jr.  
Governor

Wilmington Regional Office  
Division of Water Quality  
Groundwater Section

Jonathan B. Howes  
Secretary

February 17, 1997

Mr. Robert L. Warren  
USMC/MCB  
ATTN AC/S EMD/IRD  
PSC Box 20004  
Camp Lejeune, NC 28542-0004

SUBJECT: **SITE PRIORITY RANKING**  
USMC-Camp Lejeune, Bldg. STT-39A

Dear Mr. Warren:

The General Assembly of North Carolina introduced legislation during the 1995 Short Session to allow the temporary suspension of cleanups at some underground storage tank sites pending the adoption of risk assessment rules. This rule applies to all commercial and noncommercial underground storage tanks, regardless of trust fund considerations. The Underground Storage Tank (UST) Senate Bill 1317 (SB 1317) was ratified on June 21, 1996. SB 1317 requires the Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources (Department) to rank all UST-related contamination incidents according to the Section's revised Site Priority Ranking System which classifies sites as: A,B (highest priority), C,D or E (lower priority). Further, SB 1317 requires the Department to notify the UST owner, operator and/or other responsible party (RP), as applicable, of the ranking of their site. Please find below a statement notifying you of the priority ranking the Department has assigned to Bldg. STT-39A.

**This Site has been assigned a priority ranking score of: 15E**

SB 1317 temporarily suspends the requirement to cleanup a discharge or release from a petroleum UST for lower priority sites (i.e., those ranked C,D, or E). This legislation is effective July 21, 1996. Therefore, site assessment or corrective actions at C,D, or E sites will not be required after July 21, 1996 except as mandated by the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) in 40 CFR 280.50 through 280.53 and 280.60 through 280.64. These federal regulations basically cover initial containment of the discharge or release, emergency corrective actions to mitigate immediate hazards (e.g., fire, explosion, threat to surface water), initial site characterization, free petroleum product recovery, and reporting (i.e., 24-hour, 20-day and 45-day reports). Therefore, emergency abatement measures and free product recovery are the only corrective actions required for C, D or E sites.

The suspension of cleanups applies to low priority sites currently being remediated or monitored, or sites where such activity is anticipated. This includes remediation pursuant to 2L .0106(k), (l) and (m). Specific exceptions to the suspension of reimbursement are listed in SB 1317. While the parties responsible for lower priority incidents (C, D or E) are free to proceed with assessment and corrective actions, as they might choose to do because of third party liability issues or for property transactions, these activities will not be required at this time by the Department.

The Department's Site Priority Ranking System is designed to be compatible with the limited site data typically acquired during the initial site characterization. However, full delineation of soil and groundwater contamination will not be required for C, D and E sites.

The Site Priority Ranking System categories are as follows:

**CATEGORY A** (one or more of the following conditions are present)

1. One or more water supply wells are contaminated and the persons using the wells are not served by an existing public water supply.
2. Petroleum vapors are present in confined areas at levels which pose a human health concern or an explosion hazard.
3. A treated surface water supply is in violation of the drinking water standards set out in rules adopted by the Commission for Health Services under G.S. 130A-315.

**CATEGORY B** (one or more of the following conditions are present)

1. One or more water supply wells are contaminated but the persons using the wells are served by an existing public water supply.
2. One or more water supply wells are in use within 1500 feet of the discharge, release or known extent of contamination, the wells are not contaminated, and the persons using the wells are not served by an existing public water supply.
3. Petroleum vapors are present in confined areas but do not currently pose a threat to human health or an explosion hazard.

**CATEGORY C** (both of the following conditions are present)

1. One or more water supply wells are present at a distance greater than 1500 feet of the discharge, release or known extent of contamination, and the persons using the wells are not served by an existing public water supply.
2. None of the identified water supply wells are contaminated.

**CATEGORY D** (both of the following conditions are present)

1. One or more water supply wells are present within 1500 feet of the discharge, release or known extent of contamination, but the persons using the wells are served by an existing public water supply.
2. None of the identified water supply wells are contaminated.

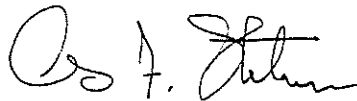
**CATEGORY E** (both of the following conditions are present)

1. Water supply well(s) are not present within 1500 feet of the discharge, release or known extent of contamination, and no known water supply well(s) are contaminated.
2. All persons within 1500 feet of the discharge, release or known extent of contamination are served by an existing public water supply.

Please note that the present site priority ranking may be based upon preliminary or incomplete information about the site. In addition, the Department has the latitude to upgrade a priority C, D or E site to priority B in situations where the discharge or release is believed to pose an imminent danger to public health, public safety or the environment. Therefore, if you are aware of any information that would change the ranking of this site or you believe that site conditions pose an immediate danger, please contact the appropriate Regional Office.

If you have any questions about this notice please feel free to contact Patricia Coughlan at (910) 395-3900, ext. 202.

Yours very truly,



Charles F. Stehman, Ph.D., P.G.  
Environmental Regional Supervisor I

CFS/PCC/gjg

cc: WiRO

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