Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Willow Grove
Commanding Officer
Willow Grove, Pennsylvania 19090-5005

Dear Commanding Officer:

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is scheduled to visit Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Willow Grove (NAS Willow Grove) the week of December 4, 1995. The purpose of the site visit is to gather information and determine priorities for a public health assessment of the facility which is listed on the Environmental Protection Agency's National Priorities List (NPL). The information from reports and on-site discussions with NAS Willow Grove staff will be combined with the information from other groups (concerned members of the public, community leaders, and state and federal agencies) to determine priorities and schedules for public health assessments to be performed by ATSDR.

An ATSDR public health assessment evaluates data and information on the release of hazardous substances into the environment and assesses if there is any past, current, or future impact on public health. It is used to identify studies or actions needed to evaluate, mitigate or prevent adverse human health effects. The public health assessment process may also be used to develop health studies or other recommendations when warranted.

Provisions of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended, require ATSDR to prepare public health assessments for all sites proposed or listed on the NPL, including federal facilities such as NAS Willow Grove.

If requested by the facility, ATSDR personnel will be available to brief you during the site visit. We would like to tour the Installation Restoration Program (IRP) sites and meet with staff from selected facility activities. ATSDR usually meets with representatives from a variety of offices which may include environmental (IRP manager), public affairs, natural resources, hospital/clinic, housing, and the water department. If you have any questions either before or after
the visit, please do not hesitate to contact me at 404-639-6016.

We thank you and your staff for your cooperation and assistance. Your continued support of our efforts is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Victoria Ann Smith
Environmental Health Scientist
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