It has been brought to my attention that your staff, in a December 4, 1991 letter to Ms. Nancy Stehle of this office, requests considerable additional data to complete Hazard Ranking System (HRS) evaluations of 16 Navy installations in EPA Region III. As you are aware, the Navy has been providing Region III with information on which to score these sites for the past year. Additionally, in the spirit of interagency cooperation, and to assist your staff and your contractor, the Atlantic Division of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command hosted a two day meeting on January 15 and 16 to discuss your requirements.

During this meeting, discussions were held to determine what information would be provided for the installations under Atlantic Division's cognizance (13 of the 16 installations under discussion). When the Navy has on-going studies, but has not yet received sampling results, EPA has agreed to wait for the results of those studies rather than having the Navy undertake additional sampling solely to support the HRS II scoring. Checklists were prepared by the Navy, detailing which information would be presented from future studies, changes which will be made to the sampling plans to support EPA Region III's requirements, and additional data which the Navy has agreed to obtain. EPA has requested additional sediment sampling to be conducted at several facilities specifically to support HRS II scoring. In general, the Navy is willing to conduct the sampling during the next field event planned for each site.

I concur with the joint effort of your staff and the Atlantic Division to determine data requirements. It is my understanding that the information the Atlantic Division agreed to provide Region III is reasonable and should allow HRS scoring to proceed without significant additional cost or manpower implications for the Navy.

I recommend that the same approach be taken at the three remaining activities. I have asked the Northern Division and the Chesapeake Division to contact your staff to arrange mutually agreeable meetings.
The Navy is looking forward to proceeding with these cleanups in an expeditious but cost effective manner. I believe the agreements reached in the January meetings should allow both parties to proceed with their respective responsibilities. Your support of this effort is appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

JACQUELINE J. SCHAFER