

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT MONMOUTH 286 SANGER AVENUE FORT MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY 07703-5101

Directorate of Public Works

April 22, 2010

Mr. Larry Quinn, Case Manager New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Division of Site Remediation P.O. Box 028 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0028

and

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Division of Remediation Support 401 East State Street, 6th Floor P.O. Box 413 Trenton, NJ 08625-0413 Attention: Office of Community Relations

Re: N.J.A.C. 7:26E-1.4 Technical Requirements for Site Remediation Notification and Public Outreach Rule US Army Fort Monmouth Compliance

Dear Mr. Quinn:

The Technical Requirements for Site Remediation, N.J.A.C. 7:26E *et seq.*, were last amended on September 2, 2008. The Notification and Public Outreach Rule (N.J.A.C. 7:26E-1.4) describe the requirements necessary for responsible parties to comply with these regulations. Fort Monmouth is a federal facility located in Monmouth County, New Jersey and is considered a closed facility which means public access is denied at all access points and movement within the Fort is restricted. As you know, Fort Monmouth has several sites regulated under N.J.A.C. 7:26E and subsequently required to provide notification and public outreach to the residents, workers, visitors and neighboring communities. This letter seeks to establish the Army's plan for compliance with N.J.A.C. 7:26E-1.4 as well as seek approval by the NJDEP of said plan.

The following is a summary of the current Notification and Public Outreach program at Fort Monmouth:

At Fort Monmouth, the Army pursues installation restoration activities as part of the Department of Defense's Installation Restoration Program (IRP). During the summer of 2006, Fort Monmouth explored the initiation of a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). After it was determined that sufficient interest existed, a RAB was established. The group meets quarterly and has been meeting for the last three (3) years. RAB members are public citizens, not elected officials, selected from all of the surrounding towns. They are asked to review and comment on ongoing environmental studies and restoration activities. RAB members review and comment on technical documents and plans relating to ongoing environmental investigations and restoration activities at Fort Monmouth. Members serve as a liaison with the

community and are available to meet with community members and groups. The RAB is an advisory body designed to act as a focal point for the exchange of information between Fort Monmouth and the local community regarding restoration activities. The RAB is intended to bring together community members who reflect the diverse interests within the local community, enabling the early and continued two-way flow of information, concerns, values, and needs between the affected community and the installation. All RAB meetings are open to the public and notification of all meetings is provided in local newspapers (*The Asbury Park Press* and *The Link*) as well as by mail to all interested persons. All environmental projects subject to the NJDEP Technical Requirements for Site Remediation are presented to the RAB via this public forum. The Army presides over the meetings with a Community Co-Chair. The NJDEP is actively involved in the Boards presentations and discussions.

In addition to facilitating and administrating the RAB activities, the Army provides IRP document repositories for all applicable records and said repositories are updated each time a new report is produced. This repository supplements the existing Fort Monmouth document repository and also provides public access via the World Wide Web. IRP documents can be accessed electronically at the World Wide Web address <u>https://cecom100.monmouth.army.mil/usagfmima/sites/local/brac.asp</u> and locally at the Monmouth County Library (Eastern Branch) in CD/DVD format. In continuing to keep certain that the public is involved and aware, the RAB has also conducted two open houses in January 2008 and 2009.

The Army takes its responsibility, to ensure a fully informed public, very seriously. The Army has maintained this by establishing and maintaining a RAB and a public document repository. Although the NJDEP has just recently amended its regulations to include public notice and outreach, Fort Monmouth has been providing the same transparent disclosure with the NJDEP for many years.

The Army requests that the NJDEP accept the joint Army and NJDEP notification and public outreach alternative plan as fully compliant with the N.J.A.C. 7:26E-1.4 regulatory requirements without modification.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact Ms. Wanda Green, BRAC Environmental Coordinator, at 732-532-8341 or email: <u>Wanda,Green1@US,Army,mil</u>.

Sincerely,

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Joseph M. Fallon, CHMM Chief, Environmental Division

Encl. Restoration Advisory Board Charter c: Co-Chair, Fort Monmouth Restoration Advisory Board