

040-09083

March 12, 2007

Timothy J. Gallagher, Acting Director
Safety/Rad Waste Directorate
ATTN: AMSJM-SF
Department of the Army, Headquarters
U.S. Army Joint Munitions Command
1 Rock Island Arsenal
Rock Island, IL 61299-6000

SUBJECT: ACTIONS TO CHARACTERIZE DEPLETED URANIUM CONTAMINATION AT
SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, OAHU, HAWAII

Dear Mr. Gallagher:

This refers to your February 26, 2007, letter with an attached Technical Memorandum for the Schofield Barracks Firing Range, Phase I Depleted Uranium Investigation, Wahiawa, Hawaii, dated January 2007. My staff and NRC Region IV staff have reviewed your letter and survey report, and have concluded that the Army's initial actions are reasonable to address your discovery of depleted uranium contamination at the Schofield Barracks.

To ensure good communications during future characterization activities at the Schofield Barracks site, I am requesting that you keep me and Dr. D. Blair Spitzberg, Chief, Fuel Cycle and Decommissioning Branch, Region IV, informed regarding the timing and scope of your radiological characterization surveys planned for this summer. Dr. Spitzberg's inspection staff will be responsible for any on-site inspection activities.

As part of the inspection process, we request that you provide us with the Army's procedures and protocols to be used during the characterization survey. Additionally, we request a copy of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' report regarding their record review of past use of depleted uranium projectiles. You also indicated that you will continue to work with the Safety and Environmental Offices at Schofield Barracks to gather available radiological water sampling data. Lastly, we request that you keep us informed regarding your plans for any groundwater sampling and the results of those analyses.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). The NRC's document system is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

T. Gallagher

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (630) 829-9833. I have designated Mr. Mike McCann (630) 829-9856 of my staff as the point of contact for Region III. For Region IV, the point of contact will be Dr. D. Blair Spitzberg, Ph.D., at (817) 860-8191.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jamnes L. Cameron, Chief
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

cc: State of Hawaii

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