



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

January 24, 2022

Sent via Electronic Mail

Rear Admiral Timothy J. Kott  
Department of the Navy  
Commander, Navy Region Hawaii  
850 Ticonderoga Street, Ste. 110  
Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-4460

Re: Request for Navy Red Hill Investigation Information

Dear Rear Admiral Kott:

We appreciate the Navy's continued support in working closely with EPA and the Hawaii Department of Health in addressing the unprecedented challenges involved in restoring safe drinking water to the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam community. We will continue to support the Interagency Drinking Water System Team as it works to accomplish that goal.

We understand the Navy is undertaking a number of investigations concerning the drinking water crisis and the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility (RHBFSF) and your team has been providing EPA personnel with updates on some of these efforts. As EPA evaluates the need for additional investigations, we would appreciate your assistance in providing the following reports and any relevant updates:

- (1) The Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, has directed a command investigation into the releases and contamination of the water supply. That investigation was projected to be complete by January 14, 2022. *We appreciate the Navy's January 14<sup>th</sup> "walk through" for EPA staff of the preliminary investigation report. As a follow-up, please provide EPA with a copy of the report and any relevant updates.*
- (2) The Navy awarded a \$1.45 million contract to engineering firm Simpson Gumpertz & Heger to conduct an independent, third-party assessment of the operations and system integrity of the RHBFSF. The contractor is or will soon be on-island for a kick-off meeting(s). The assessment is estimated to be complete by April 2022. *Please provide EPA with a copy of the scope of work for the contract. EPA personnel have reached out to their Navy counterparts to find out if EPA may attend the kick-off meeting(s) with the contractor. We would appreciate your assistance in allowing appropriate EPA personnel to participate in the meeting(s).*

In addition, we understand the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2022 requires that the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (1) inspect the pipeline system and supporting infrastructure at RHBFSF and conduct a life-cycle maintenance assessment of that infrastructure; and


(2) prepare an assessment of alternatives to RHBFSF, for the bulk storage of fuel, including at least three locations outside Hawaii. Please also provide EPA with a status update on these assessments.

We would appreciate you providing the requested documents and information as soon as possible, and no later than February 7, 2022.

Thank you for your continuing cooperation and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**AMY MILLER-  
BOWEN**

 Digitally signed by AMY MILLER-  
BOWEN  
Date: 2022.01.24 18:02:46 -08'00'

Amy C. Miller-Bowen, Director  
Enforcement & Compliance Assurance Division

cc: Karnig Ohannessian, U.S. Navy  
Kathleen Ho, Hawaii Department of Health